

## **Application form for research entities**

This application form is intended for entities wishing to be recognised as research entities.

**As a first step, please complete and send this form electronically (in WORD) with the three requested annexes (A1, A2 and A3, see last page of the form) to [ESTAT-ENTITIES-ASSESSMENT@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ESTAT-ENTITIES-ASSESSMENT@ec.europa.eu). Please do not sign the form at this stage.**

The information provided in the application form will be examined by Eurostat, which will take the decision whether to grant 'research entity' status.

The following criteria will be taken into account when deciding on the status of the entity:

- (1) the purpose of the entity;
- (2) the established record or reputation of the entity as a body producing quality research and making it publicly available;
- (3) the internal organisational arrangements for research, including the fact that the research entity is independent, autonomous in formulating scientific conclusions and separated from policy areas of the body to which it belongs;
- (4) the safeguards in place to ensure security of the data.

Applicants will be notified by email of the outcome of the assessment and about the next steps to complete the recognition procedure.

Processing of personal data is protected in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. All information collected will be processed by Eurostat for the sole purpose of verifying the applicant's compliance with the Regulation. All relevant questions must be answered. Failure to answer all relevant questions will result in refusal of the application. Applicants have the right of access to, and the right to rectify, the data concerned. Applicants have the right to have recourse at any time to the European Data Protection Supervisor.

## 1. Identification of the entity

**1.1** General information (*if your request for recognition concerns an university, please note that for reasons of administrative efficiency, we should receive the request on behalf of the university as a whole, not from departments or faculties*)

Official full name of the entity: Università degli Studi di Messina

Short name — acronym: UniMe

English name: University of Messina

Postal address: Piazza Pugliatti, 1 - 98122 Messina  
98122

Web address: <https://www.unime.it/>

Country: Italy

### 1.2 Legal status:

University or higher education establishment

Research organisation

Governmental organisation

International organisation

Public commercial organisation

Private commercial organisation, including consultancy

Please indicate the type of organisation (e.g. limited company, partnership, private enterprise):

European Economic Interest Grouping

Private organisation, non-profit

Other, please specify:

### 1.3 Duly designated representative of the research entity:

Name: Giovanna Spatari

Position: Rector

Telephone: 090-676.8933

Email: [rettorato@unime.it](mailto:rettorato@unime.it)

Address: Piazza Pugliatti, 1 -  
98122 Messina

Country: Italy

## **2. Purpose of the entity**

### **2.1 Main purpose and activity of the entity:**

Teaching and Research

### **2.2 Please describe how research activities are organised in the entity (only if research is not its main purpose).**

University of Messina offers a wide range of bachelor's and master's degree programs. University of Messina has agreements with more than forty foreign universities, promoting research, teaching and international mobility. It collaborates with institutions in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, the United States and Latin America, maintaining a strong international vocation and an open culture without borders. Research is the beating heart of the University of Messina, which constantly strives to promote excellence, innovation and scientific progress. Over the years, our researchers have tackled complex challenges in a wide range of disciplines, from medicine to engineering, from social sciences to technology. Research activities are carried out in the twelve departments and numerous research centers. Research activities may be carried out in collaboration with other universities or other public or private entities, Italian or foreign. The University ensures both basic and applied research and works to promote its development. The University carries out cooperation and consulting activities with public and private entities.

## **3. Research activities in the entity**

### **3.1 Please provide evidence of high quality research involving advanced statistical methods by direct links to three to five complete versions of relevant publications issued by the research entity and/or major research projects in which the research entity has been involved. The research should have been done by or involving employees of the research entity. Results should be publicly available, preferably in (peer reviewed) scientific journals.**

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09638199.2022.2098527>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/asmb.2637>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048733320300366>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264999312000703>

### **3.2 Please describe the entity's policy on dissemination of research results.**

The University, in compliance with the provisions of its Statute in which it states that the University embraces the principles of open access to scientific literature and promotes the free online dissemination of the results of research produced in the University, in order to ensure the widest possible dissemination, promotes the implementation of the principle of open

access (Open Access) as defined by the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities of October 2003 and the Messina Declaration of November 2004.

For a complete reading of the OA Policy adopted by the University of Messina:

<[https://oa.unime.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Policy-Open-Access\\_0.pdf](https://oa.unime.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Policy-Open-Access_0.pdf)>

#### **4. Organisational and financial arrangements for research within the entity**

- 4.1** Does the research entity depend on another organisation or does it constitute a separate, self-contained unit? Please describe the entity's organisational set-up.

University of Messina is a public institution with autonomy.

#### **4.2** Funding

Please explain how the entity is financed, in particular its research activities (directly or indirectly, through contracts with commercial companies or other bodies, etc.).

University of Messina promotes actions to encourage planning in research, both fundamental and collaborative, to seize and exploit all funding opportunities offered nationally and internationally. Scientific research is in fact today increasingly fed by the public (Regions, Ministries, European Union), private (industry and private donors) and philanthropic (Foundations and Associations) funding system through competitive funding calls dedicated to project development. Therefore, the project capacity of the University's researchers and faculty and collaboration with highly qualified external researchers, such as winners of prestigious international calls and awards, is important.

