



Director

CA' FOSCARI UNIVERSITY OF VENICE

THE NEW INSTITUTE Centre for Environmental Humanities - NICHE.

The Director of THE NEW INSTITUTE Centre for Environmental Humanities - NICHE,

- HAVING REGARD TO** the law of December 30th 2010, no. 240 and in particular art. 18 and 22 "assegni di ricerca" [research fellowships];
- HAVING REGARD TO** the DM of March 9th 2011 no. 102, registered at the Corte dei Conti [National Audit Office] on May 13th 2011;
- HAVING REGARD TO** the law no. 11 of 2015;
- HAVING REGARD TO** the MIUR [Ministry of Education, University and Research] note, reg. no. 583 of 08.04.2011;
- HAVING REGARD TO** the DLgs of January 9th 2008, no. 17;
- HAVING REGARD TO** the law of August 7th 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions;
- HAVING REGARD TO** the D.P.R. of December 28th 2000, no. 445, "Testo Unico delle disposizioni legislative e regolamentari in materia di documentazione amministrativa" [Consolidation Act of the legislative and regulatory provisions concerning administrative documentation];
- HAVING REGARD TO** the DLgs of June 30th 2003, no. 196 and subsequent amendments and additions;
- HAVING REGARD TO** the DLgs. of April 4th 2006 no.198 "Codice delle pari opportunità tra uomo e donna, pursuant to art.6 the law of November 28th 2005 no.246" and subsequent amendments and additions [equal opportunities for men and women];
- HAVING REGARD TO** the Statute of Ca' Foscari University of Venice;
- HAVING REGARD TO** the Regolamento per il conferimento degli assegni di ricerca [Regulations on research fellowship awarding] issued under D.R. 122/1998 of December 28th 1998; latest amendment by Rector's Decree n. 1139/2020 dated 19/11/2020;
- HAVING REGARD TO** Decree-Law No. 44 of 01/04/2021, "Urgent measures for the containment of the COVID-19 epidemic, in the field of SARS-CoV-2 vaccinations, justice and public competitions," converted with amendments by Law No. 76 of May 28, 2021;

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HAVING REGARD TO the resolution of the NICHE Board dated April 13, 2022 in favour of an agreement with UBI (Union of Italian Buddhists) to foster collaborative research activities;

IN VIEW OF the resolution of the Director of NICHE Rep. n. 98/2022 Prot n. 78268 of 10/08/2022 which grants financial backing for the fellowship as a financial guarantee of the first year, with the expense commitment n. 47475 for a sum of 30.000,00 to financially cover the first year, ascribed to the budget item A.C.03.01.01.01.

Establishes the following:

Art. 1 - Scope

1. A public selection is announced to award **1 fellowship** lasting 12 months, with the possibility of renewal within the limits of art. 2 of the Regulations on university research fellowship awarding, which will be subject to a specific contract.

The expected starting date is October 2022.

The research fellowship amounts to Euro 24.320,38 per year, gross to the recipient, net of the expenses to be sustained by the employer. The amount may be subject to adjustment in the event of variations in the law.

2. The research fellowship is awarded for the purpose of collaboration with the following research programme of THE NEW INSTITUTE Centre for Environmental Humanities - NICHE:

Title: Buddhism and the environment in the context of nonhuman rights: Deep Ecology and Earth Rights

Scientific disciplinary sector and/or disciplines specifically identified by the call: IUS20

Scientific coordinator and tutor: Prof.ssa Francesca Tarocco

Duration: 12 months

Abstract: The project is aimed at exploring the radical adherence of deep ecology and eco-centrism to the Buddha's thought, and - consequently - to re-imagine and imprint into action the idea of rights from a biocentric rather than anthropocentric perspective, according to which, instead, human beings are separate from Nature and can transcend its laws.

3. The selection aims to ascertain the scientific-professional requirements deemed necessary to carry out the above research activities.

Art. 2 - Requirements for participation in the selection procedure

1. Citizens belonging to European Union member states and non-community citizens with a PhD and appropriate scientific-professional curriculum.

