



Rectoral Decree

CALL FOR THE AWARDING OF A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

THE RECTOR

Given Law 30/12/2010 no. 240, and in particular Art. 22 and Art. 18(1b);

Given the "Regulations for the Awarding of Research Fellowship Collaborations", issued by Rectoral Decree no. 595-2011, Prot. no. 12006 of 21/03/2011;

Given art. 4.3 of the aforementioned Regulations, providing that the University may reserve a quota of research grants for Italian or foreign scholars who hold a PhD, or equivalent title, or to international scholars who have awarded the PhD title in Italy.

Given Legislative Decree 30/06/2003 no. 196;

Considering that the University of Verona has been a member of the "Scholars at Risk" international academic protection network since 2018 and of the Italian section "SAR-Italy" founded in 2019;

Considering the growing number of scholars at risk seeking placement at European universities;

Given the resolutions of the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors of 21 December 2021;

Given the expressions of interest and the research topics reported by the University Departments;

Given the Law Decree 28/02/2022 no. 16 "Further urgent measures for the crisis in Ukraine" including specific financial measures aimed at providing reception options to Ukrainian researchers and professors;

and **having evaluated** every appropriate element;

DECREES

ART. 1 - SELECTION FOR AWARDING 1 (ONE) RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP TO BE ASSIGNED TO A SCHOLAR AT RISK

This document announces the selection process **AdR 3950/22** based on qualification, research project and interview to award no. 1 (one) research fellowship at the University of Verona. The fellowship is for 12 months, with the possibility of renewal in accordance with law and subject to the availability of funds.

The selection is open to scholars who carry out their research activities in the scientific topics listed below. Candidates can apply only for one topic, submitting a research project in line with it.

Research topics:

Department: Cultures and civilizations	
no. 1	Research topic: <i>Ancient Near Eastern Studies</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Luigi Turri
	Working language: English and/or French
Department: Diagnostics and Public Health	
no. 2	Research topic: <i>Impact of meteorological factors and climate change on concentrations of airborne pollens</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Alessandro Marcon
	Working language: English
Department: Computer Science	
no. 3	Research topic: <i>Stochastic analysis and applications</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Luca Di Persio
	Working language: English

no. 4	Research topic: <i>Mathematical Logic (Mat/01): Extracting the computational content of proofs with transfinite methods in algebra</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Peter Schuster
	Working language: English
Department: Foreign Languages and Literatures	
no. 5	Research topic: <i>Iberian languages worldwide: migration, conflicts, language policies, and contact phenomena</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Matteo De Beni
	Working language: English and/or Spanish
no. 6	Research topic: <i>Research and development of Artificial Intelligence-based methods for the extraction of knowledge from textual resources and its formal representation (e.g., following the Semantic Web best practices)</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Marco Rospocher
	Working language: English
Department: Neurosciences, Biomedicine and Movement Sciences	
no. 7	Research topic: <i>Protein chemistry and enzymology in human diseases involving neurosciences</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Mariarita Bertoldi
	Working language: English and/or French and/or German
no. 8	Research topic: <i>Developing and implementing strategies to tackle mental illness stigma in healthcare settings</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Antonio Lasalvia
	Working language: English
no. 9	Research topic: <i>Dissecting the pathogenesis of muscle diseases</i>
	Contact person: Gaetano Alfio Vattermi
	Working language: English
Department: Surgery, Dentistry, Paediatrics and Gynaecology	
no. 10	Research topic: <i>Regenerative medicine and tissue engineering</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Luca Giacomello
	Working language: English and/or Ukrainian
no. 11	Research topic: <i>Molecular bases of cardiovascular risk</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Anita Morandi
	Working language: English
Department: Law	
no. 12	Research topic: <i>International law, including (but not limited to): human rights, international criminal law, international humanitarian law, global security, the law of occupation.</i>
	Contact person: Prof. Annalisa Ciampi
	Working language: English

