



Charter of Principles of the University Colleges of the Rui Foundation

University contributes to social life and the common good through the development and circulation of culture and science. Research and university teaching cannot be separated from the drive toward unity of knowledge and from the commitment of acting with consistency: knowledge and university teaching must never lose sight of the unity of the person and the purpose of man. The years of university life must therefore allow students to broaden their cultural background and professional training in the context of a complete personal formation which can develop their moral and social conscience, educate them to freedom, and shape their concepts of responsibility and perennial values. This way their individual and social actions will be rightly guided. With this background, the Rui Foundation considers university:

- an institution aimed at research, teaching, and training of students, to produce men and women capable of rigorous reasoning, of acting with rectitude and unselfishly serving society;
- a community of those sharing the passion to search, discover and communicate the truth about the world, about man and God, in an atmosphere of dialogue and freedom, without conditioning of particular interests of any kind;
- a privileged meeting place between teachers who have the ability to transmit knowledge and the means to improve it, and students who have the willingness and ability to assimilate it;
- a time of preparation to a concept and practice of one's own and others' professional work, intended as an expression of human dignity, a means of personality development, a bond with other men, and privileged instrument for the advancement of humanity.

In order to support and promote this idea of the university world in the Italian academic realities, the Rui Foundation establishes University Colleges for Italian and foreign students (also named International University Residences).

Nature and external projection of the University Colleges

The University Colleges of the Rui Foundation, according to the best academic traditions in Italy and abroad, are **places of life, study, culture and personal training**:

- the environment of the Colleges is characterised by a familiar atmosphere, by the open and friendly cohabitation among people from many different geographical, cultural and social backgrounds, by the concrete enhancement of personal freedom and the corresponding responsibility. Each College has a simple regulation to encourage the practical realisation of those aspects;
- the same dynamics of everyday life in a residence (the furnishing of the spaces, the tutorial organisation of the study, the daily moments of informal conversation, the assignments, the cohabitation among people of different fields of study and research, the many initiatives in the residence and organised by the residence) are designed to have a practical everyday training value;;
- resident students enhance and facilitate the work of the staff members who, by taking care of household services, allow them to live in a comfortable and educational atmosphere, because it stimulates them to the care and order of the various spaces, to the respect for people and things;
- Colleges are for male or female students; the specific vital and training needs of the young can therefore be met more effectively through specific training projects organised by each College;
- Colleges pursue their aims and promote initiatives in a spirit of positive cooperation and integration with academic institutions, and constantly opened to all the realities of educational, cultural and social significance;
- the training activity of the Colleges is addressed firstly to resident students, so that they themselves will then become promoters among the other university students and in their own environment;
- religious (doctrinal and spiritual) training activities are entrusted to the Opus Dei Prelature, an institution of the Catholic Church whose spirituality is focused on the sanctification of the professional work and everyday duties of the Christian;

- the choice of residence by the candidate requires knowledge and acceptance of the contents of this Charter of Principles, of the training plan and the College regulations.

The training project of the Colleges

The training project that characterises the University Colleges of the Rui Foundation involves both resident students and external visitors. This training project aims to deepen and integrate the teaching provided by university faculties and to contribute to a balanced maturation of each individual personality in its different dimensions: human, cultural, professional and religious:

- Human dimension: enhancement and pursuit of the acquisition of human qualities or virtues such as loyalty, mutual respect, the spirit of service, friendship, industriousness, order, constancy, magnanimity, etc..; the strict application of intelligence, the education of a balanced sensibility and a firm will;
- Cultural dimension: according to flexible methods, suitable to the needs of students of different faculties (internal courses, study groups, conferences, informal meetings with teachers and professionals, etc..), particular emphasis is given to contents such as: key elements of humanistic culture; elements of general philosophy and epistemology; elements of anthropology and psychology; personal and social morality; professional ethics; anthropological and moral issues about marriage and family; instruments and logic of personal and social communication; European and international dimension of culture and society; language study and practice;
- Professional dimension: the activities and the aspects of life in the Colleges converge on the centrality of the study, not in an individualistic sense, but positively open to the realities of authentic university spirit and to the ethical and social implications of one's own future professional commitment. The development of the skills required by the new dynamics of work is encouraged also through a true collaboration with the most significant corporate and professional realities;
- Religious dimension: in the awareness that the core at the foundation of every fully human culture is its relationship with the mystery of God, a doctrinal-religious training adapted to the critical level of university studies is of the

greatest importance. The Colleges provide the opportunity to participate in spiritual training activities for those who wish and in an atmosphere of genuine respect for freedom of conscience.