2. The following are not eligible for fellowships and are therefore **automatically excluded from participation in the selection procedure**: candidates who have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with a professor belonging to the department or to the facility issuing the call for applications, or with the Vice Chancellor, the Director-General or a member of the University Board of Directors.

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3. The following are not eligible for fellowships: permanent employees of the universities, public research institutions and administrations, the National Council for New Technology, Energy and the Environment (ENEA) and the Italian Space Agency (ASI), institutions whose scientific specialisation diploma has been recognised equivalent to the title of PhD in accordance with article 74, fourth paragraph, of the Presidential Decree of July 11th 1980, no. 382, in accordance with the relative budget availability.
4. Private employees cannot be awarded a research fellowship, even if employed on part-time basis.
5. Candidates are admitted to the selection conditionally; the University will exclude, by motivated provision, candidates who are lacking the prescribed requirements. Said provision is notified to the concerned party by registered letter with recorded delivery or by telegram on the request of the concerned party.
6. In any case, please refer to the Regulations for the Awarding of Research Fellowships for cases of Incompatibility, prohibition of accumulation and suspension of activity.

Art. 3 – Application for participation in the selection and deadline

1. Candidates must submit an online application with all the required documents in accordance with the Regulations on research fellowship awarding and the following paragraphs.
2. Applications, together with all the required documentation, have to be submitted exclusively online **not later than September 23rd at 12.00 pm Rome time, CEST.**
3. The call for proposals is published on the University webpages ([link](#)), on the website of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research ([link](#)) as well as on the European Union web page ([link](#)).
4. The application form together with compulsory declarations are available on the University website at the following link:
<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/niche-ubi1-23092022>
Applications can be filed through this link only.
5. The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their application. The candidate if necessary can access the procedures for updating any data and materials using the link and submission number provided in the e-mail until the deadline: **September 23rd 2022, 12.00 pm 12.00 Rome time, CEST.**
6. Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 24 hours prior to the deadline. For further information please contact NICHE, e-mail: niche@unive.it.
7. 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.
8. Incomplete applications, those without the required data and the compulsory attachments will not be taken into consideration. Furthermore, the applications which, for any reason, reach this University beyond the term specified in paragraph 2 cannot be accepted.
9. With the exception of the provisions of art. 6, all communications concerning the public selections announced hereunder are sent to the concerned parties by certified email, registered mail with recorded delivery, or telegram. .
10. In the application the candidate must declare his/her surname and first name, date and place of birth, taxpayer's code and residence, email address.
11. In addition to the above, candidates must declare:
 - a) the title of the fellowship;

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- b) the scientific disciplinary sectors;
- c) the possession of a master's degree or equivalent title obtained abroad. Candidates in possession of a qualification obtained abroad must also submit a copy of the foreign title with a translation in Italian or English language including marks obtained, accompanied by a self-declaration relating to the conformity to the original of the translation itself. The candidate who has been awarded a Diploma Supplement, may not submit any other documentation, provided that the DS provides a complete description of the nature, level, academic system and status of the studies carried out. In any case, it is advised to submit any other document useful to the evaluation of the academic title obtained;
- d) the possession of a PhD, with the date on which it was obtained and the University where the course was held;
- e) nationality;
- f) to be medically fit to discharge his/her duties for the fellowship;
- g) to have/have not criminal conviction and/or being/not being currently involved in criminal proceedings. On this regard, the University reserves the right to assess at its discretion, for the purposes of the possible exclusion of the candidate from the selection, the seriousness of the criminal convictions declared and those that may occur as a result of the ongoing criminal proceedings
- h) whether he/she received a PhD fellowship;
- i) whether he/she has already received a research fellowship under art. 22 of law no. 240/2010;
- j) whether he/she has already held contracts under art. 24 of law no. 240/2010;
- k) his/her presentation of an individual proposal 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, having passed all the evaluation thresholds;
- l) the conclusion of a 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;
- m) the possession of a residence permit valid at the deadline of the call for applications, in case he/she is a non-European citizen residing in Italy;
- n) the consciousness that awarding of the fellowship is not compatible with the positions referred to in art. 11, with the exception of the provisions of the Regulations on university research fellowships awarding and the current legislation;
- o) the preference of the foreign language/s in which to be tested during the interview, if art. 5 of this call offers a choice of foreign languages;
- p) the possession of the evaluation criteria listed in art. 5;
- q) indication, where scheduled (art. 5), of the candidate's intention to avail himself/herself of the option to be interviewed by video. In this case the technical feasibility should be declared in the application;
- r) any other item specifically required in articles 2, 3 and 5;
- s) any other item specifically required by the application form;
- t) disabled candidates, in accordance with the law of February 5th 1992 no. 104 and subsequent amendments and additions, shall make a specific request in relation to their disability, concerning any aids they require in order to take any tests and sit the interview.