ART. 2 - REQUIREMENTS

For admission to the selection process referred to in Art. 1, potential candidates must fulfil the following requirements:

- a) a PhD title relevant to the selected research project, awarded by an Italian or foreign university, or an equivalent qualification obtained in a foreign Country;
- b) a professional and scientific CV suitable for the research activity described in art. 1;
- c) adequate knowledge of Italian and/or English and/or other working language specified for the selected research topic;
- d) being a non-Italian citizen in one or more of the following positions:

- (1) recognized as an "at-risk scholar" by SAR (SAR-status) or by other accredited international organizations who work in this field [Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) and Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA)].
- (2) possession of international protection status in Italy or in another EU Country;
- (3) possession of refugee status in a State that signed the Geneva Convention;
- (4) asylum seeker in Italy.

Candidates should attach to the application the available documentation related to their the 'at-risk' status recognized by SAR or other accredited international organizations who work in this field, or to their refugee / international protection status or asylum request.

Those with any relationship to, or ties with, a professor of the Host Department, the Rector, the Director-General or any member of the university Board of Directors, up to the fourth degree inclusive, may not participate.

The research fellowship may not be awarded to any permanent staff of universities, public institutions or public entities for research and experimentation, the National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA) or the Italian Space Agency (ASI), nor to permanent staff at any institution whose advanced academic degree has been recognised as equivalent to a PhD pursuant to Art. 74(4), Presidential Decree no. 382 of 11/07/80.

In order to be admitted to the selection process, potential candidates must meet the stated requirements at the time of the application deadline. Failure to meet these requirements may result in the applicant being excluded from the selection process with due decree by the Rector.

ART. 3 - APPLICATIONS AND RULES FOR SUBMISSION

Applications, written on plain paper following the outline attached to this call for applications (appendix: Form A) and addressed to the Rector of the University of Verona, may be submitted sending the Form A and related attachments in pdf format, to the e-mail address ufficio.protocollo@pec.univr.it, within the peremptory **deadline of 20 May 2022, 1.00 PM italian time** indicating "*Application to the AdR 3950/22 Call for the awarding of a research fellowship*" as the e-mail object.

The submission may also be made by an unaudited electronic mail address. No other forms of application submission are admitted.

Upon receipt of the application, an anonymous identification code will be sent to each candidate and it will be used for the publication of all selection-related documents.

Pursuant to Art. 76, Presidential Decree 445/2000 and aware of the criminal penalties for false statements, candidates must state in their application:

- 1) personal details, date and place of birth, nationality, residence address, e-mail address, italian tax identification code (if any) and contact address for the selection procedure (including the postal code and, if possible, a phone number)
- 2) to fulfil all the requirements indicated in art. 2 of this Call, and not to fall into any of the incompatibility categories outlined in this Call;
- 3) that they have no prior criminal convictions, or otherwise report any criminal convictions (even if they have been granted amnesty, cancellation, pardon or legal pardon) or criminal proceedings against them;
- 4) that they have the required qualification as given in Art. 2 of this call for applications, and state the qualification and the date and place where it was awarded. Foreign nationals must also specify if their qualification, if it was awarded abroad, has received official recognition for equivalency to an Italian qualification;

For the evaluation of qualifications and experience, candidates must attach to their application:

- 1) a declaration in lieu of an affidavit regarding their qualifications gained, stating the award date, the issuing university and any grade reported.

- 2) their academic and professional CV, publications and relevant qualifications as per Art. 6 of this call for applications;
- 3) a research proposal (appendix Form C);
- 4) motivation letter;
- 5) available documentation related to their the 'at-risk' status recognized by SAR or other accredited international organizations who work in this field, or to their refugee / international protection status or asylum request. After the closing of the call, the Selection Committee will ask for confirmation to SAR, Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) or Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA) about the documentation submitted by the selected candidates.
- 6) a copy of an ID card, or other form of identification.

