



**Università
degli Studi
di Palermo**

AREA RICERCA E INNOVAZIONE
SETTORE DOTTORATI E CONTRATTI PER LA RICERCA
U.O. BORSE DI STUDIO FINALIZZATE ALLA RICERCA

THE RECTOR

Having regard to Law No. 168 of 9 May 1989 "Establishment of the Ministry of University and Scientific and Technological Research";

Having regard to Law no. 240 of 30/12/2010 as amended, relating to the "Regulations on the organisation of universities, academic staff and recruitment, as well as delegation to the Government to encourage the quality and efficiency of the university system";

Having regard to Law No. 79 of 5 June 2025 converting into law, with amendments, Decree-Law No. 45 of 7 April 2025, containing further urgent provisions on the implementation of the measures of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan and for the start of the academic year 2025/2026, which introduced the new contractual figure of Research Assignments, governed by art. 22-ter of Law 240/2010;

Having regard to the Decree of the Minister of University and Research of 6 August 2025 no. 592, registered by the Court of Auditors on 29/08/2025 no. 1822, which defines the minimum salary of research assignments pursuant to Article 22-ter of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010;

Having regard to the Regulations for the assignment of research assignments pursuant to Article 22-ter of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010", issued by Rector's Decree No. 10323 of 30/09/2025;

Having regard to the University Code of Ethics;

Having regard to the University Code of Conduct;

Having regard to the resolution adopted by the Board of Directors, at its meeting of 18 February 2026, by which it was resolved to allocate part of the resources allocated to the University, relating to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy referred to in art. 1, paragraph 275 of Law no. 145 of 30 December 2018 year 2024, for the assignment of no. 10 research assignments, pursuant to art. 22 ter of Law 240/2010, of the gross amount of € 22,500.00 each, on issues relating to the development of the South, to be divided among the five CUN macro-areas provided for by the University Statute, for a maximum number of two for each macro-area;

Considering that the Evaluation Committee, appointed for this purpose by the Board of Directors with the aforementioned resolution, has asked the Departments to each submit 2 proposals consistent with the identified theme;

Having regard to the proposals selected by the Commission received from the Departments: Architecture – Tutor Prof. Salvatore Giuffrida, Biomedicine, Neuroscience and Advanced Diagnostics – Tutor Prof. Giuseppina Campisi, Cultures and Society – Tutor Prof. Roberta Coglitore, Physics and Chemistry - Emilio - Tutor - Prof. Fabrizio Messina, Engineering - Tutor Prof. Guido Ala, Health Promotion, Maternal and Child Health, Internal and Specialist Medicine of Excellence "G. D'Alessandro", Tutor Prof. Fulvio Plescia, Economic, Business and Statistical Sciences - Tutor Prof. Giuseppe Maggio, Political Science and International Relations - Tutor Prof. Santa Giuseppina Tumminelli, Humanities - Tutor Prof. Giuseppa Tamburello and Land and Sea Sciences - Tutor Prof. Agostino Tomasello;

Having regard to the Resolution adopted by the Department of Architecture, in the session of 7 May 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*The resilience of communities on the margins. A decision-making model of strategic planning for the reactivation of human, urban and economic capital in the historic centers of the inland areas in Sicily in relation to seismic risk*", to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Salvatore Giuffrida;



Having regard to the Resolution adopted by the Department of Biomedicine, Neuroscience and Advanced Diagnostics, in the meeting of 7 May 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Vaping & Oral-HPV Sicily Integrated educational-digital model for the protection of human capital and the enhancement of the social, cultural and economic heritage of Southern Italy through the prevention of vaping and oral HPV*" to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Giuseppina Campisi;

Having regard to the Resolution adopted by the Department of Cultures and Society, in the session of 4 May 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Narrating the natural-cultural heritage: for a literary mapping of the global South starting from Sicily*", to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Roberta Coglitore;

Having regard to the Decree of the Director of the Department of Physics and Chemistry - Emilio Segre', no. 9292 of 3 September 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Development of sensors based on active microresonators for the detection of pollutants*", to be borne by the fund for the University Technical and Scientific Poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Fabrizio Messina;

Having regard to the Decree of the Director of the Department of Engineering, no. 8900 of 6 August 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Palermo Solar City: Integrated evaluation of the potential of Vehicle-Integrated Photovoltaics-VIPV systems in the context of the overall tourist mobility experience*", to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Guido Ala;

Having regard to the Decree of the Director of the Department of Health Promotion, Maternal and Child, Internal and Specialist Medicine of Excellence "G. D'Alessandro", no. 9056 of 25 August 2026, regarding the conferral of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*MITEPA (Integrated Territorial Model for Prenatal Exposure to Alcohol) - Protection of human capital and prevention of disorders from prenatal exposure to alcohol: an integrated territorial model*", to be borne by the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Fulvio Plescia;

Having regard to the Resolution adopted by the Department of Business Economics and Statistics, in the meeting of 9 September 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Governance and allocation of public resources in territories at hydrogeological risk: empirical evidence and tools for fair and sustainable management in the South*", to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Giuseppe Maggio;

Having regard to the Decree of the Director of the Department of Political Science and International Relations, no. 5247 of 8 May 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Local tourism and cultural heritage: between participation and social innovation*", to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Santa Giuseppina Tumminelli;

Having regard to the Resolution adopted by the Department of Humanities, in the session of 8 May 2026, regarding the assignment of n° 1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Urban Memory and Active Citizenship: a model for the enhancement of post-war sites in Palermo through scientific comparison with the case of Chongqing*", to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Giuseppa Tamburello;

Having regard to the Decree of the Deputy Director of the Department of Earth and Marine Sciences, prot. no. 147660 of 5 August 2026, regarding the assignment of n°



1 research assignment lasting 12 months, entitled "*Development of strategies for the protection of marine species and habitats from the possible impact deriving from the spread of the alga of Union interest *Rugulopteryx okamurae**", to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy - Tutor: Prof. Agostino Tomasello;

Having regard to the resolution of the Board of Directors no. 06/05 of 23 September 2026 approving the increase in the amount of each of the 10 research assignments from € 22,500.00 to € 23,400.00, in order to comply with the minimum annual salary of research assignments provided for by MUR Decree no. 592 of 06/08/2025;

Having regard to the resolution adopted by the Board of Directors in the meeting of 02.08.2012 at item no. 26 regarding the revision of fees and contributions for postgraduate activities of the University;

Given the availability of the sum of € 288,646.80 on project codes:

- PJ_Poli_universitari_tecnico_scientifici_2024;
- "PJ_Poli_universitari_tecnico_scientifici_2024_NCTC" of the University Consolidated Budget e.c. 2026.

DECREE

Art.1

(Subject of selection)

A public selection procedure is announced, based on qualifications and interview, for the assignment of n. **10** research assignments, pursuant to art. 22-ter of Law 240/2010, aimed at introducing young scholars to research and innovation who have held a master's or single-cycle degree for no more than six years and a curriculum suitable for assisting in carrying out research activities, lasting n. **12 months** and for the gross amount of **€ 23,400.00** each, plus charges to be borne by the Administration, to be charged to the fund for the technical and scientific university poles of Southern Italy referred to in art. 1 paragraph 275 of Law no. 145 of 30 December 2018 year 2024, project codes: PJ_Poli_universitari_tecnico_scientifici_2024 and PJ_Poli_universitari_tecnico_scientifici_2024_NCTC, as detailed below:

Competition Code:	I-RIC 21-2026
GSD	08/CEAR-03
SSD	CEAR-03/C
Title	Resilience in marginalized communities. A strategic planning model for reactivating human, urban and economic capital in inland Sicilian historic centers in relation to seismic risk
Research program	1. The research project involves developing a tool to analyze, assess and plan seismic risk mitigation measures in historic city centers in rural areas. The tool will focus on assets falling within the general categories of human, urban and economic capital. This issue lies at the intersection of demographic decline in marginal territories and the irreversible dissolution of urban networks. These networks are responsible for the active preservation of imposing and widespread architectural, urban and landscape heritage. From this perspective, reducing natural risks is a 'structural' prerequisite for the territory to flourish again, within the



	converging 'infrastructural' and 'superstructural' dimensions. Conversely, the potential for revitalizing territorial capital strengthens the case for investing in safety capital in terms of technical feasibility, economic rationality, political and administrative expediency, and ethical significance. These four spheres of action coordinate the priorities of the values at stake. No regenerative process of cities and communities can take place without factual guarantees — scientific evidence, effective policies and solid institutions — regarding the resilience of the built environment and established communities in the face of potential disasters. The occurrence of such disasters has repeatedly altered the fate of entire territories. When in the hands of individuals, the balance that weighs the extent and probability of damage tilts towards reactive policies; when in the hands of communities, it tilts towards proactive policies. Territorial policies rarely articulate structured motivational frameworks whose values are reflected in evaluative propositions that guide current conduct. This research study proposes a multidimensional decision-making model that integrates financial, economic, and qualitative assessment tools for urban capital. This model adopts a resilience-based approach to determine the complex value of a local community. Such a model aims to help local authorities faced with the choice between seismic prevention (modest current costs, high but uncertain future benefits) and potential reconstruction (no immediate benefits, substantial and uncertain future costs) of a historic town center in inland areas of Sicily. 2. State of the art. Disciplinary aspects and research prospects The crisis facing inland areas stems from a combination of environmental, social and economic factors that discourage the implementation of proactive policies to safeguard the value and volume of social fixed capital. Such policies are necessary to ensure the long-term sustainability of living conditions and the prosperity of established communities. This issue is addressed within an operational framework defined by territorial policies and security planning instruments. The National Strategy for Inland Areas emphasizes the need to strengthen accessibility, safety and service quality as prerequisites for the permanence of settlements, while civil protection planning introduces criteria for assessing the vulnerability of settlement systems and organizing emergency responses through analyzing the Emergency Limit Condition (ELC) and the continuity of urban functions through analyzing the Minimum Urban Structure (MUS). Within this framework, vulnerability can be interpreted as not only a
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	physicalstructural characteristic of built structures, but also a systemic property involving urban organization and the territory's response capacity. Within the disciplinary framework of this research, territorial decline is characterized by a progressive misalignment between wealth and value. Vulnerable territories possess capital stocks of significant natural, architectural, and landscape value. However, their low population density prevents them from generating sufficient wealth to sustain their conservation. This mismatch is supported by authoritative evidence and substantiated by clear Interpretations. The transfer of human capital — and thus the supply of labor, skills and expertise — shifts the demand for consumption, investment and housing to receiving areas. Depopulation has an impact on welfare, urbanization and local economies. The loss of these wealth flows, both individual and collective, reduces the capacity and willingness to maintain the building stock, which gradually falls into disrepair. The physical vulnerability associated with abandonment stems from the severing of the emotional bond between people and places. It follows that seismic risk is amplified in an asymmetrical manner between measurement and perception [14]. This discrepancy — like that between value and wealth — implies that risk reduction and, ultimately, the choice between proactive and reactive policies, cannot be left to the market and the friction between its actors: owners, users, businesses, intermediaries, credit institutions, and insurance companies. While the opportunities arising from the integration of sector players into territorial and urban policies are desirable, they are valid only insofar as they serve the general interest, as defined and articulated within the institutional sphere: These are Civil Protection through Civil Protection Plans (CPPs); Local Authorities through the integration of the ELC, MUS and CPPs into planning instruments; and Universities through research and their third mission. The internal struggle within each individual's mind, between an awareness of the potential for growth and a perception of impending disaster, compels researchers to investigate the conditions under which hope outweighs mistrust, and when the benefits exceed the costs. This involves considering a range of strategies, from the safety standards for buildings during emergencies, as codified by the ELC, to the prospects for the city's resilience during the recovery phase, as envisaged by the MUS. 3. Method, applications and expected outcomes Extending seismic retrofitting beyond emergency situations means that responsibility for assessment lies with identifying the reasons behind the choice between abandonment and continuity by synthesizing natural and cultural causes and motivations. With reference to the lead municipality of an inland area in Sicily, the proposal
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	concerns the development of a decision-making model to maximize the overall value of urban-scale seismic retrofitting interventions at each cost level, applicable in similar contexts. This model is structured in two phases: 1) Analysis and assessment of seismic risk; 2) Planning of an incremental set of safety measures for progressively larger and more complex sections of the study area, ranging from emergency response to resilience. 1. The analysis and assessment of seismic risk considers the territorial context, the urban center, and the built environment. At these three levels, the three dimensions of seismic risk are represented with reference to the three forms of capital indicated: human, urban, and economic capital. a. Territorial context – hazard is mapped using Seismic Microzonation, vulnerability is represented using urban center data from ISTAT Census Sections relating to building stock and characteristics, and exposure of building and property capital is assessed using quotations from the Revenue Agency's Property Market Observatory and parametric cost values for infrastructure capital. Economic capital is assessed using ISTAT income and business data, and human capital using demographic data. b. Urban context – The urban context is selected based on the significance of heritage at risk, vulnerability refers to the built heritage. It is based on the relationship between settlement patterns and road networks, as well as the overall susceptibility of the built heritage to damage. This is determined on a sample basis by building type. The exposure of buildings and properties will be assessed through specific market surveys. At this scale, architectural and historical value will also be assessed. Exposure of economic capital is based on the activities present within the municipal area. For human capital exposure, ISTAT Census Section data supports significant assumptions regarding the distribution of residents across the various areas of the urban center. c. Building fabrics – Regarding hazard, the above applies. Vulnerability is assessed at building level using Cesare Tocci's model [18] for load-bearing masonry buildings. Exposure of the building stock is commensurate with property values of surveyed buildings based on market surveys by segment. Exposure of human capital is assessed in monetary terms using an approach consistent with the Jorgenson-Fraumeni model adopted by ISTAT. At this initial stage, the expected outcomes include measuring all indices, mapping them across the three scales and presenting an overall picture of the structure of risk, including its quantitative, qualitative and economicmonetary components. These results will inform the next phase of the research.
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	2. Seismic risk reduction measures planned at an urban level involve the incremental development of the ELC [20] within the MUS framework, using a continuous decision-making model of progressive optimization for each level of intervention cost. a. At the building level, safety requirements are met by interventions and associated costs defined according to degrees of intensity in relation to building vulnerability and comprehensiveness in relation to public or private responsibility. b. At the urban level, regarding resilience requirements, the following have been identified: strategic buildings and key transport infrastructure for the purposes of the ELC (emergency level); and degrees of progressive redundancy in terms of new infrastructure and equipment aimed at functions of increasing importance regarding the aspects of life that characterize the orderly flow of community life for the purposes of the MUS (resilience levels). Based on what has been outlined so far, the conceptual framework that interprets seismic risk mitigation as an existential condition for established communities and an opportunity for the consolidation of identity is defined by an integrated analysis of the components of risk (the constraints) and the forms of urban capital (the capacities). From this perspective, the assessment provides the shared understanding required for structured dialogue between individuals and communities, the private and public sectors, interests and values, economies and societies, citizens and administration. This dialogue clarifies the relationship between the resources deployed, the value profiles, and the expected outcomes. It helps shape intervention strategies that are consistent with the complexity of fragile contexts and capable of supporting their regeneration.
Tutor:	Prof. Salvatore Giuffrida
Department and location of the activity	Architecture