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12. Lack of the declaration/s in accordance with letters **c)**, **d)** and **g)** of the previous paragraph, will result in exclusion from the selection.

13. The University accepts no liability in the event of the recipient being untraceable or dispersion of the communications due to inaccurate indication of the domicile by the candidate, failure or delay in communication of variation of domicile or causes not depending on the University, or for any postal, telegraphic or telematic error or those attributable to third parties, chance events or force majeure.

14. The declarations made in the application shall be considered issued in accordance with the DPR no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments, by candidates entitled to use the simplified administrative certifications permitted by the above decree.

15. Candidates **must enclose** with their application:

- a) a scanned copy of any valid identification document;
- b) a motivation letter (max 1 page) along with their scientific-professional curriculum, both to be enclosed as a one single .pdf file. The curriculum vitae must be signed, specifying the educational qualification possessed for the purposes of the application and a detailed description of the candidate's scientific-professional qualifications; a declaration must be appended in the footnote of the curriculum, pursuant to the Italian DPR 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions, that the information provided corresponds to the truth. Moreover the candidates have to consent to the use of their personal data for the purposes of this selection procedure pursuant to the Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003;
- c) the attachments called "obligations and understanding" and "participation and compatibility";

16. Other attachments:

- a) a list of the candidate's scientific publications;
- b) declaration to fulfill the additional evaluation criteria listed in art. 5 according the scheme "preferential criteria";
- c) any other item specifically required in articles 2, 3 and 5

17. The same procedure established in the previous paragraphs for Italian citizens should be applied to citizens of the European Union. Citizens of countries not belonging to the European Union, regularly residing in Italy, can use the self-certifications established by the DPR no. 445/2000 limited to the countries, personal qualities and facts that can be certified or attested by Italian public bodies, with the exception of the special provisions contained in the legislation and regulations concerning immigration and the status of foreigners.

18. Citizens of countries not belonging to the European Union and who authorised to reside in the territory of the Country can use the aforementioned self-certifications if the same are produced under international agreements between Italy and the country of origin of the declarant.

19. The University performs sample checks on the truthfulness of the declarations made by the candidates in the applications and in the curriculum.

20. If the above check reveals that the content of the declaration is not true, the Declarant will forfeit any benefits conferred on the basis of the untruthful declaration, without prejudice to the provisions of the criminal code and relevant special legislation.

Art. 4 - Selection Committee

1. A Selection Committee is appointed in accordance with art. 9 of the Regulations.
2. Prior to examination of the applications, the Committee determines the general criteria for evaluation of the scientific-professional qualifications required for participation in the selection, the possible

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preliminary tests, the interview and the evaluation criteria described in articles 2 and 5, with regard to their specific relevance to the research activity subject of this call and establishes, for each type of qualification, the score to be attributed, in accordance to the evaluation grid defined by the Regulations on Research Fellowship Awarding (see att. B).

3. The selection reports will be approved by decree of the Director of the Centre and made public as established by art. 10 par. 5 of the Regulations on Research Fellowship Awarding.

Art. 5 - Assessment procedure

1. The selection is made by assessment of the scientific and professional qualifications, the curriculum vitae and scientific production of the candidates followed by an interview.

