



Università  
Ca' Foscari  
Venezia

**Research fellowship on “Islamic Languages on the Silk Road. Lexical, Semantic and Symbolic-cultural Convergences” - Università Ca' Foscari Venezia**  
(Italian law 30 December 2010, n.240, art. 22)

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition which is available in Italian at the following [link](#). The text in Italian is the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, in the event of non-conformity with the present document, it shall prevail.

### **Description**

The Department of Asian and North African Studies at the Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications for a fellowship in:

**Title:** Islamic Languages on the Silk Road. Lexical, Semantic and Symbolic-cultural Convergences

**SSD:** L-OR/12

**Tutor:** Professors Meneghini, Dhanhardt, Drocco and Sibilio

**Abstract:** The concept of 'Islamic Languages', introduced in 1981 by Alessandro Bausani in a famous article, is today at the centre of a renewed academic interest. This notwithstanding, such a concept has not been adequately investigated in its developments and particularly from the standpoint of its relevance and topicality in relation to the dynamics of acculturation and integration and especially in connection with today's migratory flows and the cultural challenges they pose.

The research project aims at examining Arabic borrowings (direct or mediated by Persian) in the educated, abstract and symbolically marked lexicon of 'Islamic Languages' with specific regard to the connotative value and the symbolic, philosophical, and ethico-religious dimensions involved. The analysis will focus on a corpus of multilingual translations in some 'Islamic Languages' of the Indo-Iranian region in order to elucidate how abstract, elevated and symbolically connoted concepts are, in most cases, expressed through the resort to lexical elements of Arabic, and often Qur'anic, origin.

The identification of this common (despite diverse local semantic developments) lexical denominator, will help clarify, from a comparative perspective with Europe, the transcultural dimensions in the processes of penetration, transmission and diffusion of abstract and symbolically connoted notions, through the Islamic channel, between the Arab world, the Iranian area, and the Indian region.

The research includes the realization of a 'lexicon of Islamic Languages', namely a multilingual corpus of Arabic loanwords (often associated with Qur'anic occurrences), distinctive of 'Islamic Languages' and particularly significant for their connotative value and symbolic, philosophical and ethical-religious dimensions, in a comparative perspective with the different semantization process of the same concepts in major European languages.d.

The fellowship is intended to provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to pursue his/her own research while benefiting from the range of expertise at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia.

### **Who can apply**

Prospective candidates are expected to hold a master's degree.

Ca' Foscari encourages applications from researchers with positive evaluation in all the criteria in individual proposals such as Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar.

Researchers having successfully completed Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar funded projects are warmly encouraged to apply.



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**Duration of contract:** 12 months (approximately starting: 1 December 2020).

**Stipend:** The research fellowship amounts to 19,367 Euros per year, including taxes and social charges.

**Deadline for submission of applications: November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 12:00 noon (Italian time).**

#### How to apply:

Candidates should submit:

1. The application form;
2. A motivation letter (max 1 page) along with their CV in European format, duly dated and signed, both to be enclosed as a single.pdf file. ([link](#))
3. A copy of a valid identity document (either Identity Card or Passport);
4. (If available) Evaluation Summary Reports of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) individual proposals having passed all the evaluation thresholds;
5. (If available) Details of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships, ERC Starting Grants, FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/ SIR Scientific Young Independence Research funded projects;
6. Declaration on availability to hold the interview in remote ([link](#)) to be sent via email at the following address: [ricerca.dsaam@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.dsaam@unive.it)
7. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice [link](#)).

All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website ([link](#)).

#### How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage ([link](#)) or here:

<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dsaam-sibilio-19102020>

The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of his/her application.

The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials by the link provided by the e-mail, in any case any updates must be made no later than the deadline November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 12:00 noon (Italian time).

Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 24 hours prior to the deadline.

Please note that in case of a high number of applications and/or weight of the materials loaded by the candidates the system might become slower. Therefore it is suggested not to start the process close to the deadline.

**NB:** the University does not take on responsibility for wrong or late communication of addresses, nor for any communication problem not depending on the University.

#### Evaluation

Up to 100 points, specifically:

For qualifications, publications and possible tests, from 0 to 60;

For interview, from 0 to 40.

#### Selection procedure

**The interview will be on November 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 3:30 p.m. (Italian Time).** The interview will be



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held in remote.

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the University's webpage on November 12<sup>th</sup> 2020. ([link](#)).

### **Information and contacts**

Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following ([link](#))

For further information please contact Research Unit tel. +39 041 2349534 email: [ricerca.dsaam@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.dsaam@unive.it)