Competition Code:	I-RIC 22-2026
GSD	06/MEDS-16
SSD	MEDS-16/A
Title	Svapo & Oral-HPV Sicily Integrated educational-digital model for the protection of human capital and the enhancement of the social, cultural and economic heritage of Southern Italy through the prevention of vaping and oral HPV
Research program	National framework. The project is part of the "strategies, processes and products for the protection and enhancement of the environmental, social, economic, cultural and tourist heritage of the territory", intervening



	on the young human capital of the South as an essential component of the social heritage. Health and territorial motivation: In Sicily and the South there are: high use of vaping devices and heated tobacco products among adolescents (>25% in the 14–17 age group) and significantly lower HPV vaccination coverage than in the North; From a biological point of view, vaping is associated with DNA damage, oxidative stress, mucosal alterations, potentially malignant lesions of the oral cavity and fulminant pneumonia; oral HPV is implicated in about 70% of HPV-related oropharyngeal carcinomas; the interaction between vaping and HPV infection is considered an emerging risk of early carcinogenesis, with potential repercussions on the health system, productivity and quality of life. Objectives-General objective: To develop and validate a replicable educational model for the prevention of vaping and oral HPV, contributing to the protection of human capital and the enhancement of the territorial heritage of the South. Specific objectives: To analyze knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) in students. To develop integrated educational toolkits (school-family-territory). To evaluate the educational and behavioral effectiveness of the intervention. To analyze cost-effectiveness. To define a transferable and scalable model. Design and methodology. Study: cluster randomized multicenter trial on secondary schools in Palermo, and total duration of 12 months. Divided into 4 Work Packages. Expected results and impact - Expected results: Increase in knowledge Increase in vaccination intention. Reduction in vaping intention. Effectively validated toolkit. Open-access platform and at least one publication in Q1 journal. Expected impact: Social: strengthening of youth human capital and reduction of North-South inequalities. Economic: reduction of future health costs and improvement of the sustainability of the NHS. Cultural: enhancement of schools as hubs of innovation and development of civic skills. Tourist/territorial: improvement of the quality of life and strengthening of the attractiveness of the territory. Scalability: the model is designed to be replicated nationwide, integrated into school curricula and in the future enhanced with artificial intelligence and tele-education tools.
Tutor:	Prof. Giuseppina Campisi



Department and location of the activity	Biomedicine, Neuroscience and Advanced Diagnostics
Competition Code:	I-RIC 23-2026
GSD	10/COMP-01
SSD	COMP-01/A
Title	Narrating Natural-Cultural Heritage: Towards a Literary Mapping of the Global South, Starting from Sicily
Research program	This research project focuses on the apparent opacity of landscapes in relation to narrative. This resistance seems to be due, on the one hand, to the lack of attention that human history has always paid to the environment, and on the other, to the gaps in the available narrative forms, which are mostly oriented towards the human scale and the immediate present. Consequently, these have not been sufficient to capture the complexity of places where geological, ecological and historical time are layered without ever resulting in a linear narrative. The aim of the project is to re-narrate specific sites of Sicily's natural and cultural heritage, first by examining whether and how these landscapes have been narrated within the literary tradition of their respective contexts, and then by identifying the narrative tools through which the physical landscape can be restored to its role as an active agent in the production of cultural meaning. This reinterpretation engages with literary works from other geographical contexts (notably, in this context, the fiction of Amitav Ghosh, in which territories do not serve as a backdrop to human events but are active protagonists) to ascertain whether the same narrative tools are applicable to seemingly distant landscapes and to forge connections between places in the Global South united by analogous dynamics of interplay between natural and cultural heritage. The findings will be compiled into a publication structured as a critical mapping of Sicily's natural and cultural heritage: starting from specific sites (reserves, gardens, parks, such as the Bosco Ficuzza Nature Reserve), the publication will establish connections with similar contexts, bringing often marginalised places into a framework of promotion that offers a radically renewed interpretation, based on the indivisibility of natural and cultural heritage.
Tutor:	Prof. Roberta Coglitore
Department and location of the activity	Culture e Società

Competition Code:	I-RIC 24-2026
GSD	02/PHYS/03
SSD	PHYS03/A



Title	Active Microresonator-Based Sensors for Pollutant Detection
Research program	The beneficiary will carry out research activities aimed at developing microsensors based on the coupling of photoluminescent nanomaterials with optical Whispering Gallery Mode (WGM) microresonators, such as dielectric microspheres made of polystyrene and glass. The goal is to develop active microresonators whose emission can be engineered through coupling to the photonic modes of the microresonator. After identifying the optimal conditions for microsensor fabrication, their optical and photonic properties will be characterized using a broad range of optical spectroscopy techniques, with particular emphasis on steady-state and time-resolved photoluminescence microscopy. The microresonators will also be coupled to optical fibres to explore the possibility of remotely exciting the resonators and detecting their optical response. Finally, the potential of these microresonators as sensors for the detection of pollutants will be investigated by monitoring changes in their optical response upon exposure to specific substances under controlled experimental conditions.
Tutor:	Prof. Fabrizio Messina
Department and location of the activity	Physics and Chemistry - Emilio Segre'

Competition Code:	I-RIC 25-2026
GSD	09/IIET-01
SSD	IIET-01/A
Title	Palermo Solar City: Integrated Assessment of Vehicle-Integrated Photovoltaics - VIPV Potential Across the Complete Tourist Mobility Experience
Research program	The research program is aimed at developing an integrated solar mobility framework for Palermo by combining Vehicle-Integrated Photovoltaics (VIPV) and Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV) across the tourist mobility corridor, with the objective of identifying viable solutions for sustainable urban transport and infrastructure. The research activities will begin with a review of the state of the art on VIPV and BIPV applications in urban mobility, with particular attention to public transport, airport and port ground vehicles, tourist shuttles, charging infrastructure, solar canopies, and transport buildings. The review will also address current methods for solar resource assessment under real operating and urban conditions, with the aim of identifying methodological limitations and defining suitable improvements. The research program will then apply and further develop the VIPVLIB simulation framework to estimate solar energy generation at high temporal resolution for the main mobility nodes of Palermo, including the airport, seaport, railway station, urban routes, and coastal destinations. Advanced approaches for irradiance estimation, vehicle orientation, shading, and urban conditions will be investigated to improve prediction



	accuracy. In parallel, the technical potential of VIPV and BIPV solutions will be evaluated together with the operational and geometric data required to establish preliminary foundations for future prototypes, such as solar airport ground vehicles, charging facilities, and architecturally integrated photovoltaic structures. The resulting solutions will be assessed through an integrated socio-techno-economic-sustainability analysis, including energy performance, LCOE and grid parity, avoided emissions, and structured surveys of tourists, residents, and transport users. The final results will be synthesized into a planning roadmap identifying priority applications, technology combinations, implementation conditions, and areas requiring further development, providing practical guidance for city authorities, transport operators, and stakeholders.
Tutor:	Prof. Guido Ala
Department and location of the activity	Engineering

Competition Code:	I-RIC 26-2026
GSD	05/BIOS-11
SSD	BIOS-11/A
Title	MITEPA (Integrated Territorial Model for Prenatal Exposure to Alcohol) - Protection of human capital and prevention of disorders due to prenatal exposure to alcohol: an integrated territorial model
Research program	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) are a condition of significant interest for public health, as they derive from prenatal exposure to alcohol and are associated with adverse physical, cognitive, behavioral and social outcomes. Recent Italian guidelines underline that FASD is an irreversible condition and that total abstention from alcohol consumption during pregnancy is the only effective preventive measure, in the absence of decisive therapeutic protocols. However, FASD remains largely underdiagnosed, with important repercussions on early recognition, multidisciplinary management and prevention of secondary disabilities. International guidelines reiterate that diagnosis necessarily requires multidisciplinary assessment and that early identification is essential to improve access to intervention protocols, thus reducing the risk of impairment in educational, mental and social settings. In the Italian context, the phenomenon appears likely to be underestimated. An epidemiological study conducted in an Italian province using the "<i>active case ascertainment</i>" methodology in the school environment estimated an overall prevalence of FASD between 2.3% and 4.1%, suggesting that these disorders are significantly more frequent than what is found in ordinary clinical practice. Further scientific relevance derives from recent literature, which confirms the decisive role of the interaction between