2. Candidates are admitted to the interview on the basis of the assessment of their scientific-professional qualifications.

The **interview** aims to assess the candidates' skills and expertise on the following subjects:

- Theories and perspectives of law from a biocentric perspective
- Law and the ecological crisis
- Deep ecology and Buddhism
- Rights of Nature

The interview will be conducted in ENGLISH.

3. Candidates whose qualifications are judged to be insufficient by the Selection Committee, in accordance with the previous art. 4, are excluded from the interview. The candidate must reach a minimum threshold of 42/60.

4. Exclusion is justified in detail in the selection reports which can be accessed in accordance with law 241/90, and as established also in the subsequent art. 8.

5. In addition to the publications, the following qualifications are considered as evaluation criteria:

- a) Having a an internationally co-tutored PhD
- b) The performance of documented research activities within international projects on topics consistent with the theme envisaged by the aforementioned research fellowship;

Art. 6 - Selection and ranking

1. The classification and consequent identification of the successful candidate will be made by the Selection Committee, which can award a total of 100 points, as established by the Regulations on research fellowship awarding (see Annex B), to be allocated as follows:

- Qualifications (including publications and other tests): up to 60 points;
- Interview: up to 40 points.

2. Candidates are admitted to the interview if assessment of the qualifications and the possible tests results in a score equal to or greater than 42/60.

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3. The interview will be held **on October 3rd 2022**. The list of candidates admitted to the interview and timetable *or any postponements* will be published on **September 27th, 2022** with a notice that will be displayed at NICHE and published on the University's website ([link](#)).
4. Publication of the above calendar and of the shortlisted candidates constitutes notification to all intents and purposes of the call for applications. Shortlisted candidates are therefore required to report, with valid identification document, without any notice, to the venue indicated, on the day and at the time specified in the public notice.
5. Absence of the candidates at the tests and/or at the interview will be considered to all intents and purposes as a withdrawal from the selection, whatever the cause.
6. The interview is held publicly. Candidates are deemed to have passed the interview if they reach a minimum score of 28/40.
7. Candidates are considered suitable for the specific research activity if the sum of the points assigned to the qualifications (and to any further tests) and to the interview is equal to or greater than 70/100.
8. On the basis of the scores attributed, the Committee draws up a merit ranking list in accordance to art. 10 of the Regulations on Research Fellowship Awarding.
9. In the event of two or more candidates obtaining the same score at the end of the selection, the younger candidate will be preferred.

Art. 7 – Awarding of the research fellowship

- 1.1. Having received the selection documents, the Director approves, by his own decree, the ranking list and the selection procedure reports and makes them public according to the procedures specified in the following art. 8. The approval decree ascertains the overall regularity of the procedure and compliance with current legislation and the University regulations.
2. If any irregularity is found, the Director of the structure requests clarifications from the Selection Committee. In the absence of a response within 20 days of the request or in the event of a negative evaluation of the elements provided in the response, the Director of the structure repeals the procedure.
3. The deadline for any appeal against the procedure is set by the date of the publication of the ranking list.
4. The ranking is valid for a period of one year.
5. The Department/Centro that issued the call can use the ranking, without prejudice to ensure adequate financial coverage, in the following cases:
 - a) impossibility to sign the contract with the winner;
 - b) withdrawal of the winner before the contract is signed;
 - c) withdrawal of the winner after the contract is signed;
 - d) in case the need to activate additional positions on the same specific project arises;
6. In case the contract cannot be signed, the amount set aside for the present call for applications will be made available to the Centre.
7. The Director of the Centre where the research programme will be conducted, awards the research fellowship to the winner of the selection procedure, subject to ascertainment of the prescribed requirements.

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8. The latter shall accept the award within **7 days** from receipt of the communication by signing the relevant contract at THE NEW INSTITUTE Centre for Environmental Humanities - NICHE.

9. The research fellowship can be renewed, subject to the necessary financial backing, in the manner and under the terms established by articles 2, 13 and 21 of the Regulations on research fellowship awarding.