The aforementioned documents must be submitted by the application deadline as plain paper photocopies accompanied by a statement that they are identical to the original. Alternatively, the candidate may produce a substitutive declaration reporting the important information contained in these documents. For this, candidates may use appendix Form B. The signature at the bottom of the application is not subject to authentication, in accordance with Presidential Decree no. 445/2000.

Administration does not assume any responsibility if the applicant is unable to be contacted or for the loss of documents due to errors in the address provided by the applicant, or for a failure to/delay in notifying a change of the address stated in the application, nor for any postal delivery errors or otherwise which are attributable to third parties, unforeseeable circumstances or force majeure.

In any case, any applications which are not signed or that, for any reason, including force majeure, are received by the University of Verona after the above mentioned deadline, will not be considered.

Administration reserves the right to perform checks to verify the truthfulness of substitutive declarations. If such investigations reveal that any declarations are false, the applicant will be excluded from any benefits they may have been awarded from provisions made on the basis of the false declaration, notwithstanding the provisions of Art. 76, Presidential Decree no. 445/2000.

Pursuant to Law no. 104 of 05/02/92, candidates with a disability must make a specific request in their application regarding any aid required to perform the online interview.

ART. 4 - EXCLUSION FROM THE SELECTION PROCESS

Candidates are admitted to the selection process under the condition that the Rector may, with due reason, exclude those who do not fulfil the selection requirements from the selection process at any time.

ART. 5 - SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Selection Committee shall be constituted after the expiry of the call and its composition will be made known promptly by means of a Rectoral Decree. It will be organized in subcommittees, one for each Department, made up of three members (lecturers or experts in the disciplinary sector related to the subject, or similar) as established by Art. 20 (1a) of the Regulations referred to in the introduction.

ART. 6 - SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure takes into consideration an evaluation of each candidate's qualifications and experience, motivation letter as well as an interview.

For the evaluation, the Selection Committee can award up to 100 points to each candidate: up to 80 points for qualifications and research project and up to 20 points for the motivation letter and final interview.

For safety reasons, considering the at-risk situation of applying candidates, the University of Verona guarantees the respect of candidate's anonymity throughout the duration of the selection process. The results will be published using the codes associated with the applications and will not disclose the candidate's nationality.

The selection will be organized in two steps:

First step: Evaluation made by the Departmental subcommittees.

The evaluation of qualifications and of the research project will be based on the documents submitted by the candidates and following up an interview to discuss the research project.

For the **evaluation of qualifications up to 50 points** may be assigned, as below described:

Qualifications	Score
Laurea Magistrale (Min.Decree 270/04), Laurea Specialistica (Min.Decree 509/99), Diploma di Laurea (Min.Decree 509/99) o equivalent degree(s)	up to 5 points
PhD or equivalent degree	up to 10 points
Academic publications	up to 15 points
Work experience in the research field	up to 20 points
Total	up to 50 points

For the evaluation of the **research project**, including the related interview, **up to 30 points** may be assigned.

no.	Evaluation criteria	Score
1	Academic and professional qualifications	up to 50 points
2	Research project and interview	up to 30 points (research project: up to 20 points; interview: up to 10 points).
	Total	up to 80 points

Second step: Evaluation made by the Selection Committee.

Candidates will be considered suitable to access the second step of the evaluation procedure (final interview and evaluation of the motivation letter) if they gain at least 55 points out of 80 after the first step of the evaluation. The interviews will be conducted in Italian or English language.

The list of applicants admitted to the final interview, which contains the codes assigned by the system at the time of submitting the application, and details on date and time of the interview will be announced by e-mail to each candidate and published with a (minimum) three-day notice on the website of the University: [Official Register](#) and [Cooperation activities](#) section,

The second step of the selection process will be considered passed with **at least 12 points out of 20**.

no.	Evaluation criterion	Score
3	Interview and evaluation of the motivation letter	up to 20 points

To take part in the interview, candidates must provide a current, valid ID document. Candidates who do not show an ID document or have only an expired ID document will not be admitted to the interview.