- 4.3** What is the size, in terms of number of staff employed (head count – researchers and support staff) of the applying research entity (the whole research entity or the research department of the organisation, depending on the application)?

2574 (Professors, researchers, residents, postdoctoral fellows, doctoral students, language associates)

837 (technical and administrative staff)

#### **5. Safeguards in place**

- 5.1** Please describe the physical security of the entity's premises **IT system and network.**  
**Please note that, at least:**

- The premises should be lockable or have an access control/monitoring system (for example: cameras, guards, access with badges etc.);
- IT assets (such as servers and client machines) used for storing and accessing European scientific use files should be secured <sup>(1)</sup>.

University of Messina meets these requirements

**5.2 Please describe your entity's IT system and network (where European scientific use files will be stored and accessed) compliance with the following requirements:**

- Server and client machines managed by the IT system administration of the entity;
- Operating system and security settings (virus/malware protection, permissions) regularly updated;
- Security patches to the operating system/applications regularly and timely applied;
- Network perimeter security controls (e.g. firewalls) in place.

University of Messina meets these requirements

**5.3 Please describe your entity's compliance with the following requirements for the safekeeping of European scientific use files (original data received from Eurostat and confidential intermediate results of analysis):**

- Data storage on server or stand-alone machines managed by the IT system administration of the entity;
- Data access only from clients or stand-alone machines managed by the IT system administration of the entity, with appropriate end-point security measures in place (e.g. physical security measures, virus/malware protection, permissions, authentication and authorization controls);
- Access allowed only from the premises of the research entity;
- Access to data restricted to the researchers named in the research proposal;
- Data export/copy in any form is forbidden. In particular to cloud systems, external storage services/devices (e.g. USB, external hard disks) or mobile devices;
- Secure disposal of data upon research project completion.

University of Messina meets these requirements

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<sup>(1)</sup> For instance: locked individual rooms, locked secure areas/departments, hardware-hardening, anti-theft tools etc. Alternatively implementing equivalent compensating controls.

**6. Contact details of person in charge of coordinating research proposals  
(contact person)**

- 6.1** Please state the name(s), position and contact details of the person responsible for organising access in the research entity in accordance with the relevant obligations<sup>2</sup> (contact person).

*The contact person is responsible for organising the access to confidential data within the research entity independently of the research projects concerned.*

*This person will coordinate submission of all research proposals at the level of the research entity. In particular, this person will countersign each research proposal submitted by the researchers of the research entity.*

**Contact person details:**

Name:	Paola Dugo
Title:	Professor
Organisation:	University of Messina
Division/Faculty:	Department of Chemical, Biological, Pharmaceutical and Environmental Sciences.
Position:	Deputy Rector of Research
Telephone:	090 6766541
Email:	paola.dugo@unime.it
Postal address:	Piazza Pugliatti 1, 98122 Messina

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<sup>2</sup> A contact person coordinates submission of research proposals at the level of the entity; in particular, a contact person countersigns each research proposal submitted by the researchers of the entity. By his/her signature the contact person confirms that all persons named in the research proposal are employed by, or are formally related to, the research entity. The contact person shall inform researchers named in the research proposal about the obligations described in the terms of use of confidential data.

## 7. Additional information

- 7.1.** Please briefly describe the planned research proposal, if any (project for which access to confidential data for scientific purposes will be requested).

Currently, there are no projects in place. We would like access to data for future projects

- 7.2.** National law on sanctions in case of misuse of confidential data. Please describe here the existing measures in your national law pertaining to the sanctions applicable in case of misuse of confidential/personal data.

*You can skip this item if your entity is located:*

- *in the European Union or in the European Economic Area (Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway);*
- *in a country covered by an adequacy decision of the European Commission<sup>3</sup>.*

- 7.3** Additional comments — free text

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<sup>3</sup> See more: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/international-dimension-data-protection/adequacy-decisions\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/international-dimension-data-protection/adequacy-decisions_en)  
(European Commission homepage ([https://commission.europa.eu/index\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/index_en)) / Law / Law by topic / Data protection / International dimension of data protection / Adequacy decisions.

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*I hereby certify that the information given in this questionnaire is complete, accurate and correct and that any change(s) will be reported immediately to Eurostat. I understand that Eurostat is authorised to check the accuracy of the information given in this questionnaire at any time. I understand that Eurostat may require more information, if necessary.*

*I confirm that my organisation submits this request in order to be recognised by Eurostat as a research entity. That recognition will allow my organisation to submit a research proposal on whose basis access may or may not be given to confidential data for scientific purposes. I am aware that in case my organisation is recognized as research entity, the name of my organisation will be published on Eurostat website.*

*Furthermore, I commit myself to taking and maintaining all necessary measures in compliance with the above requirements.*

At: (please state location)

Date: / /20

Name:

Position:

Signature:



**Annexes to be provided with the application form:**

A1. Legal act creating the entity and/or Articles of incorporation

A2. Organisation chart

\* For applications on behalf of departments - please provide two organigrams: (1) the organigram showing the position of the department in the structure of the entire organisation and (2) the organigram of the department, including sub-divisions.

A3. Mission statement (or other declaration of purpose) of the organisation – it must include reference to research;

\* For applications on behalf of departments – please provide the mission statement of the department (not the mission statement of the entire organisation).