



Venezia, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2023  
Rep. 368 prot. 108684

**Research fellowship “How the structure of EU regulatory processes can unbalance EU policy deliberations tipping them towards benefiting corporations rather than civil society”** *Project number: 101061342 - Project name: Rebalancing disruptive Business of multinAtional corporation and gLobal value chAins within democratic and iNClusive citizenship processes - Project acronym: REBALANCE - Call: HORIZON-CL2-2021-DEMOCRACY-01 - 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 Management at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites application for one-year fellowship in **How the structure of EU regulatory processes can unbalance EU policy deliberations tipping them towards benefiting corporations rather than civil soci**, under the supervision of prof. Francesco Zirpoli and prof. Anna Moretti (SSD SECS-P/08 (Management).

Reference to project Work Packages: WP3, WP 4, WP5, WP6.

A full copy of the approved project will be provided to the selected applicant.

**Abstract:** The post-doc position is part of the EU-funded REBALANCE project. REBALANCE moves from the observation that large companies are having an ever-greater influence on how democracy is enacted in Europe, leading to a ‘market-conforming capitalism’. The post-doc will contribute mainly to the development of WP3 “Past and present threats to democracy: how business organizations shape democratic institutions and values” of the REBALANCE project. In particular, the project will address the Research Question (RQ) “How has the structure of the current EU regulatory processes contributed to favoring the needs of economic actors at the expense of those of civil society and the rights of European constituents?” Moreover, the post-doc will collaborate on the analysis of data gathered within the WP 4 – The future of democracy: alternative business models and their transformative power and to the activities of integration described in the project addressing the question “How are ‘cross-sector partnerships’ and their network structure conducive to the empowerment of their beneficiaries?”. Such an involvement in WP4 will allow the post-doc to take an active role in WP 5 – Pulling the strings: Integrating the interactions among democracy and economic actors and dissemination and in WP 6 – Pathways to impact: Communication and exploitation of results, that are, respectively, designed to integrate the various research activities of WP3 and WP4 and to their dissemination for impact.

The research setting will be a single, revelatory case study, which we will analyze qualitatively and in depth. The focus on a single revelatory case allows in-depth, micro analysis, which will link the micro dimension of the regulatory process to its broader structure and governance. Our revelatory case will be the historical regulatory process that has resulted in an unbalanced representation of the interests of EU economic actors at the expense of the interests of civil society. We will adopt a network perspective to allow a retrospective study, which will include the interactions among all the actors (firms, institutions, individuals, etc.) involved in the regulatory process, over time and at multiple levels. To consider the case as one of network failure, we need to investigate the infringement, in terms of both network outcomes and processes, of European constituents’ rights. For example: (i) organizational processes become more explicit under critical circumstances; and (ii) the actors involved in network coordination forms tend to exploit network nodes strategically to cope with criticalities. We expect that studying a case of infringement will provide greater clarification of the network mechanisms and dynamics which lead to poorly balanced representation of the various interests in EU regulatory processes.

The post-doc will be responsible for gathering primary and secondary data to reconstruct the network of actors involved in the regulatory process under study. Secondary data on actors’ lobbying activities will be retrieved from the open access EU Transparency Register, which provides a list of the actors that try to influence the law-making and policy implementation processes of EU institutions. Other secondary data will



be retrieved from Bloomberg (in particular, by exploiting the supply-chain function for business relationships), Bureau van Dijk Orbis (firm-level data), LexisNexis (legal information) and EUR-Lex (EU laws). These data will be used to reconstruct the pattern of interactions among all the actors involved in the network of activities related to the EU institutional regulatory process and their involvement in other (inter-connected) networks that are less visible to (and monitored by) the EU institutions. Primary data will be collected via in-depth interviews with the actors involved in the selected process, and industry experts, who will be particularly important if the reconstruction of the regulatory process requires specific technical knowledge. Both the case selection and analysis phases will involve interviews and desk and archival searches, to make sense of the emerging findings. The information obtained from the interviews should serve to fill any gaps in the secondary data. Since we are conducting retrospective analysis, some interviews will take the form of oral histories involving organizational remembering.