	biological and environmental factors in the pathogenesis of FASD. In light of this evidence, this proposal assumes the prevention of FASD as a key strategy for the protection of human capital and the social heritage of the territory. Protecting neurodevelopment, reducing the risk of cognitive and behavioral fragility and strengthening maternal and child health means, in fact, intervening on a structural component of territorial development, with repercussions on the well-being of families, on the educational institution and on the sustainability of future social and health costs. In this context, the proposal is consistent with the purpose of the call, as it acts directly on the enhancement of the social and health heritage of the community. The general objective of the project is to implement an integrated territorial model of detection, prevention and guidance on risky behaviors related to alcohol consumption during pregnancy, breastfeeding and the preconception phase. In particular, the project aims to: detect knowledge, attitudes and behaviors related to the consumption of alcoholic beverages in the target populations; identify the socioeconomic, cultural and family determinants that act as risk and protective factors; develop standardized replicable monitoring tools; translate the results into concrete information and prevention actions aimed at women of childbearing age, health workers, teachers and citizens in general. From a methodological point of view, the project will adopt an epidemiological research-action approach based on the structured data collection in health and community contexts. A central element will be the use of a structured maternal medical history card, aimed at detecting prenatal exposure to alcohol, maternal risk factors, sociodemographic and socioeconomic variables, reproductive history, nutritional dimension and family and environmental context. This approach will make it possible to reconstruct prenatal exposure to alcohol according to quantity, frequency and timing, distinguishing by trimesters and patterns of consumption. In addition to the medical history, the project will integrate vulnerability indicators from different territorial <i>settings</i>, with particular attention to care contexts, places of early contact with women of childbearing age or pregnant, and school and community contexts. The primary objective does not lie in the formulation of clinical diagnoses, but in the structuring of a territorial system of screening and early identification. This system aims to intercept risky behaviors, map protective factors and effectively guide preventive interventions. In conclusion, the expected outcomes of the present study include: increasing awareness of the risks of alcohol in pregnancy and in the preconception phase; availability of validated detection and monitoring tools; identification of
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	the main local determinants of risk behaviors; strengthening of counselling and prevention practices in services; production of <i>evidence-based</i> indications for territorial planning.
Tutor:	Prof. Fulvio Plescia
Department and location of the activity	Health Promotion, Maternal and Child, Internal Medicine and Specialist Excellence "G. D'Alessandro"

Competition Code:	I-RIC 27-2026
GSD	13/ECON-01
SSD	ECON-01/A
Title	Governance and allocation of public funds in hydrogeological risk areas: evidence and policy tools for equitable and sustainable development in southern Italy
Research program	The project falls within the framework of strategies aimed at the protection and enhancement of the environmental, social, and economic assets of the territory, with particular attention to Southern Italy. The specific focus of the analysis is the allocation of public resources in territories affected by hydrogeological events, a topic that represents both an issue of territorial asset protection and of public sector effectiveness. The ability of institutions to respond to environmental shocks in an equitable and efficient manner directly shapes territorial resilience and local development prospects, especially in the most fragile areas of Southern Italy, characterized by high hydrogeological vulnerability and persistent economic and institutional disparities. The economic literature has extensively documented how natural disasters generate significant and persistent effects on economic growth, public finances, and the well-being of local communities (Cavallo et al., 2013; Felbermayr and Gröschl, 2014), highlighting the central role of public intervention in mitigating such impacts. However, the effectiveness of these interventions critically depends on how resources are allocated. Recent studies show that public transfers, even in emergency contexts, are not always determined solely by objective indicators of need, but may reflect political incentives and distributive dynamics (Arulampalam et al., 2009; Brollo and Nannicini, 2012; Bracco et al., 2015). In particular, the combination of decision-making urgency, high political visibility, and administrative discretion makes post-disaster allocation especially vulnerable to potential distortions (Garrett and Sobel, 2003; Healy and Malhotra, 2009). Recent empirical evidence for Italy, based on municipal-level data over the period 2013–2022, shows that while the allocation of transfers appears broadly neutral with respect to political alignment in normal times, significant patterns of political favoritism emerge in the aftermath of hydrogeological shocks. In particular, municipalities politically aligned with the central government receive significantly more resources and obtain a larger share of the funds they request, with an estimated differential of



	approximately 34 percentage points (Maggio et al., 2026). These findings suggest that discretion in allocation processes arises in a contingent manner, particularly in contexts characterized by greater urgency and weaker monitoring capacity. Building on this evidence, the project extends and deepens this line of research through a twofold original contribution to the existing literature. First, while previous analyses have been conducted at the national level, this project focuses specifically on Southern Italy, where the combination of high exposure to hydrogeological risk and institutional fragility may amplify the effects of potential allocation distortions. A geographically disaggregated analysis will make it possible to assess whether and to what extent political favoritism dynamics are more pronounced in Southern regions, and which local institutional factors, such as administrative capacity, intergovernmental coordination, and the quality of local governance, shape their intensity. Second, the project aims to develop operational indicators of equity and efficiency in post-disaster public resource allocation, with the goal of concretely supporting policymakers and local administrations in Southern Italy in defining more transparent allocation criteria and formulating more effective funding requests. This transition from analytical assessment to practical application represents a distinctive contribution relative to the existing literature. The empirical analysis is based on a municipal-level panel dataset integrating information on hydrogeological events, intergovernmental transfers, requested and allocated funds, political affiliation, and socio-economic characteristics of municipalities. The identification strategy exploits variation over time in both exposure to hydrogeological shocks and political alignment, within a framework of municipality and time fixed effects. These absorb all time-invariant local characteristics, such as geography, historical exposure to risk, and long-term political preferences, as well as aggregate national trends. Since hydrogeological shocks are driven by natural processes, they can be considered plausibly exogenous to local political conditions, strengthening the credibility of the identification strategy based on the interaction between shocks and political alignment. The key variable of interest is the gap between requested and received funds, used as a synthetic indicator of the degree of discretion in allocation processes. The empirical analysis will be complemented by an examination of the institutional and regulatory framework governing hydrogeological emergency management (Italian Civil Protection Code, Legislative Decree No. 1/2018), in order to interpret the empirical findings in light of existing administrative mechanisms. The project aims to generate the following outcomes: robust econometric estimates of political favoritism in post-
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	disaster resource allocation in Southern Italy; identification of the institutional and territorial factors that amplify or mitigate such distortions; development of indicators of allocative equity and efficiency that can be used by local administrations to monitor decision-making processes; and policy recommendations aimed at improving transparency and effectiveness in post-disaster public interventions, particularly with regard to funding request and allocation mechanisms. The results will have direct implications for local administrations in Southern Italy, supporting them in formulating more effective funding requests and in monitoring allocation processes, as well as for policymakers, by contributing to the design of more objective and transparent allocation criteria. In a context of increasing exposure to climate-related risks, these analytical and operational tools can contribute to promoting sustainable and inclusive development in the most fragile areas of the national territory.
Tutor:	Prof. Giuseppe Maggio
Department and location of the activity	Business Economics and Statistics

Competition Code:	I-RIC 28-2026
GSD	14/GSPS-07
SSD	GSPS-07/A
Title	Neighborhood Tourism and Cultural Heritagization: Participation and Social Innovation
Research program	The research program aims to address the cognitive demand for identifying strategies, processes, and products for the protection and enhancement of the environmental, social, economic, cultural, and tourism heritage of the Palermo area. Specifically, it focuses on "informal heritage"—heritage recognized as such by residents but connected to practices that do not comply with legal regulations. An example of such practices in Palermo is the so-called "Vampa di San Giuseppe", a popular tradition involving the ritual lighting of bonfires on March 19th. This ancient practice sits at the intersection of the sacred and the profane; over time, it has acquired symbolic meanings related to purification, renewal, and seasonal transition. Despite its identity value, the practice presents critical issues regarding environmental impact and informal management. However, it is particularly significant as it represents one of the few collective, selforganized practices—often conceived and carried out by youth and adolescents—without institutional support. The research program, fitting within the theme of identifying strategies for territory enhancement, adopts the "Vampa di San Giuseppe" as its object of study. It views this deep-rooted urban tradition as potential social, cultural, and collective tourism heritage.