Candidates must ensure that the workstation from which they will hold the interview is equipped with a webcam, necessary for recognition, and equipped with a microphone and headphones or audio speakers.

Failure / incorrect communication of personal contact details, failure to connect and / or unavailability of the candidate on the day and time established, or failure to show the identification document will be considered a waiver of participation in the interview, and therefore of selection, whatever the cause.

The final score will be made by the sum of the different scores (criteria no. 1 + 2 + 3).

The results of the selection process will be communicated to the candidates by the Selection Committee after the interview.

ART. 7 – RANKING LIST

The steps of the selection procedure, including the ranking list, shall be approved by Rectoral Decree. The ranking list will be concurrently published in the Official University Register on the web page: <https://www.univr.it/en/official-register>. The selected candidate and the hosting department will be notified by e-mail with all necessary details on the further steps to be taken to accept the grant and stipulate the contract.

ART. 8 - CONTRACT

Research fellowships are awarded through the stipulation of a personal contract for research collaboration. Such contracts do not imply any form of employment and do not give the holder any priority for accessing permanent university positions.

Recipients who do not present themselves by the specified date, do not sign the contract or do not start the research at the determined time shall lose their right to the fellowship, except in cases provided for by the university's "Regulations for the Awarding of Research Fellowship Collaborations" referred to in the introduction.

The fellowship recipient's responsibilities are those established in the aforementioned University Regulations. In particular, the fellowship recipient shall collaborate on research regarding the project for which this call for applications was announced.

The total amount of the fellowship, net of administrative burden, is € 25,000.00 (approximately 1,500.00 Euro net per month) to be paid to the recipient in deferred monthly instalments. If the research fellow is a beneficiary of a co-financing provided by international organizations (e.g. Scholar Rescue Fund), this amount will be added to the fellowship amount already guaranteed by the university.

Research fellowships are subject to taxation under the provisions of Art. 4, Law 476/84 and subsequent amendments and additions, as well as social security, under the provisions of Art. 2(26) and following of Law 335/95 and subsequent amendments and additions.

The University provides the necessary support for requesting a visa and, once in Verona, for applying for a residence permit. The research activity can only start when the fellow is in possession of a regular residence permit enabling to carry out the activity or the documentation related to the regular request of the residence permit already submitted to the Police Headquarters.

The University provides insurance cover of accidents related to conducting the research. The expenses are to be paid by the fellowship recipient and the premium is deducted from the fellowship amount. The University also provides cover for third party liability, the expenses being covered by the university. Registration fees to the National Healthcare System (SSN) or to private healthcare insurance coverages for non-EU fellows will be refunded.

The University offers free accommodation in a guest house for the research fellow. In the presence of accompanying persons, the necessary support will be provided for searching for a suitable housing solution and for the regularization of accompanying family members entering to Italy.

The fellowship cannot be accumulated with other fellowships of any kind, except those granted by national or foreign institutions that are intended to contribute towards conducting a part of the recipient's research assignment abroad.

At the time of signing and for the total duration of the contract, fellowship recipients may not be employed, nor may they establish an employment contract, even temporary, with any private entity or public administration. Should they be already employed, a fellowship contract will not be stipulated unless the employer puts the recipient on leave without pay by a date given by the University.

Provided they perform their assigned tasks, fellowship recipients may carry out professional activities or other independent work if this is authorised beforehand by the Board of the Department, having consulted with the academic supervisor, and provided that the activity:

- is compatible with conducting research activities;
- does not represent a conflict of interest with the specific research being conducted by the fellowship recipient;
- does not lead to prejudice to the University in relation to the activities being carried out.

Fellowship recipients may not attend Bachelor's, Master's or PhD programmes with a fellowship, nor medical specialisation programmes, in Italy or abroad.