The post-doc will have the responsibility of building a dataset to enable the reconstruction of the organization and dynamics of the multi-layered network of relationships among the actors involved in the EU regulatory process under study. The longitudinal nature of the data will allow us to shed light on the consensus formation mechanisms involved. Technically, the analysis will use several tools such as for example the 'multinet' R-project package, which will allow reconstruction of the dynamics in the different actor network layers over time, and the ego-networks of the most central multiplex actors. Critical analysis of the role of ego networks (in our case, highly central actors) could be required to understand the possible structural dynamics at the whole (EU legislative process structure) network level. Interviews will be analysed and coded using the Gioia Methodology in order to provide a qualitative characterization of the reconstructed network ties, that is to induce the mechanisms that may give rise to, or perpetuate, a disbalanced representation of interests in the EU regulative processes.

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 and scientific-professional curriculum suitable to the development of research activities related to the fellowship.

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.

**Duration of contract:** 12 months (approximately starting: October 2023), 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.

**Stipend:** The research fellowship amounts to **22.415,00 Euros per year**, including taxes and social charges depending on applicant's filing status (cost to Ca' Foscari: € 27.650,00).

**Deadline for submission of applications: June 23<sup>th</sup> 2023, 12 noon (Italian time).**

### How to apply:

Candidates shall 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](#)); 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 and to the EU Regulations 2016/679. The "Publications" section in the CV must report the candidate's publications, indicating, where applicable, the relative ABS-DMAN and ABS-DMAN2018 category as



defined at this page:  
[https://www.unive.it/pag/fileadmin/user\\_upload/dipartimenti/management/documenti/ASSICURAZIONE\\_Qualita/Piano\\_Triennale/2018-2021-DMAN-ABS-Guide\\_aggiornata\\_al\\_13.03.pdf](https://www.unive.it/pag/fileadmin/user_upload/dipartimenti/management/documenti/ASSICURAZIONE_Qualita/Piano_Triennale/2018-2021-DMAN-ABS-Guide_aggiornata_al_13.03.pdf)

3. The attachments called “obligations and understanding” and “participation and compatibility”;
4. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice - [link](#));
5. A copy of a valid identity document (either Identity Card or Passport);
6. (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;
7. (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;
8. Declaration on availability to held the interview in remote ([link](#)) to be send via email at the following address: [segreteria.management@unive.it](mailto:segreteria.management@unive.it)
9. n. 02 references letters.

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

**Incomplete applications will be rejected.**

#### How to submit your application

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

**Or submit here:** <https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dma-2023-rebalance>

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: **June 23<sup>th</sup> 2023, 12 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 an 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

The evaluation takes into account the criteria and thresholds described in the table below.	
Evaluation criteria	Scores
Qualification, including education, publications, work experience, awards, etc., and tests (if any)	Maximum 60 points; Minimum admission score: 42/60
Interview and other tests (if any)	Maximum 40 points Minimum admission score: 28/40
TOTAL AVAILABLE SCORE	100/100
Threshold for inclusion in the final ranking	70/100

#### Selection procedure

The interview will be on **July 4<sup>th</sup> 2023, at 10 a.m. (Italian time)**. The interview will be held in remote only. Further details on how to connect online will be published alongside the convocation notice.

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the University's webpage on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 ([link](#)).



Università  
Ca'Foscari  
Venezia

### **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](#))

Preliminary inquiries about the research program should be addressed to Francesco Zirpoli <[fzirpoli@unive.it](mailto:fzirpoli@unive.it)> and Anna Moretti <[anna.moretti@unive.it](mailto:anna.moretti@unive.it)>

Additional information about the application procedure may be obtained from Elisabetta Cagnin <[lisa@unive.it](mailto:lisa@unive.it)> <[ricerca.management@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.management@unive.it)>