	The research will identify and analyze two areas corresponding to socio-territorial contexts in Palermo characterized by socio-economic fragility, but also by a strong community identity and established cultural practices. In these neighborhoods, the "vampa" represents a spontaneous, intergenerational, and participatory practice. While often perceived as problematic due to environmental impacts and safety concerns, it simultaneously carries profound symbolic meanings linked to natural cycles, regeneration, and collective identity. The general objective of the program is to investigate how an informal and sometimes stigmatized cultural practice can be recognized, regulated, and transformed into shared heritage through participatory democracy processes capable of integrating normative, cultural, and social dimensions. Central to this will be the concept of "participatory democracy," linked to the expansion of the possibility for citizens to actively exercise their citizenship, especially by intervening in decisions concerning the community. Therefore, imagining a community policy means valuing civil society understood as a resource and as a representation of the territory, and giving life to new forms of "societal citizenship" and "participatory citizenship." These are the forms that can allow citizens, as protagonists, to participate actively in the governing of the city and to strengthen their sense of belonging to the community. Consequently, the development of a territory cannot ignore identity dynamics that pass through the exercise of participatory citizenship, that is, through the protection of rights and the fulfillment of duties. This contributes to conserving common goods, strengthening the sense of belonging and identity, and making both the citizens and the territory protagonists (Mangone 2022). Furthermore, this proposal aims to move in the direction of activating "trust" (Fukuyama 1996) of individuals toward institutions, declined on different levels. Trust is understood as the expectation that the actor has toward a positive experience that supports the construction and the search for meanings and interpretations attributed to situations and contexts of daily life (Mangone 2022). Conversely, the absence of trust is linked to the lack of involvement of citizens in the context in which they live and, consequently, to mistrust toward institutional actors. From this perspective, participation will be proposed as the means through which to build a democratic process that leads to the recognition of the territory as a common good, to the respect for rules, and to making an "event" an occasion for respect for the rules and the environment, as well as an opportunity for cultural and economic growth. In this outlook, the "vampa" will become an emblematic case study to understand the dynamics of "bottom-up" cultural heritage construction and to develop replicable models in other Italian contexts.
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	The program will be structured along three main guidelines: - Socio-cultural and territorial analysis: a study of the symbolic meanings, social practices, and community dynamics linked to the "vampa" [bonfire], with particular attention to the relationship between culture, legality, and the perception of rules. - Participatory processes and co-design: activation of engagement pathways involving citizens, institutions, the third sector, and economic actors through interviews, focus groups, workshops, and working tables, aimed at the shared definition of guidelines for the safe and sustainable realization of the event. - Enhancement and modeling: development of strategies for the transformation of the "vampa" into an environmental, social, economic, cultural, and tourism resource, through the creation of pathways for the symbolic and functional regeneration of urban spaces. Particular attention will be dedicated to overcoming the dichotomy between "imposed law" (diritto subito) and "participatory law" (diritto partecipato), promoting active and conscious citizenship in which the community becomes the protagonist in the definition and management of common goods. General objective To analyze the processes through which informal and embedded cultural practices can be transformed into collective heritage, contributing to the development of participatory models for territorial safeguarding and enhancement. Specific objectives • Analyze the social, cultural, and symbolic meanings associated with the "vampa." • Explore how the practice can be reinterpreted as a cultural and tourism resource. • Identify conditions for safe and sustainable implementation. • Investigate the role of participation in building trust, belonging, and collective responsibility. • Develop guidelines and replicable models for similar cultural practices. <i>Methodology and Structure (12 months)</i> Phase 1 (Months 1–3): Analysis and design Literature review, territorial analysis, research tools definition, stakeholder mapping. Phase 2 (Months 4–6): Fieldwork Qualitative interviews, participant observation, data collection. Phase 3 (Months 7–9): Participatory processes Focus groups and co-design workshops. Phase 4 (Months 10–12): Analysis and dissemination Data analysis, model development, dissemination activities.
Tutor:	Prof. Santa Giuseppina Tumminelli



Department and location of the activity	Political Science and International Relations
Competition Code:	I-RIC 29-2026
GSD	10/ASIA-01
SSD	ASIA-01/F
Title	Urban Memory and Active Citizenship: a model for the enhancement of Palermo's post-war sites through scientific comparison with the Chongqing case study
Research program	1. 1. Background and Motivation: The Paradox of Urban Memory This research proposal stems from a critical observation conducted in the urban context of Palermo: the presence of numerous ruins and sites marked by the 1943 bombings is today perceived in a distorted way by the local community and by visitors. During an observation experience at the University Language Centre (CLA), it emerged that even long-term foreign residents interpret the architectural "wounds" of the historic center as signs of mere building neglect, ignoring their wartime origin. This phenomenon of historical amnesia also profoundly affects the new generations of citizens of Palermo, for whom the disconnection between physical space and the memory of the events that shaped it is almost total. This communicative paradox represents a serious loss of social and cultural heritage. The ruin, stripped of its narrative, ceases to be a "monument" and becomes an "urban void". The research aims to analyze international models for the valorization of post-war sites, particularly referring comparatively to the case of Chongqing, to identify methodological approaches adaptable to the specific context of Palermo. 2. Research Objectives The primary objective is to define a valorization model that transforms Palermo's latent wartime heritage into a strategic resource for citizens and institutions. Specific objectives include: • Comparative Analysis: Define urban narrative protocols based on a comparison between the narrative and valorization models developed in the Chinese context (Chongqing case) and the unexpressed potential of the Palermo territory. • Modelling: Define a replicable operational model for urban memory valorization, applicable to other contexts in Southern Italy characterized by similar "memory voids". • Identity Recovery: Address the knowledge deficit among the younger population through the scientific documentation of the sites. • Institutional Support: Provide local institutions (Municipality, City Departments, Universities) with a database and guidelines to encourage future targeted investments aimed at the protection and conscious fruition of the sites. 3. Methodology and Operational Phases



	The program will be structured over twelve months, divided into three operational phases (Work Packages): • WP1: Survey and Cataloguing (Months 1—4). Identification and cataloguing of the main post-war sites in the historic center of Palermo. For each site, a record will be compiled by integrating historical data and analysis of the current state. In parallel, an empirical survey (questionnaires and semi-structured interviews) will be conducted, targeting the younger population, to measure the level of historical awareness and current perception of the sites. Attention will be devoted to analyzing the communicative and narrative strategies adopted in the Chinese context, including through original - language sources and institutional materials, with the aim of identifying models transferable and adaptable to the Italian context. • WP2: Design of Valorization and Participatory Fruition Pathways (Months 5—8). Development of educational and cultural itineraries designed for schools, the university and residents. The objective is to transform the ruin into an "educational resource", promoting widespread and inclusive fruition oriented towards civic participation. • WP3: Prototyping and Tools (Months 9—12). Creation of a digital Information Signage proposal (QR- Code systems and multimedia content) enabling the visual and historical recovery of the sites. The results will be presented to institutional stakeholders as a pilot model for territorial valorization. Research outputs will include: (i) a digital map of the surveyed sites; (ii) a prototype interactive urban itinerary; (iii) operational guidelines for local institutions aimed at the valorization and fruition of the sites. 4. Territorial Impact (Social Impact and Sustainability) The project aims at fostering local rediscovery tourism and strengthening the bond between citizens and their territory. The primary impact lies in the transformation of areas perceived as degraded into poles of historic and civic interest, stimulating an economic return based on school and national tourism. The model developed will be conceived with transferability in mind and may be applied to other urban contexts in Southern Italy, contributing to the definition of integrated strategies for the valorization of historical and cultural heritage. The research will also provide institutions with an operational foundation and useful tools to guide actions of future protection and valorization of sites.
Tutor:	Prof. Giuseppa Tamburello
Department and location of the activity	Humanities

