

Call for n. 1 Short Research Fellowship - Ca' Foscari University of Venice – Temporary Centre “Project Ecosistema dell’Innovazione”

(L. 240 del December 30th 2010, art. 18, DL 19/2012; Regulations about Short Research fellowships issued under D.R. 300/2014 of 14/04/2014 and subsequent amendments and additions)

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere translation of the provisions of the call 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.

The Temporary Centre “Project Ecosistema dell’Innovazione” of Ca' Foscari University of Venice, having regard to the Decision of the Deputy Coordinator of the Temporary Centre “Project Ecosistema dell’Innovazione” Repertorio n. 67/2025 - Prot. n. 74572/2025 establishing the research programmes for awarding of the short fellowships in **“Craft for ‘quiet luxury’: the development of SMEs in the creative manufacturing sector through new links with culture and tourism”** lasting 6 months, with the possibility of renewal within the limits of art. 4 of the Regulations for awarding of University short research fellowships. The expected starting date is indicatively from **late March/early April 2025**.

The research fellowship is awarded for the purpose of collaboration with the following research programme of the Temporary Centre “Ecosistema dell’Innovazione” - **abstract:**

This research fellowship aims to analyze the evolutionary dynamics of creative manufacturing and high-end craftsmanship, with a particular focus on the luxury sector. The objective is to carefully assess the impact of the Chinese market crisis and examine the implications related to the needs of a European consumer with specific characteristics.

After considering both national and international contexts, the research will focus on an empirical analysis of case studies in Venice and the Northeast of Italy, with the goal of identifying sustainable competitiveness strategies for SMEs operating in the cultural and creative industries sector.

The fellow will contribute to the following research activities:

- *Market dynamics in the luxury sector: A deep dive into global industry trends, with a special focus on how demand is being reshaped in China and the growing emphasis on sustainability, personalization, and immersive shopping experiences.*
- *Competitive strategies for SMEs in quiet luxury: Analyzing three key pillars for success in the sector:*
 - *Bespoke production and servitization – Exploring new approaches to product customization, from artisanal craftsmanship to the integration of experiential services.*
 - *Cultural heritage management – Examining the role of heritage and storytelling as tools for differentiation and brand identity enhancement.*

- *Experiential tourism and local connections – Investigating innovative models that turn tourism into a platform For promoting artisanal expertise.*

The research will also place a strong emphasis on the role of public institutions in fostering a supportive ecosystem for SME growth, leveraging territorial marketing strategies, quality standards, and experiential initiatives to enhance the sector's positioning.

By applying a case-study-based empirical approach, this project aims to develop a scalable model for both the Italian and European markets, offering concrete strategies to elevate high-end manufacturing in an evolving landscape.

Monitoring and evaluation of the fellow's activity will be done through periodic interim reports, regular meetings with the supervisor and research team, and a detailed final report. The quality of results, including required outputs such as scientific articles and analytical reports, will be the main evaluation criteria.

The research fellowship amounts to Euro 13.200,00 per year.

Deadline: 24th March, 2025 - noon time (12:00 Rome CET). In case the deadline is on Saturdays, Sundays or on holidays it is extended to the first working day thereafter.

Rules of eligibility – Beneficiaries

Citizens belonging to European Union member states and non-community citizens in possession of the following qualifications may take part in the selection: Master's degree in management disciplines, or equivalent foreign degree.

Applicants must hold all the requisites within the call deadline. The qualifications will be evaluated by a Commission that examines the eligibility and qualifications of the candidates and makes a merit rank of them.

Skills required

- Knowledge of Italian language at native speaker level or C1 or higher.
- English language proficiency with IELTS/TOEFL level C1 certification.
- Master's degree with interest in the topic of internationalization.
- Thesis research path or paper writing on the topic of small and medium-sized enterprises and internationalization of SMEs.
- Research and training activities on the luxury sector.
- International experience and participation in projects in cross-cultural teams.
- Professional experience in project management with SMEs and artisan realities and innovation methodologies.
- Knowledge of Design Thinking methodology.
- Good knowledge of Microsoft office package.