ART. 9 - SAFEGUARD PROVISIONS

For matters not provided for by this announcement, please refer to the relevant applicable provisions insofar as compatible.

The University of Verona is the owner of the processing of the personal data of the participants in the selections, pursuant to EU Regulation 2016/679; detailed information on the purposes of the processing, recipients of the data and exercise of the data subject's rights is available on the University's institutional website: <https://www.univr.it/it/privacy>.

This call for applications shall be publically published in the electronic Official University Register on the web page: <https://www.univr.it/it/albo-ufficiale>.

In the event of any discrepancies between the Italian and the English version of the Call, the Italian version shall prevail.

For more information, contact the Research Grants Office – PhD Unit of the University of Verona, Via San Francesco 22 - Verona, ph. +39 (0)45 802 8204 - 8591, e-mail address elena.cordioli@univr.it, international.cooperation@ateneo.univr.it.

The Rector
Prof. Pier Francesco Nocini

This document is digitally signed and recorded in the report system of the University of Verona, under Legislative Decree 82/2005 and subsequent amendments.

APPENDIX – Form A

AL MAGNIFICO RETTORE
DELL'UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI VERONA
Via dell'Artigliere 8
37129 VERONA
ufficio.protocollo@pec.univr.it

I, the undersigned,
born in (province) on
residing in(province)
street n° postcode
phone Italian tax identification no.,
request admission to the Selection process AdR 3950/22, on the merit of my qualifications/experience and
an interview, for the awarding of 1 (one) research fellowship pursuant to Art. 22, Law 240/10 to conduct the
research project “
.....
.....”

regarding the research topic: (please tick only one option ☒)

<input type="checkbox"/>	no.1	Ancient Near Eastern Studies
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 2	Impact of meteorological factors and climate change on concentrations of airborne pollens
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 3	Stochastic analysis and applications
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 4	Mathematical Logic (Mat/01): Extracting the computational content of proofs with transfinite methods in algebra
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 5	Iberian languages worldwide: migration, conflicts, language policies, and contact phenomena
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 6	Research and development of Artificial Intelligence-based methods for the extraction of knowledge from textual resources and its formal representation (e.g., following the Semantic Web best practices)
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 7	Protein chemistry and enzymology in human diseases involving neurosciences
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 8	Developing and implementing strategies to tackle mental illness stigma in healthcare settings
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 9	Dissecting the pathogenesis of muscle diseases
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 10	Regenerative medicine and tissue engineering
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 11	Molecular bases of cardiovascular risk
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 12	International law, including (but not limited to): human rights, international criminal law, international humanitarian law, global security, the law of occupation.

I hereby state, under my own personal responsibility:

a) I have citizenship in the following Country:;

b) I have not reported criminal convictions nor pending criminal proceedings; or: I have the following criminal convictions or the following pending criminal proceedings

.....

.....;
c) I have:

1. a Bachelor's/Master's degree in
..... awarded on the date
.....by with
the final grade of
Only for qualifications gained abroad or for foreign candidates:
the above qualification has been recognised as equivalent to an Italian qualification by the
relevant authority ☐ yes ☐ no;
2. a PhD in
awarded on the date by

d) to be (please tick as appropriate ☒):

- ☐ 1) recognized as an "at-risk scholar" by SAR (SAR-status) or by other accredited (international organizations who work in this field [Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) and Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA)]).
- ☐ (2) in possession of international protection status in Italy or in another EU Country;
- ☐ (3) in possession of refugee status in a State that signed the Geneva Convention;
- ☐ (4) an asylum seeker in Italy.

e) I meet the other requirements specified in Art. 2 of this call for applications.

f) I have adequate knowledge of the following languages to be used as working languages within the selected research topic (please tick as appropriate ☒):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Italian	<input type="checkbox"/>	French	<input type="checkbox"/>	English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>	German	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ukrainian
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I hereby attach:

- mandatory attachments in pdf format:

- ☐ copies or a declaration in lieu of an affidavit regarding qualifications gained, stating the award date, the issuing university and any grade reported;
- ☐ academic and professional CV;
- ☐ list of publications;
- ☐ any relevant qualifications as per Art. 6 of this call for applications;
- ☐ a research proposal (see appendix Form C);
- ☐ a motivation letter;
- ☐ documentation related to my 'at-risk' status recognized by SAR or other accredited international organizations who work in this field, or to my refugee / international protection status or asylum request.
- ☐ a copy of a valid ID card, or other form of identification.

Address for correspondence:

Street City
..... Prov. Postcode Phone
..... Email

I, the undersigned, state my knowledge that the University may use the information contained in this declaration exclusively within the context and for the institutional purposes of the Public Administration, in compliance with the current legislation on the processing of personal data.

(date),

Signature

APPENDIX -FORM B

SUBSTITUTIVE DECLARATION OF CERTIFICATION and/or SUBSTITUTIVE DECLARATION IN LIEU OF AFFIDAVIT

(Art.s 46 and 47, Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28/12/00)

I, the undersigned,

SURNAME _____

NAME _____
(for women: indicate maiden name)

TAX ID NUMBER _____

BORN IN _____ PROVINCE _____ ON _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: CITY _____ PROVINCE _____

ADDRESS _____ POSTCODE _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Being aware of the criminal sanctions concerning false statements and the creation or use of false documents, as referred to in Art. 76, Presidential Decree 445/2000

I declare:

I, the undersigned, state my knowledge that the University may use the information contained in this declaration exclusively within the context and for the institutional purposes of the Public Administration, in compliance with the current legislation on the processing of personal data.

Place and date _____ Signed _____

Pursuant to Art. 38, Presidential Decree 445/2000, this substitutive declaration of affidavit is signed by the person concerned in the presence of a suitable employee or signed and submitted together with a non-certified photocopy of an ID document of the person concerned.

APPENDIX - FORM C

Research Proposal

TITLE (max 20 words)

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SUBTITLE (max 40 words)

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CANDIDATE's DETAILS

Name and Surname	
Date of Birth	
Nationality	
Contact Email	
Contact Phone Number	

Research Topic

<input type="checkbox"/>	no.1	Ancient Near Eastern Studies
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 2	Impact of meteorological factors and climate change on concentrations of airborne pollens
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 3	Stochastic analysis and applications
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 4	Mathematical Logic (Mat/01): Extracting the computational content of proofs with transfinite methods in algebra
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 5	Iberian languages worldwide: migration, conflicts, language policies, and contact phenomena
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 6	Research and development of Artificial Intelligence-based methods for the extraction of knowledge from textual resources and its formal representation (e.g., following the Semantic Web best practices)
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 7	Protein chemistry and enzymology in human diseases involving neurosciences
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 8	Developing and implementing strategies to tackle mental illness stigma in healthcare settings
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 9	Dissecting the pathogenesis of muscle diseases
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 10	Regenerative medicine and tissue engineering
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 11	Molecular bases of cardiovascular risk
<input type="checkbox"/>	no. 12	International law, including (but not limited to): human rights, international criminal law, international humanitarian law, global security, the law of occupation.

PROJECT ABSTRACT (max. 500 words)

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APPENDIX - FORM C

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT (max. 3000 words)

This section should outline in details the project's object, aims, methods, an indicative plan/timetable of activities and the expected results.

APPENDIX - FORM C

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES (max. 500 words)

Describe below how the proposed project builds on – and develops further – your previous research experiences.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES and CONTRIBUTION TO THE HOST DEPARTMENT (max. 700 words)

Explain how the proposed project will, in your opinion, strengthen or complement the research activities and expertise in the host Department.

PLACE AND DATE

SIGNATURE