Competition Code:	I-RIC 30-2026
GSD	05/BIOS-01



SSD	BIOS-01/C
Title	Development of strategies for the protection of marine species and habitats from the potential impacts arising from the spread of the Union-concern alga <i>Rugulopteryx okamurae</i>
Research program	<i>Rugulopteryx okamurae</i> is a brown algae belonging to the family Dictyotaceae, native to the Pacific Northwest. In Europe, it was first reported in 2002 in France, in the Thau lagoon, where it is believed to have been introduced accidentally, probably through the import of Pacific oysters. In view of the significant impact on marine-coastal ecosystems, <i>R. okamurae</i> has been included among the species of Union concern under Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1203 (2 July 2022). Species whose adverse effects on the environment and biodiversity are such as to require coordinated action by Member States are defined as being of Union concern. Invasive alien species can only be included in this list if they meet all of the following criteria: -they are exotic throughout the territory of the European Union; -are capable of establishing viable populations and spreading, causing serious impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem services and, potentially, human health and the economy; - produce significant negative effects proven by a risk assessment conducted according to standardized procedures (EU Reg. 1143/14); - require, on the basis of the risk assessment, coordinated action at European level; -their inclusion in the list makes it possible to prevent their introduction or to effectively reduce and mitigate negative impacts. In Italy, the first report dates back to July 2023 in the central and eastern sectors of the Gulf of Palermo. Recent observations have highlighted the ability of the species to survive and reproduce also in bentopelagic and mesopelagic form at different depths, thus expanding its distribution range and expansion potential. This process is further favored by amplification factors related to both anthropogenic vectors (e.g. fishing and recreational anchoring activities) and natural dynamics, such as sea currents. This species is of particular concern as it is capable of profoundly altering the structure and diversity of benthic communities, to the point of becoming dominant and replacing native species through competition for space and occupation of the substrate. It should be noted that <i>R. okamurae</i> is the first and only algae to have been included in the list of invasive alien species of Union concern (EU, 2022). Its presence leads to a significant reduction in biodiversity and environmental heterogeneity in the invaded areas. In



	addition, <i>R. okamurae</i> can also have significant negative effects on human activities, such as fishing and tourism, with economic losses estimated in millions of euros. The species is responsible for frequent stranding phenomena, especially during the summer season, when the accumulation of biomass on the beaches causes bad smells and turbidity of the waters, negatively affecting tourist use. Objectives The objectives of the proposal are multiple and aim to identify currently unknown aspects of the invasion ecology of this species 1. To evaluate potential top-down controls (native herbivores, invasive algae) in field conditions through video techniques; 2. To evaluate the effects of <i>R. okamurae</i> diffusion on associated benthic populations through comparison with algal communities dominated by former native habitat species (e.g. <i>Ericaria brachycarpa</i> or <i>Gongolaria montagnei</i>) 3. To conduct experiments in mesocosm to verify possible mechanisms of interaction between <i>R. okamurae</i> and native animal and plant species. The objectives will allow the definition of targeted strategies for the protection of benthic species threatened by the expansion of <i>Rokamurae</i> Methodologies For the estimation of top-down interactions of <i>R. okamurae</i> with native herbivorous fishes (e.g. <i>Sarpa salpa</i>) it is planned to use standard Baited and unbaited video techniques (BRUV and RUV) in rocky phytal systems, both in areas colonized by the invasive species, and through tethering experiments, through which it will be possible to quantify the type of interaction, the number of bites and the biomass removed by herbivores. Standard sampling of sorbonne-scratching-sorbonne will be conducted by underwater technical operators for the comparison of native populations. Finally, experimental designs will be developed to be conducted at the mesocosm of DiSTeM, aimed at evaluating the response of two benthic species of conservation interest (one animal and one plant) to prolonged exposure to <i>R. okamurae</i>. As a model animal organism, the Mediterranean madrepora <i>Cladocora caespitosa</i>, an endemic species of high conservation interest, will be used. This species, characterized by the presence of photosynthetic symbionts (zooxanthellae) and a recognized sensitivity to environmental stresses, represents a suitable system for the analysis of interactions with invasive macroalgae. Its use will allow to evaluate in an integrated way the effects of coexistence with <i>R. okamurae</i> on physiological, metabolic and growth parameters, helping to clarify the mechanisms of competition and the potential implications for Mediterranean benthic habitats. The experimental set-up
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	will be preceded by a preliminary bibliographic analysis aimed at identifying the main response variables and defining the optimal allocation of the sample units according to statistical criteria. The organisms will be taken along the Sicilian coasts, transferred to the laboratory and subjected to an acclimatization phase lasting about 30 days. During this phase, in addition to the environmental parameters, the morphological and physiological ones will also be monitored by means of instrumentation equipped with underwater sensors. In particular, the following will be evaluated: - respiratory rates; - the efficiency of the photosystem II; - fluorescence parameters (F and F_v); - growth and reproduction performance; - the isotopic composition of carbon and nitrogen. At the end of the acclimatization, manipulative experiments will be initiated using 18 20-liter tanks, each equipped with an aerator, filter, thermostat and controlled light-dark cycle. The tanks will be randomly assigned to three treatments: - species in isolation (S); - coexistence with <i>R. okamurae</i> alive (S + A); - coexistence with an artifact of <i>R. okamurae</i> (S + A). The latter treatment involves the use of artificial replicas to isolate the effects of physical contact and shading. Each treatment will be replicated six times, with a balanced distribution between the two species studied. Expected results The different experiments will allow to decompose the effects of the interaction between <i>R. okamurae</i> and the species/communities under study, distinguishing between top-down interactions (objective 1), habitat provisioning effects (objective 2), or shading mechanisms, contact interactions and possible allelopathic phenomena (objective 3), while ensuring high accuracy in the estimates. The results will allow to define intervention strategies aimed at the protection of the analyzed species, overcoming the difficulties related to the application of non-specific management measures on a large scale. Using the functional traits of algae it will be possible to estimate the effects of competition between the two algal species directly in nature. On the other hand, using the relationships between structural traits of algae and the structure indices of the associated stands, it will be possible to estimate the effects of the presence of <i>R. okamurae</i> on animal biodiversity.
Tutor:	Prof. Agostino Tomasello
Department and location of the activity	Earth and Marine Sciences

**ART. 2
(Admission requirements)**



1. Italian or foreign citizens may compete for the selections if, on the date of expiry of the deadline for submitting applications, they hold a master's degree or a single-cycle degree in the following classes of degree or equivalent or equivalent obtained abroad and recognized pursuant to the relevant provisions in force:

I-RIC 21-2026	LM-4 Architecture
I-RIC 22-2026	LM-46 Dentistry and Dental Prosthetics
I-RIC 23-2026	LM 92 Communication of Cultural Heritage LM 84 Historical, Anthropological and Geographical Studies
I-RIC 24-2026	LM-17 Physics LM-54 Chemical Sciences LM-53 Materials Science and Engineering LM-22 Chemical Engineering LM Sc.MAT Materials Science
I-RIC 25-2026	LM-28 – Electrical Engineering LM-33- Mechanical Engineering LM-30 R – Electrical and Nuclear Engineering LM-35 R – environmental and land engineering
I-RIC 26-2026	LM-6 Biology, LM-51 Psychology LM-41 Medicine and Surgery.
I-RIC 27-2026	LM-56 Economics LM-82- Statistical Sciences
I-RIC 28-2026	LM-62 Political Science LM-52 International Relations LM-63 Public Administration Sciences LM-84 Historical Sciences LM-87 Social Work and Social Policy
I-RIC 29-2026	LM-38 Modern Languages and Translation for International Relations
I-RIC 30-2026	LM-75 Science and Technology for the Environment and the Territory; LM-6 Biology; LM- 60 Natural Sciences



obtained no more than six years ago and a curriculum suitable for assisting in carrying out research activities, which will be evaluated by the Selection Committee.

