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A member society of Licensing Executives Society International (LESI)
www.les-italy.org

LES ITALIA STUDY AWARD 2026

Call for applications for two study awards for theses-dissertations on intellectual property

Deadline for submission of applications

30 June 2026, 24:00 CET

www.les-italy.org

ART. 1

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TESORERIA
c/o **Thinx S.r.l.**
Piazzale Luigi Cadorna, 10
20123 Milano, Italia
Tel. +39 02 82783531
tesoreria@les-italy.org
a.dibernardo@thinx.expert

SEDE LEGALE
c/o **Studio Boidi**
Via Andrea Doria n. 15
10123 Torino, Italia
P. IVA 03639940018
C.F. 80104590015
Codice univoco: W7YVJK9
les-italy@pec.it

DESCRIPTION OF THE 2026 SCHOLARSHIP

LES Italia is the Italian group of the Licensing Executives Society (LES), an international non-profit association that deals with intellectual property rights and licensing.

The association, which has more than 500 members representing major companies, industrial and research organisations, law firms and national patent firms, aims to promote studies and opportunities for meetings between different operators in the sector, including at an international level, as well as to disseminate information, opinions and publications on intellectual property (IP).

To encourage young people's interest and awareness of this important topic and to promote new reflections and studies on the subject, LES Italia **announces:**

> **2 (two) Study Awards for 2 (two) authors who submit the best unpublished theses – dissertations on intellectual property.**

ART. 2

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The 'LES ITALIA 2026 Scholarship Award' is open to anyone who:

- have written a paper in Italian or English on the subject of intellectual property, unpublished at the date of submission of the application;
- are under 30 years of age on the date of submission of the application;
- are not members of the Executive Committee of LES Italia, nor are they related or connected to the members of the Executive Committee or the members of the judging panel.

Undergraduate and/or doctoral theses:

- may be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the supervising professor;
- must be related to a degree course or PhD programme completed at any faculty of a legally recognised Italian or foreign university;
- must consist of a degree thesis or doctoral thesis:
  a) on legal matters relating to industrial and intellectual property rights;
  b) on IP rights licensing issues;
  c) on technical and scientific IP issues related to licensing.

ART. 3

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for participation in the Call for Applications must:

a) include the candidate's first name, surname, place and date of birth, address, tax code, telephone number and email address;

b) indicate the title of the thesis-dissertation, the date and the university and faculty where it was submitted by the candidate, specifying whether it was for the purpose of obtaining a degree, doctorate or master's degree (including LL.M.);

c) be accompanied by the candidate's CV and a certificate of studies completed, including a degree certificate and/or qualification obtained or a list of exams passed;

d) be accompanied by an electronic copy of the thesis-dissertation and a bilingual Italian/English *abstract* of no more than 800/1000 words;

e) be accompanied by the text of this Call for Applications signed by the candidate to certify:

i) explicit acceptance of all the terms and conditions contained in the Call for Applications;
ii) confirming that the work is unpublished, has never been published, is not currently being published either in print or online, either in its entirety or as *an abstract*.

By signing this Notice, the candidate acknowledges and agrees that if the information provided is found to be untrue, LES Italia shall have the right to request the immediate return of any prize awarded to the undersigned.

All of the above must be sent **simultaneously and in full no later than 30/06/2026** by e-mail and/or certified e-mail to the following address:

bando@les-italy.org

Alternatively,
by registered letter with return receipt:
Avv. Simona CAZZANIGA Studio Legale Sutti
Via Durini 20
20122 MILAN

For the purposes of determining the date of submission of the application, the written confirmation - certifying the completeness and regularity of the submission of the document and all its attachments as specified in this Call for Applications - which will be sent to each candidate by LES Italia via email, shall be considered valid.

ART. 4

SELECTION AND AWARDS

Applications submitted within the above deadline will be evaluated by a selection committee composed of five (5) members appointed by the Executive Committee and consisting of a university professor, a magistrate or former magistrate specialising in IP issues, a solicitor

specialising in IP issues, a trademark and patent consultant, and a qualified representative of the industry active in the IP and licensing sector.

The committee selected for the 2026 Call for Applications will therefore be composed of:

- Dr. Umberto Scotti (former Councillor of the Court of Cassation, First Civil Section, and President of the Specialised Business Section of the Court of Turin)
- Prof. Silvia Giudici (Associate Professor of Industrial Law and Copyright Law at the University of Milan, member of the Control Committee of the Institute of Advertising Self-Regulation)
- Elisabetta Berti Arnoaldi Veli, attorney-at-law (lawyer specialising in industrial law, intellectual property and advertising, active partner at Sena & Partners)
- Ing. Roberto Dini (Italian and European patent and trademark attorney, founding partner of SISVEL s.p.a. and consultant at Metroconsult s.r.l.)
- Dr Sergio Lasca (Italian and European patent attorney – Head of the patents and *know-how* department at Pirelli & C. s.p.a.)

Each member of the committee reserves the right to involve an expert on the specific topic covered by particular papers.

The judging panel will meet as soon as possible after the deadline for submission of entries, appoint its own chairperson, who will assess any requests for abstention due to incompatibility, and set the schedule of meetings for the awarding of prizes in accordance with the terms set out below.

The committee will evaluate the contributions submitted and draw up a ranking of the two best papers, which will receive study awards worth:

- €5,000.00 (five thousand/00) - prize for the best doctoral or master's thesis

- €3,000.00 (three thousand/00) - prize for the best undergraduate thesis

The prizes are to be considered gross of any deductions required by current legislation. The committee's decision is final.

The award ceremony will take place on **29 October 2026,** alongside the LES ITALIA Annual Meeting.

The papers will be published on the LES ITALIA website in a special issue of "*I quaderni di LES ITALIA*" (www.les-italy.org) and, if particularly noteworthy, a summary in English written by the candidate may also be published in LES Nouvelles, the specialist magazine of LES International, sent quarterly to over 10,000 LES members worldwide.

ART. 5

USE OF SUBMITTED PAPERS

By agreeing to submit their papers to LES Italia, authors waive all claims to copyright and authorise LES Italia to publish the content in the form and through the means that LES Italia deems appropriate in order to promote the paper.

ART. 6

PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

The personal data provided by candidates through the application form will be collected by LES ITALIA and processed for the purposes of managing the selection process and subsequent stages of the initiative in accordance with Article 13 of the GDPR (Regulation (EU) No. 679/16).

The provision of the data referred to in ART. 2 is mandatory for the purposes of assessing the requirements for participation in the competition.

In the event of refusal to provide the requested data, LES ITALIA will exclude the candidate from the competition.

For further information, please contact LES ITALIA (tel. +39 02 762041 or bando@les-italy.org).

Turin, 27 February 2026

The President of LES Italia (Dario Paschetta, attorney- at-law)

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The candidate signs to acknowledge and accept without reservation:

_____

(Legible signature and name and surname in block capitals)