Art. 8 -Publication of the selection procedure

1. Publication of the results of all the selection phases is ensured by affixing a notice at the premises of the concerned department, in the provided spaces, with indication of the scores assigned to the qualifications (to any tests) and to the interview and the final classification. The selection documents are made public also on the University website and on the other web pages as established by the current regulations.

2. Access to the selection documents is guaranteed pursuant to the law of August 7th 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions and relative internal implementation regulation.

Art. 9 - Activity of the research fellow

1. During the whole research period, the activity of the research fellow is conducted at the Centre awarding the fellowship, except for external missions envisaged by the research project and/or those the tutor or the Centre Director have authorised in advance, as established in art. 13 of the Regulations on Research Fellowship Awarding.

2. The activity of the research fellow is conducted independently and without set working times, solely within the limits of the research programme and the indications provided by the research coordinator, who will act as tutor without prejudice to art. 13 of the Regulations on Research Fellowship Awarding.

3. The activity of the research fellow in no way constitutes a subordinate working relationship and does not give rise to rights in respect of access to permanent employment at the University.

4. The research fellow must arrange for his/her social security and welfare obligations. Also, he/she is to register on <https://loginmiur.cineca.it/>, and implement U-GOV scientific publications' list. He has to follow the University Regulations, specifically this notice, the Regulation concerning intellectual property, issued by D.R. n. 351/2012, June 28th 2012 and subsequent amendments and additions, the University ethical code, the public administration code of conduct, in accordance with art. 54, d.l. 165 March 30th 2001.

Art. 10 - Intellectual property, patentability and confidentiality

1. The legal and economic aspects relative to protection and exploitation of all the results of the research will be established by the contract stipulated with the winning candidate/s . Specifically, in compliance with the current legislation and the rules of the University concerning patents and industrial property D. R. n. 351/2012, June 28th 2012 and subsequent amendments and additions, and without prejudice to legislation in force, all the research results will be considered as property of the University; the latter will be able to exploit, use and/or publish such results, without prejudice to the inventor's moral rights.

2. The University Regulations (e.g. see art. 17 of the Regulations on research fellowship awarding), and the current laws will apply to all matters not covered in this call about the Intellectual property, patentability and confidentiality.

Art. 11 - Incompatibility – Ban on accumulation – Suspension of activity

1. Research fellows can hold teaching contracts within the University and can be part of the examining committees as experts in their subject, having regard to art. 4 of the regulations on research fellowship awarding.
2. The research fellowship may not be accumulated with study grants awarded for any reason, except for those awarded by national or foreign institutions for stays abroad in order to integrate the research activity of the research fellow.
3. The research fellowship is not compatible with participation in degree or master degree courses, specialist degree, PhD with grant or medical specialisation, in Italy or abroad, and entails extended unpaid leave for public administration employees, even if part-time employed, without prejudice to the provisions contained in the laws concerning the appointment of paid assignments to full-time civil servants.
4. The research fellow may accept self-employed work or occasional or continuous collaboration, compatibly with the existing research activity and subject to authorisation by the Centre, on condition that the activity does not involve conflict of interest with the specific research activity carried out by the research fellow and does not damage the University, without prejudice to the provisions of the Regulations on research fellowship awarding, and any normative adaptations.
5. The research activity and the grant may be suspended due to compulsory military service, compulsory maternity leave and parental leave, serious illness or difficult family issues and study grants awarded by national or foreign institutions permitted by the current regulations and not directly linked to the research programme funded, for a maximum of 1 year; in this case the entire duration of the research fellowship grant is not reduced due to the above suspensions.
6. An overall period of justified absence of less than thirty days in one year does not constitute suspension and consequently does not have to be made up.
7. The research fellow may take part in University research groups and projects, whatever the funding body.
8. The research fellows, with the exclusion of those who are simultaneously holders of teaching contracts within the University, can attend PhD courses without grant, also as supernumeraries, subject to passing of the entrance tests.