It is also required:

- Foreign language: English.
- 2. In the case of possession of more than one master's or single-cycle degree, the six-year term will start from the date of achievement of the first degree useful for access;
- 3. Candidates, in possession of a qualification issued by foreign universities for which the equivalence to an Italian degree has not previously been recognized, must, under penalty of exclusion, make an express request in the application form and accompany the application itself with the documents, legally translated, useful to allow the declaration of correspondence by the Selection Committee. This declaration, produced by the Selection Committee at the time of evaluation of the qualifications presented by the candidates, does not constitute equivalence of the qualification and is only useful for access to the subsequent competition phases for the assignment of the research assignment;
- 4. Those who are excluded from the active political electorate cannot be admitted to the selection procedure. Citizens belonging to the Member States of the European Union and non-EU citizens must also meet the following requirements:
 - enjoy civil and political rights also in the countries of origin or origin;
 - be in possession, with the exception of the possession of Italian citizenship, of all the other requirements provided for citizens of the Republic;
- 5. The following cannot participate in the selections:
 - tenured staff, hired on a permanent basis, of universities, public research bodies and institutions whose scientific specialization diploma has been recognized as equivalent to the title of PhD pursuant to Article 74, fourth paragraph, of Presidential Decree No. 382 of 11 July 1980;
 - those who have benefited from contracts referred to in Article 24 of Law 240/2010;
 - those who have held the positions referred to in Articles 22, 22 bis, 22 ter and the contracts referred to in Article 24 of Law 240/2010, including with other universities, state, non-state or telematic, with institutions of Higher Education in the Arts, Music and Dance, with institutions whose scientific specialization diploma has been recognized as equivalent to the title of PhD pursuant to Article 74, fourth paragraph, of Presidential Decree No. 382 of 11 July 1980, and with public research institutions, for a duration such as to have exceeded, or to exceed with the conferral of the assignment subject to the selection, the limits of overall duration, even if not continuous, provided for by current legislation;
 - those who have a relationship of kinship or affinity up to and including the 4th degree with a professor belonging to the Department or Structure that proposed the activation of the contract, or with the Rector, the Director General or a member of the Board of Directors;
 - those who have been dismissed, dispensed, declared forfeited or dismissed from employment in a Public Administration.

The prescribed requirements must be met on the date of expiry of the deadline established for the submission of the application for admission. The Administration may at any time, with a reasoned measure, order exclusion from the selection procedure for lack of the prescribed requirements.

ART. 3 (Application form and submission deadline)



1. The application for participation in the competition must be submitted, under penalty of exclusion, electronically, using the dedicated computer application available on the page:

<https://pica.cineca.it/unipa/iric-poli-2026>

2. The candidate will be able to access the competition platform using the SPID (Public Digital Identity System) system, selecting the University of Palermo among the institutions, or he will be able to register and log in using credentials issued directly by the platform. The computer application will necessarily require the possession of an e-mail address in order to register with the system.
3. The candidate must enter all the data required for the production of the application and attach the documents in electronic PDF format.
4. The application form must be completed in all its parts, as indicated in the online procedure, and be accompanied by a valid identification document and a copy of the payment of the contribution for participation in the competition.
5. **Candidates who intend to participate in more than one research activity, among those indicated in art. 1 of this call, must submit a separate application for each of the chosen activities, attaching all the provisions of the call and taking care to pay, for each application for participation, the contribution provided for in the following paragraph of this article**
6. Candidates, under penalty of exclusion, are required to pay a contribution for competition organizational costs in the amount of Euro 50.00. This contribution must be paid by bank transfer to the current account no. 000015632748 in the name of the University of Palermo, at the Istituto Cassiere CREDIT AGRICOLE - Palermo Campus - IBAN code IT50R0623004609000015632748 — BIC/SWIFT code: CRPPIIT2PXXX indicating in the reason for payment: "Contribution for participation in the procedure for Research assignment: competition code: **I-RIC 21-2026 or I-RIC 22-2026 or I-RIC 23-2026 or I-RIC 24-2026 or I-RIC 25-2026 or I-RIC 26-2026 or I-RIC 27-2026 or I-RIC 28-2026 or I-RIC 29-2026 or I-RIC 30-2026**". **The receipt of the bank transfer must be attached to the application form.**
7. Other forms of sending applications or documentation useful for participation in the procedure are not allowed.
8. The IT application allows you to save the documentation entered in draft mode, by the deadline for submitting the application. The date of electronic submission of the application for participation in the procedure is certified by the information system by means of a receipt, which will be automatically sent by e-mail at the time of submission of the application.
9. Once the application has been completed and all the attachments have been entered, the candidate must make sure that he has pressed the "submit" button. The completion of the application will be proven exclusively by the change in the status of the application, which will appear "*submitted*" and no longer "*in draft*".
10. At the end of the deadline for submission, the system will no longer allow access to and submission of the electronic form.
11. Each application will be assigned an identification number which, together with the competition code indicated in the computer application, must be specified for any **subsequent communication**;
12. **The procedure for filling in and sending the application electronically must be completed no later than 12:00 noon on the thirtieth day following the publication of this decree. In the case of access through identification through the SPID system, the application for admission to the selection procedure will be automatically acquired by the system without the need for signature;**



13. In other cases, under penalty of exclusion, the application must be signed and must contain all the required data and be accompanied by a valid identification document. The application can be signed with a certified digital signature (in CadES or Pades mode). Otherwise, the candidate must save the PDF file generated by the system on his/her PC and, without modifying it in any way, print it and affix a complete handwritten signature on the last page of the printout. This complete document must be scanned and uploaded to the system in PDF format.
To report purely technical problems, please contact support via the appropriate link at the bottom of the page: <https://pica.cineca.it/unipa/>;
14. When filling out the online application mentioned above, candidates must declare under their own responsibility:
- a) their personal details, date and place of birth, tax code, residence and address chosen for the purposes of the competition, a telephone number, a PEC address (only for Italian citizens);
 - b) citizenship;
 - c) the degree held, with indication of the degree class to which it belongs, the date and place where it was obtained, as well as the grade;
 - d) municipality in which they are registered, or the reasons for non-registration or cancellation from the same lists;
 - e) enjoyment of civil and political rights in the country of origin or origin, or reasons for non-enjoyment (for EU and non-EU citizens);
 - f) that they have not been convicted of any criminal offences or have any criminal proceedings in progress (if not, please indicate which ones);
 - g) not to have been dismissed or dispensed from employment in a public administration, for persistent insufficient performance, or not to have been declared forfeited from a public employment, or dismissed for having obtained employment through the production of false documents and in any case by fraudulent means;
 - h) that they have not benefited from contracts referred to in art. 24 of Law no. 240/2010;
 - i) knowledge of the English language (certified by a B1 level certificate or verified during the interview);
 - j) not to have exceeded, or not to exceed with the assignment subject to the selection, the limits of total duration, even if not continuous, provided for by current legislation, for those who have held the positions referred to in Articles 22, 22 bis, 22 ter and the contracts referred to in Article 24 of Law 240/2010;
 - k) not to have a family or affinity relationship up to and including the 4th degree with a professor belonging to the Department or Structure that proposed the activation of the contract, or with the Rector, the Director General or a member of the Board of Directors;
 - l) not to be part of the permanent staff of universities, public research bodies and institutions whose scientific specialization diploma has been recognized as equivalent to the title of PhD pursuant to Article 74, fourth paragraph, of Presidential Decree No. 382 of 11 July 1980;
 - m) the explicit declaration of acceptance of all the provisions of the call;
 - n) to undertake to promptly communicate any change in his/her residence or address;
 - o) the request for a declaration of correspondence of the qualification (only for candidates, in possession of a qualification issued by foreign universities for which the equivalence to an Italian degree has not previously been recognized).
15. Applications must also be accompanied by:
- copy of a valid identity document (front and back);
 - copy of the tax code;



