Country	Top Universities/Schools	Other programmes and orgs for talented students	Societies	Thesis topic info	Other things to note
Sweden	KTH (most research focused) Chalmers Lunds tekniska högskola (lth) Maybe "lunds universitet" in general **Stockholm school of economics** (most prestigious, less research focuses) Karolinska Institute (best medical school and highest ranking overall)	Olympiads Rays Sommarforskarskola → summer research school Unga Forskare.	Stockholm Rationalists	Students are allowed to do our own topic, but we get suggested a list of topics to choose from and people are more likely to seek advice and do their own thing for master thesis rather than for bachelor	Engineering programmes are usually 5 years (both bachelor + master together). Research-y people go to mathematics and economics programme.
Poland	Jagalonia University in Krakow Warsaw University Szkola Glowna Handlowa w Warszawie (in Warsaw) (SGH)	Międzywydziałowe Indywidualne Studia Humanistyczne Czerwonej Róży https://filozofia.uw.edu.pl/ https://www.mimuw.edu.pl/ http://mspmap.uw.edu.pl/ https://wfis.uw.edu.pl/	Lesswrong Poland Koło Naukowe NZS	Students can get large research grants even after bachelors or masters (they reward grants in all disciplines), about 100 people get these grants anually between 1-4 years. You are free to come up with any topic you want, but you need to secure a supervisor.	In Poland there are interest groups and extracurricular groups and small labs ---> search department by department or reach out to contact persons at specific departments and ask them about it.
Germany	Wageningen - best in agriculture science University of Bonn (especially for Math)	Humboldt Foundation Scholarship: https://www.deutschlandstipendium.de/deutschlandstipendium/de/home/ho Scholarship: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Studienstiftung (biggest scholarship provider, no Math competition: https://www.bildung-und-begabung.de/ Political scholarships: Rosa-Luxemburg Stiftung (leftist), Friedrich-Naumann Stiftung (liber	Mensa-type: https://www.mind-hochschul-netzwerk.de/ Young Academy: https://globalyoungacademy.net/		Universities" traditionally are more research focused--- in germany "Universität" "Universities of applied sciences" are more practice-focused - they don't usually have PhD programmes.
Russia	Moscow State University Higher School of Economics Saint-Petersburg State University Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology	There is https://vk.com/science_career from https://viktoriakorzhova.com/, offers career consulting to students. Competition: https://vos.olimpiada.ru/	Research group for pure maths students: https://chebyshev.spbu.ru/en/people/ Summer school: https://www.mccme.ru/dubna/eng/	In Russia, you usually don't have to have a research proposal ready and don't have to apply to specific supervisor → you just apply to university and decide on supervisor and topic afterwards	
France	Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS) ENS Paris (Ulm), ENS Rennes ENS Cachan, ENS Lyon. Ecole Nationale d'Administration Ecole alsacienea (HIGH SCHOOL) Ecole de Mines - more research focused Henry the 4th, Louis Le Gran and Ecole Alsacienea -> High Schools	AMIMATH - advanced math			In most schools, the ENS Maths groups and physics group are very hard to get into, Econ (for social sciences). AP
Spain	University of Barcelona Autonoma de Barcelona Pompeu Fabra Fabra Universita Politechnika de Barcelona	Fellowship: Becas La Caixa CSIC: https://www.csic.es/ Fundación Amancio Ortega (Zara)+ Fundación Del Pino Santander Foundation Comunidad de Madrid Rafael Del Pino Foundation Celera (student talent aggregator) La Caixa foundation Ramon Areces Foundation Fundacion Barrie Rotary Org Valhundo Foundation	Logos group at uni of Barcelona AISEC		
Norway	NTNU - biology and technology University of Oslo: more humanities and social science oriented PRIO - peace research institute University of Burgen: Global health prioritisation, good economics programmes	Aker Scholarship			It's common to do your Masters and PhD at the same University.
Netherlands	Groningen Utrecht Tilburg: good for economics Dutch Research School of Philosophy	Holland Scholarship - for International Students Young Academy: https://www.knaw.nl/en/about-us/young-academy/the-young-academy Or https://globalyoungacademy.net/gya-in-brief/ they try to influence science policy VSB Fonds Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds		There are special tracks for exceptional students in research masters (usually results in extra coursework and extra distinction), they are selective - not all people can enter ---> usually people find their supervisors there. Coordinators of research master programmes → they are "labor market transitions" coordinators For bachelor programmes there are "study advisors" who help students to plan their careers, they deal with specific degrees	NWO and ERC (european research council) give out a lot of research fundings and fund PhDs → supervisors apply for funding for their PhD students on a specific topic → students then apply to specific supervisors and if accepted they get funding from the supervisor and have to work on the topic supervisor got funding for. You can apply to PhD only after masters. People usually change their focus during their PhD a lot
Israel	Tel Aviv University University of Haifa Reichman University Technion - Israel Institute of Technology Feinberg Graduate School	1. Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students at Tel-Aviv University - https://www.tau.ac.il/~excel/bpintchum#english.html 2. A list of faculty programs for outstanding students at Tel Aviv University (such as research B.sc programs in Biology, Chemistry, Philosophy+Economics+Political sciences and more) - https://go.n.tau.ac.il/b.a/excel 3. Neurosciences B.sc programs at Tel Aviv University (require high entry points and usually have very talented students) - https://go.tau.ac.il/b.a/neuroscience 4. Talpiot Program - an IDF Program for outstanding soldiers - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talpiot_program 5. Arazim Program - Similar to Talpiot but for Math and CS - https://he.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D7%AA%D7%9B%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA_%D7%90%D7%A8%D7%96%D7%99%D7%9D 6. Direct PhD Track program in Biology at TAU (the program I'm in) - https://en-lifesci.tau.ac.il/PhDdirecttrack 7. Direct PhD Track at the Weizmann Institute of Science - https://www.weizmann.ac.il/feinberg/admissions/about-direct-phd-program 8. List of outstanding student programs at the Hebrew University - http://info.huji.ac.il/registration-process/honors-programs 9. The Rothschild Scholars Technion Program for Excellence - https://excellence.technion.ac.il/en/ 10. Shulich Leaders Scholarship Recipients for STEM students with leadership skills - https://www.schulichleaders.co.il/leaders/#top			