Art. 12 -Method of control and assessment of research fellow activity

1. Without prejudice to the provisions of par. 2 of this article, the research fellow is required to report on his/her research activity whenever requested to do so by the tutor. For said purpose the research fellow may be required to keep a diary-register in which he/she periodically notes the state of progress of the research programme, except for art. 13 provisions within the Regulations
2. The research fellow is required to present to the Department/Centre, at the end of the tenure period and in any case at the end of each year, in the case of a grant lasting several years, a written report on the research activity conducted also for the purpose of adjustment of the amount of the research fellowship grant where scheduled by the contract according to the preceding art. 7. In the report, the research fellow shall accurately and thoroughly detail the research methods applied and achievement of the results, even though they might not be partial results, with reference to the specific programme in which he/she collaborates with, also for the purpose of renewal of the grant if necessary, except for art. 13 provisions within the Regulations.
3. At the end of his/her research activity, the research fellow is required to provide the Centre with:
 - A report on the work done, in the form of a working paper

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4. The report, together with the opinion of the tutor on the appropriateness of the research methods applied and the validity of the results achieved, is submitted for examination to the Council of the Centre or the body responsible.
5. In the event of a negative assessment, the Council of the Department or the body responsible, having consulted the research fellow, can propose revocation of the grant. Early termination of the collaboration in the research activity is decided by the Council of the Department or the body responsible.
6. At the end of the grant, the above report shall describe accurately and thoroughly the research methods applied and achievement of the goals set by the research programme, also for the purpose of renewal of the grant if necessary.
7. Collaboration in the research activity may be terminated early in cases of serious and documented non-fulfilment of the requirements by the research fellow as notified by the tutor or by the Council of the Department or body responsible. Likewise the University is entitled to take any legal action to protect its interests and assets.

Art. 13 – Taxation, social security and insurance

1. In respect of taxation, the fellowships are subject to the provisions of art. 4 of the law of August 13th 1984, no. 476 and subsequent amendments and additions, and in respect of social security, those of art. 2, paragraphs 26 and following of the law August 8th 1995, no. 335 and subsequent amendments and additions.
2. The fellowships in this call are subject, in respect of compulsory maternity leave, to the provisions of the decree of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security of July 12th 2007, published in the Official Gazette no. 247 of October 23rd 2007.
3. During the period of compulsory maternity leave, the benefit paid by INPS (National Social Security Institute) in accordance with article 5 of the above decree of July 12th 2007 is integrated up to the entire amount of the research fellowship by the body responsible for administration and management of the grant.
4. The fellowships are subject, in respect of sick leave, to article 1, paragraph 788, of the law of December 27th 2006, no. 296, and subsequent amendments and additions.
5. The financial aspects of the research fellowship are regulated by the ministerial notes no. 2867 of December 15th 1997 and no. 523 of March 12th 1998; the remuneration, in the light of the resolution no. 17/E of the Ministry of Finance, ref. no. 2000/30703 of February 22nd 2000, comes under the category of incomes equated to those of subordinate employment since they fall within the scope of art. 50 (ex art. 47), par. 1, letters c) and c)-bis of the DPR no. 917 of December 22nd 1986 and subsequent amendments in the matter of ' Tax Consolidation Act'.
6. The University provides insurance cover for accidents and third party liability for the research grant holders during their research activity.

Art. 14 - Processing of personal data

Personal data provided by the candidates in their applications for participation in the selection procedures, are processed pursuant to the legislative decree of June 30th 2003, no. 196 and subsequent amendments and additions. Comprehensive information on personal data processing can be found [here](#)

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Art. 15 - Person in charge of the procedure

Pursuant to the provisions of art. 5 of the law of August 7th 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions, the person in charge of the administrative procedure for this selection is Roberta D'Argenio in charge of CESA; e-mail: dargenio@unive.it; Tel. n. 041-2347534

Art. 16 –Final provisions

The University Regulations and the current legislation will apply to all matters not covered in the following call.

Venice, August 11th 2022