Università
Ca'Foscari
Venezia

Research fellowship on Assessment of effects of the allochthonous species *Mnemiopsis leidyi* A. Agassiz, 1865 (Ctenophora: Lobata) on fish fauna and small scale fishery in the Venice lagoon - 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

TITLE: Assessment of effects of the allochthonous species *Mnemiopsis leidyi* A. Agassiz, 1865 (Ctenophora: Lobata) on fish fauna and small scale fishery in the Venice lagoon;
Tutor: Prof. Piero Franzoi
Duration: 12 months
Abstract: The aim of this research project is to assess the effects of the allochthonous species *Mneniopsis leydi* A. Agassiz, 1865 (Ctenophora: Lobata) on fish fauna and artisanal fishery in the Venice Lagoon. This ctenophore is indeed a predator of zooplankton, including eggs, larvae and post-larvae of fish. In the Black Sea, the Azov Sea and the Caspian Sea, the spread of this invasive species has been associated with substantial modifications of the pelagic food webs and the collapse of fish stocks of small pelagics. Starting from 2016, a real demographic explosion of this alien species has been observed in many coastal environments of the North Adriatic. Currently, this species is widely diffused and abundant both in the Venice lagoon and in the sea facing it. Within the lagoon, *M. leydi* is found with high density not only in the ship channels but also in the innermost areas characterized by large expanses of shallow water.
To evaluate the distribution of this ctenophore and its potential preys (larvae, post-larvae and juveniles of fish species) in the shallow areas of the Venice lagoon, samplings will be conducted in the lagoon. The effects of *M. leidyi* on lagoon fishing yields will be assessed by monitoring fishing activities with fixed gears (fyke nets). The research will also provide the analysis of composition and structure of the nektonic populations in shallow waters, as well as data relating to the composition and abundance of artisanal fishery with fyke nets, relating to sampling and monitoring cycles conducted in the Venice lagoon before and after the arrival and spread of the invasive species.

The research may be carried out in English.
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 **in Environmental Sciences,** or similar educational programmes.
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.

Duration of contract: 12 months approximately starting**: February/ March 2021.**

Stipend: The research fellowship amounts to **19.367,00 Euros per year**, including taxes and social charges.

Deadline for submission of applications: 02/02/2021, 12.00 noon.

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 enclosed as a one 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. 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).

The form for declaring the availability to carry out the interview remotely which can be found at this link www.unive.it/moduli-assegni and must be sent via email to roxi@unive.it with the object: Research fellowship on Assessment of effects of the allochthonous species *Mnemiopsis leidyi* A. Agassiz, 1865 (Ctenophora: Lobata) on fish fauna and small scale fishery in the Venice lagoon - Università Ca' Foscari Venezia- Prof. Piero Franzoi.

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 submit here:

link: https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dais2021franzoi

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 **02/02/2021,**12.00 **noon**.

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

The interview:

The interview questions will cover:
- Ecology of transitional waters;
- Biology and ecology of the nektonic assemblage of Italian transitional environments;
- Sampling methods and analysis of fish fauna in transitional water bodies;
- Good knowledge of English
- Good knowledge of Italian (in case of foreign candidates)

Selection procedure

The interview will take place **on 12/02/2021 at 11,00 Italian time.**
The interview will be held in remote only.
The list of candidates admitted to the interview or any postponement will be announced on **09/02/2021** by notice that will be published on the website of this university (link) and on the web pages foreseen by current legislation.

This communication constitutes to all intents and purposes an official call and candidates will not receive any call or home communication. Therefore, candidates are required to present themselves, at the online interview, with a valid identification document, without prior notice, on the days and times indicated here. Any postponements will be made known on the day by means of a notice which will be published on the website of this university (link) and on the web pages envisaged by current legislation.

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 Prof. Piero Franzoi - pfranzoi@unive.it

Venice,

The head of the Department of
Scienze Ambientali, Informatica e Statistica
Prof. Salvatore Orlando

Digitally signed