Denmark		Society for Medical Student Research Exceptional high school programme: https://talentfuldeunge.dk/ High school mathematics competition https://www.europeantalentnetwork.com/ https://etsn.eu/ Maths Olympiad			
Estonia	University of Tartu	Talended Tartusse https://www.teaduskool.ut.ee/et/koolidele/talendid-tartusse Science project competition https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rakett_69 Youth Academy University of Tartu https://www.teaduskool.ut.ee/et High school: Tartu Ülikooli Teaduskool Estonian Student Satellite Foundation https://www.estcube.eu/en/foundation			
Portugal	University of Lisbon → Instituto Superior Tecnico Universidade Aveiro Universidade do Minho	National Science Foundation - https://www.fct.pt/index.phtml.en Scholarship: Calouste Gulbenkian foundation Summer School (high schoolers): Junior University		A bit more difficult to have control over what they can do with their thesis > mostly up to the person giving orientation of the work (science) > Biochemistry	Currently, everyone is doing integrated Masters and you write the thesis for your masters. Now it's mandatory to have separate degrees > bachelors of 3 years and then masters of 2 years.
Switzerland	University of Lausagne University of Zurich ETH Zurich -> especially social sciences	Reatch: https://reatch.ch/ Swiss Study Foundation: https://www.studyfoundation.ch/		Usually have 1 year to figure out the topic of your PhD after you get in. Topic submission is in the second semester of the PhD.	
Chile	University of Chile -- most traditional university Catholic University of Chile (Universidad Católica de Chile) University of Santiago de Chile (USACH)	Grantmaking: http://www.superacionpobreza.cl/postulacion-tesis-gais/ CONICYT (Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica or National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research) FONDECYT			
Belgium	VUB (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) Ghent University UCLouvain	FWO (specific to Flanders and Belgium by extension)		Most pick a topic from a list > the bachelor's thesis is not that important in Belgium, the masters thesis is much larger. The grade you get in your masters thesis is pretty important for your PhD	
Singapore	NUS NTU SUTD SMU	Scholarships: Brightsparks Jardine scholarship PSC scholarship (not really for research) Astar scholarship (best for research) School-based scholarships: Nanyang scholarship for NTU: NTU - URECA NUS - UROP CN Yang scholarship in NTU Tsao foundation - ageing research	NTU Research Society Google Science Fair (not Singapore specific but could be worth investigating SMP (science mentorship program) > across different high schools in Singapore SCELSE in NTU ERIAN in NTU SERIS NUS NEWRI NTU		
Austria	Economics University of Vienna	Debattierklubwien.at (debate club vienna) Initiativgruppe Alpbach Wien (small version of WEF) Complexity science hub Vienna			PhD funding > different sources of funding: employed by the uni and also have to do some teaching; also like project positions (then get funding from EU or other international ORGS); if you've been working in austria for 6 months you can ask for it to do some education (and the government pays for you for one year >) > everyone gets it! Bildungskarenz. People go overseas if they really want to study but if not they stay with masters thesis. Student society culture it's not so much, at economic university they have something but at other not at all really.
Chile	University of Chile Catholic University of Chile (Universidad Católica de Chile) University of Santiago de Chile (USACH)	Organisation which gives out grants to people who help to solve some poverty-related problems with their theses: http://www.superacionpobreza.cl/postulacion-tesis-gais/ . CONICYT (Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica or National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research). It's a governmental institution, in charge of managing and executing the programs and instruments aimed at promoting and developing research in different areas: https://www.anid.cl/concursos/			https://www.uchile.cl/portal/english-version/research/49750/applied-research-projects. It's the main institution in the country in scientific and technological research. Most of their research programs are public-funded.
Italy	Research heavy Universities: La Normale (Pisa) (technical studies/scientific); La Cattholica di Milano (private); La Sapienza di Roma (public). La Bocconi de Milano	Erasmus Mundos (https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/opportunities/opportunities-for-individ	La Normale di Pisa - La Cattolica di Milano - Bocconi Milano - La Sapienza di Roma - Scienze Cognitive Trento - Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna	Theses mostly exist for private schools in Italy.	Most students are active on Facebook in Italy. Scholarships are generally managed by the Universities themselves.
China/Hong Kong	University of Hong Kong HKST Uni of Science & Technology CUHQ > Chinese University of HK Peking University Fudan University Xinjiang University NYU Shanghai	Horizon Fellowship			Research fellowship granted by HKU to talented students offered to students in the last year of the fellowship > Undergraduate Research Fellowship > they'll work on their thesis or dissertation Generally, students in HK are more interested in finance than research. Students from mainland China are more interested in research.
Hungary	Új Nemzeti Kiválóság Program (ÚNKP)	National Student Research Conference			There are lots of PhDs in Hungary. If you're lucky/well-prepared you can get a PhD program that is funded by the government.
Austria	Economics University of Vienna		Topleague Debattierklubwien.at (debate club vienna) Initiativgruppe Alpbach Wien (small version of WEF) Complexity science hub Vienna		