



Research fellowship on *Digital Vulnerability in the digital market. Platforms, consumers, enterprises* – Project PRIN: Digital Vulnerability. An intergenerational path between personal rights and market relations (Project code n. 202258RNM9), Responsabile Prof.ssa Carmela Camardi, CUP H53D23002700006- 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: <http://www.unive.it/data/12137/> 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 *Economics* at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications for a fellowship in:

- **Title:**
Digital Vulnerability in the digital market. Platforms, consumers, enterprises
- **Academic Discipline or disciplines specifically identified by the call:** IUS/01
- **scientific coordinator and tutor:** Prof.ssa Carmela Camardi
- **duration:** 12 months

Abstract:

This project examines the issues related to the vulnerability of individuals, especially consumers and small and medium enterprises, within the digital environment. The fast-paced growth and spread of ICTs has led to a new digital market, where Big Tech companies have the utmost economic power while individuals are left without the instruments to protect their fundamental rights and freedoms. This power imbalance is fostered by the massive personal data collection and processing. This condition of power asymmetry between big companies, small enterprises and individuals, particularly consumers, may be addressed with the term digital vulnerability. The EU has recently enacted pieces of legislation aimed at counteracting these power imbalances (such as the DMA, the DSA, and the New Deal for Consumers Package), but the effectiveness of these legal instruments remains to be seen. This research seeks to identify the features of a possible category of digital vulnerability. This project aims to recognize the different relationships of digital vulnerability, to analyze how vulnerability is considered in the laws and regulations already in place, and to explore the possibility of new regulatory forms for ensuring consumer rights. Since the traditional techniques of consumer protection have shown their structural weakness in the digital era, this project aims to investigate new remedies. To this aim, ex ante and ex post remedies will be considered. The post-doctoral fellow will investigate the relationship and the coordination between public authorities and courts, adopting a private law perspective. This research will be conducted



from a European law standpoint and through the lenses of comparative law. The successful candidate is expected to research on the above-mentioned legal issues concerning the protection of vulnerable subjects in the digital market.

Who can apply

Prospective candidates are expected to hold a master's degree in Law (Area 12), or related disciplines.

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.

Favoured headlines

- PhD in Law (Area 12);
- the completion of attendance at a doctoral course in Law (Area 12) while awaiting conferment of the degree and with the subject of the Announcement.
- teaching or tutoring activities in IUS01 (Private law);
- performance of documented research activities by means of grants or contracts with research bodies or Italian or foreign universities on topics relating to the subject of the research.

During the interview, knowledge of English as a foreign language will be tested.

Duration of contract: 12 months (approximately starting on November 2023).

Stipend: The research fellowship amounts to **Euro 19.541,00.**=per year, gross to the recipient, net of the expenses to be sustained by the Provider. The amount may be subject to adjustment in the event of variations in the law.

Deadline for submission of applications: by and no later than 2023.10.12, h. 12:00 noon – local time.

If the deadline is on Saturday or on holidays, the deadline is extended to the first working day thereafter.

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. (<http://www.unive.it/pag/28830>)
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. Master's Degree or Old Master's Degree or equivalent foreign qualification;
 6. If available, Doctoral degree;
 7. Declaration on availability to held the interview in remote (<https://www.unive.it/pag/28830>) to be send via email at the following address: simar@unive.it:
 8. (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;
 9. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice <http://www.unive.it/data/28825/>).

All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website <http://www.unive.it/pag/28830>.

How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage <http://www.unive.it/data/28825/>

Or submit here:

<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dec-camardiprin22-27092023>

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 **2023.10.12, h. 12:00 noon – local time.**

If the deadline is on Saturday or on holidays, the deadline is extended to the first working day thereafter.

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

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 **2023.10.18, at 09.00 AM.**

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the University's webpage on **2023.10.16** (<http://www.unive.it/data/28899/>).

The interview will be held in remote only. Further details on how to connect online will be published alongside the convocation notice.

The **interview** will focus on knowledge of the following topics:

- Consumer law and related remedial, substantive, and procedural tools;
- European policies for digital market governance;
- Data protection.

Modalities for monitoring and evaluating the activity carried out by check holders

At the end of the period of duration of the grant and in any case at the end of each year, in the case of multi-year grants, the researcher is required to submit to the structure a written report on the research activity carried out.

At the end of the research activity, the researcher must provide the department with the following scientific products that define a "minimum standard of result":

- a scientific essay on research topics, publishable in A-level journals

Information and contacts

Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following webpage <http://www.unive.it/data/28825/>

For further information please contact: Segreteria Amministrativa del Dipartimento di Economia, phone number: 041-2349173; e-mail: simar@unive.it