



Università
Ca' Foscari
Venezia

Decreto Rep. 594/2023 Prot 0211286/III-13 del 14/09/2023

Research fellowship on “Chinese narratives and the narration of China in Italy: literature, translation and the cultural industry”

Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

(Italian law 30 December 2010, n. 240, art. 22)

The present document in English is to be considered as merely a summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition, which is available in Italian at the following [link](#). The text in Italian is considered to be the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, therefore, the Italian text is definitive in the event that there is a discrepancy between the Italian and English versions.

Description

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

Title: “Chinese narratives and the narration of China in Italy: literature, translation and the cultural industry”

Scientific sector: L-OR/21

Scientific supervisor and tutor: Prof.ssa Nicoletta Pesaro and Prof. Paolo Magagnin

Duration: 12 months, renewable

Abstract:

This research will specifically focus on the processes governing the introduction and circulation of Chinese literature in Italy from the perspective of translation studies. Translation is a field of tensions but is also a field where cultural and political identity can be assessed, affirmed, confronted or denied. If translation was used in the past as a means for introducing Western/European culture and progressive ideas that could benefit China, now it points towards the opposite direction but with a similar self-empowering goal. Teaching, achieving, publishing and researching translation in China have become the new frontier of soft power.

The strategic importance of translation has long been recognised by the Chinese government, which has strongly fostered this discipline in its educational system. Literary translation, translation for the media and of audio-visual products (printed and online articles, films, TV series etc.) are all strategic channels of cultural dissemination: in order to improve language, translation and intercultural skills among young Italians, both academic and professionals, it is pivotal to provide full knowledge and understanding of the processes underpinning translation, from theory to practice, and to build strong inter-European cooperative practices between the so called “agents of translation”, namely academics, translators, publishers, literary agents, cultural institutions etc.

The involved researcher will aim at exploring the motivations, authors/works/genres selection criteria, and the strategy of self-promotion adopted by the Chinese cultural industries as well as the choices and behaviours of the so-called “agents of translation” and of cultural dissemination in promoting a certain image of China and its values in the last ten years. Important agents of culture production and dissemination will be taken into scrutiny: publishers, literary agents and institutional actors both in China and in Italy. The research will include both a quantitative study (a full analysis of the catalogues of Chinese translations in Italy, their collocation in the knowledge system, as well their reception in the cultural sphere through a reading of literary reviews and comments) and a qualitative study aimed at understanding the processes of translation, reception, adaptation and circulation of Chinese literature. These processes and the way they affect the perception and representation of China in Italy will be studied with a qualitative approach (sociology of translation and descriptive translation theories) focused on the analysis of the editorial and translation procedures, the networks and modalities of cooperation as well as the relevant negotiating practices.



The project is part of the PRIN project "Chinese narratives and the narration of China in Italy: literature, cinema and art at the intersection of cultural diplomacy and cultural industry", conducted jointly by the Department of Asian and North African Studies (DSAAM) and the research unit at the University of Naples La Orientale.

Who can apply

Candidates must hold a doctoral degree and have a CV suitable for the requested research activities.

The interview will focus on the following criteria:

- State of the art of Chinese literature in the publishing market in Italy
- Methodological skills and quantitative and qualitative translation analysis procedures
- Sight translation of a text from Chinese into Italian
- Assessment of knowledge of Italian, Chinese and English language proficiency

Ca' Foscari encourages applications from researchers who have received positive evaluation in all the criteria applicable to funding programs, 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 (approx. start: November, 01st, 2023).

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

Deadline for submission of applications: October 3rd, 2023, 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. For all documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure please, see the notice ([link](#)).
7. Short-list of publications

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



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Incomplete applications will be rejected.

<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/03102023dsaam>

How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted through the online procedure.

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 **October, 3rd, 2023, 12 noon**.

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

Please note the possibility that a high number of applications and / or large file sizes among the documents uploaded by the candidates into the system could result in the slowing of the online procedure. Therefore it is suggested to begin the process as soon as possible and not wait to start the process immediately before 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 CV and publications, from 0 to 60;

For interview, from 0 to 40.

Selection procedure

Short-listed candidates will be invited for interview on **October, 13th, 2023 at 10.00 AM** via Zoom video conference.

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the University's webpage within October, 10th, 2023 ([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 email: ricerca.dsaam@unive.it.