Any other evaluable qualification

- Previous experience in research.

Incompatibility

The short-term research fellowship may not overlap with:

- a) other scholarships granted in any capacity, apart from those granted by national or foreign research institutes in order to integrate with periods abroad the specific activity foreseen by the work plan of the appointed fellow;
- b) attendance of PhD courses with scholarship and medical specialization, in Italy and abroad;
- c) research grants “assegni di ricerca”
- d) subordinate employment relationships.

Scholarship holders can carry out occasional work activities, upon written communication to the scientific manager and on the condition that:

- this activity is declared by the person in charge to be compatible with the pursuit of the research activity referred to in the scholarship;
- does not involve a conflict of interest with the specific research activity carried out;
- does not prejudice the university, in relation to the activities carried out.

3

The awarding of the short-term research fellowship does not imply the establishment of any employment contract, nor does it give rise to any rights of access to positions of employment at the university

How to apply

Candidates should submit:

1. The application form <http://www.unive.it/data/28900/>;
2. Applicants must declare in the application, under their own responsibility:
 - educational qualification held;
 - 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;
 - that they understand that the short-term research fellowship is not compatible with the positions referred to in Art. 12 of the present Regulations and current legislation;
 - to be medically fit to discharge his/her duties for the fellowship;
 - not to have received measures restricting personal freedom at the time of submitting the application;

- not to have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with any professor belonging to the department or facility issuing the call or with the Rector, the General Manager or a member of the University Board of Directors and that they are aware of the provisions of the Law no 240/2010, Art. 18, para. 1, letter b);
- any benefit under L. 104/92.
- 3. A CV in European format (<http://www.unive.it/data/28900/>), duly dated and signed.
- 4. A copy of a valid identity document (e.g. Identity Card or Passport).
- 5. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure.

How to submit your application

Applications, together with all the required documentation, have to be submitted exclusively online at the following webpage:

<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/inest22032025mestieri>

not later than **noon time (12:00 Rome CET) 24th March, 2025.**

The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their application. The candidate, if necessary, could access the procedures for updating any data and materials through the link and submission number provided in the e-mail until the call deadline expires.

4

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 the email address inest_pnr@unive.it.

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.

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 deadline indicated above cannot be accepted.

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.

Selection and Evaluation Procedure

The selection is made by assessment of the scientific-professional qualifications, by a Selection Committee appointed by order of the Deputy Coordinator of Temporary Centre “Project Ecosistema dell’Innovazione” taking into account, whereas possible, gender balance.

The Commission compiles a ranking and specifies the winning applicant, having regard to the score appointed to experience and qualifications, as specified by the call. In the event of two or more candidates obtaining the same score at the end of the selection, the younger candidate will be preferred.

Awarding of the short research fellowship

Having received the selection documents, and at the outcome of the checks, the Deputy Coordinator of Temporary Centre “Project Ecosistema dell’Innovazione” approves the ranking by his own decree, and makes them public.

Notification, including the start date of the short-term research fellowship, shall be sent to the winning candidate.

The winner must accept the short-term research fellowship within seven days of receipt of the written notification referred to above, under penalty of revocation. In the event of withdrawal, the short-term research fellowship shall be awarded to the next available candidate, following the order of the final ranking of merit.

Publication of the results of all the selection phases shall be published in the online University notice board, on the University website (<https://www.unive.it/data/28824/>).

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.

5

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 to EU Regulations 2016/679. Comprehensive information on personal data processing can be found [here](#).

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 Mr. Dario Pellizzon, Administrative Director of the Temporary Centre “Project Ecosistema dell’Innovazione”.

Final provisions

For anything not specified in this call, see the University current regulations regarding the awarding for research fellowships and the current legislation.

Venice, 07th March, 2025

The Deputy Coordinator of the Temporary Centre
“Project Ecosistema dell’Innovazione”
Prof. Agostino Cortesi