- self-certification, made in the manner and pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000, certifying the possession of the required qualification (for qualifications obtained in Italy) or a copy of the qualification (for qualifications obtained abroad);
 - curriculum vitae of scientific and professional activity, in Europass format, provided pursuant to art. 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree 445/2000 duly signed by the candidate;
 - list of scientific publications provided in the manner and pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000;
 - documents, legally translated, useful for allowing the Selection Committee to declare correspondence (only for the candidates referred to in Article 2, paragraph 3 above). Each qualification must also be accompanied by the "Declaration of Value" issued by the Italian diplomatic representation in the country where the qualification was obtained;
 - any other document required by the call for applications (e.g.: the equivalence for qualifications obtained abroad);
 - receipt of payment made by bank transfer of € 50.00.
16. Applications lacking the aforementioned documentation will not be taken into consideration, under penalty of exclusion.
17. Candidates with disabilities, pursuant to Law no. 104 of 5 February 1992, must make an explicit request, in relation to their disability, regarding the necessary assistance to be able to take the interview;
18. The Administration assumes no responsibility in the event of dispersion of communications, due to inaccurate indications of contact details by the candidate or to non-communication, or late, of the change of the same, nor for any postal or telematic errors not attributable to the Administration itself.
19. Candidates in possession of additional documentation deemed useful for the evaluation of qualifications may attach it to their application form in the following ways:

Documentation	Presentation methods
Qualifications issued by public administrations or private managers of public services:	Self-certification made in the manner and pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000;
Other titles:	In pdf copy, accompanied by a numbered list of the qualifications submitted, containing a declaration made in the manner and pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000 certifying the conformity of the copies submitted to the originals in the candidate's possession;
Scientific publications	In pdf format accompanied by a detailed and numbered list of the attached publications, containing a declaration made in the manner and pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000 certifying the conformity of the copies presented with the originals in the candidate's possession; Exclusively for publications freely and fully accessible on digital databases, the candidate may, alternatively, indicate the details of the aforementioned



	publications in the list mentioned above, also reporting, under penalty of failure to evaluate the publication, the link to access them. Only publications and texts accepted for publication according to the regulations in force can be evaluated for selection. Internal notes and departmental reports cannot be evaluated. They must be submitted in the language of origin. If this is different from Italian, French, English, or Spanish, the publications must be translated into Italian certified in conformity with the foreign text, drawn up by the competent diplomatic or consular representation or by an official translator.
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**ART. 4
(Selection Committee)**

1. Each Selection Committee is composed of three permanent members and one alternate, ensuring adequate gender representation, chosen from among professors and researchers with research experience on the topics covered by the call, at least one of whom is part of the scientific-disciplinary group covered by the call, including those outside the University.
2. The Councils of the Departments, after the deadline of the call, deliberate on the designation of the members of each Selection Committee.
3. Persons may not be members of the Commission who:
 - a) have been convicted, even by a judgment that has not become final, for the offences provided for in Chapter I of Title II of Book II of the Criminal Code;
 - b) have, with the candidate or with the other members of the commission, situations of incompatibility as provided for by art. 51 and 52 of the Code of Civil Procedure and by article 7, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the University Code of Ethics;
 - c) are, with the candidate or with the other members of the commission, in a situation of conflict of interest, even potential, pursuant to art. 7 of Presidential Decree 62/2013 and art. 6, paragraphs 1, 2 and 5, of the University Code of Ethics.
4. The Selection Committees are appointed by decree of the Rector published in the Official Register of the University.
5. From the date of publication of the decree appointing the Commission, 30 days elapse for the submission to the Rector, by the candidates, of any requests for the recusal of the Commissioners.
6. If the cause for recusal has arisen, provided that it occurs before the Commission takes office, the time limit runs from its inception. Once this time limit has elapsed and, in any case, after the Commission has taken office, no applications for recusal are admitted.

**ART. 5
(Evaluation of candidates)**

1. The selection is carried out through the comparative evaluation of the candidates and is aimed at assessing the possession of a scientific-professional curriculum suitable for carrying out the activity covered by the research assignment, through



an examination of qualifications and publications and an interview useful for ascertaining the skills possessed, the aptitude for carrying out the activities covered by the assignment and any other element useful for the evaluation.

2. Candidates shall be comparatively evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:
 - a) relevance and relevance of the qualifications and experience acquired;
 - b) relevance of the attached publications with the research program subject to the selection;
 - c) oral test aimed at ascertaining the suitability to carry out the research activity covered by the assignment, as well as to assess the knowledge of the English language.
3. The Selection Committee will predetermine, in the first report, the criteria for the comparative evaluation of the candidates. The aforementioned criteria will be publicized at least seven days before the continuation of the work, by publication in the Notice Board Officer of the University of Palermo;
4. The Selection Committee has the following scores available:
 - ☐ 40 points for the assessment criteria referred to in points (a) and (b);
 - ☐ 60 points for the interview.
5. The Committee, after adequate evaluation and on the basis of the criteria established in the first report, shall proceed with the attribution of the relative score.
6. The scores relating to the evaluation of the criteria referred to in letters a) and b) will be communicated to the candidates before the interview takes place.
7. The diary of the interview, indicating the day, month, time and place where it will take place, will be communicated to the interested parties by publication in the Official Register of the University of Palermo no less than 15 days before the fixed date.
8. The publication of the aforementioned notice has the value of a formal summons of the candidates.
9. Failure to show up the candidate for the interview will result in exclusion from the procedure.
10. The interview must take place in a classroom open to the public, with a capacity suitable for ensuring maximum participation and, in the event of impossibility to proceed in this direction, the test may be carried out electronically, provided that it is public and the adoption of technical solutions is guaranteed that ensure the identification of the participants, the regularity and integrity of the test, the security of communications and their traceability, in compliance with the legislation on the processing of personal data and, in any case, the publicity of the test through digital methods. The telematic mode may also be provided at the request of the Commission or for candidates residing outside the regional territory.
11. A special report will be drawn up of the selection operations signed by all the members of the Commission.
12. The Commission draws up a merit ranking taking into account the scores obtained by the candidates. The selection is considered passed with a minimum score of 55 points composed, for at least 30 points, of the interview score.
13. In the event of a tie, preference is given to the candidate of younger age unless otherwise provided for by specific projects and related funding programs.
14. The Commission may, by justifying the reasons in the minutes, make use of telematic tools for collegial work and may carry out its meetings remotely.
15. The Selection Committee must conclude its work within a maximum of thirty days from the receipt of the candidates' requests to participate. At the President's reasoned request, an extension of a further thirty days may be granted by the Rector.
16. In the event that the work is not completed within the aforementioned deadline, the Rector, with a reasoned decision, initiates the procedures for the replacement



of the Commission, establishing, at the same time, a new deadline for the conclusion of the work.

17. The competition documents and the relative merit ranking will be posted, for a period of thirty days, on the official notice board of the University of Palermo.

ART. 6

(Assignment and start of activity)

1. Research assignments are conferred by Rector's Decree, according to the order of the merit ranking formulated by the Selection Committee.
2. The winner will be sent formal notice regarding the assignment by certified e-mail.
3. The aforementioned communication will contain the information necessary for the stipulation of the contract referred to in Article 8 below.
4. The search activity relating to the assignment may be started only after the signing of the contract.
5. It will be the responsibility of the Department Director, at the request of the Tutor who certifies the effective start of the research activity, to transmit the appointment holder to the competent Office of the Central Administration.

Art. 7

(Conclusion of the contract)

1. The research assignment is conferred with the stipulation of a specific contract in writing between the University and the winner.
2. The contract for the assignment of the research assignment is signed by the holder of the research assignment and by the Rector.
3. The contract must be signed, as a rule, within 30 days of receipt of the summons.
4. Failure to comply with this deadline will result in the loss of the right to the research assignment.
5. In the case of particular, justified and documented needs, the stipulation of the contract may be postponed beyond thirty days and, in any case, for a period not exceeding sixty days from the convocation; the only exceptions are any requests for extension due to pregnancy and postpartum, serious and documented illness.
6. In the event of withdrawal by the winner of the selection procedure, the ranking will be scrolled.
7. The contract must indicate:
 - a) the duration of the appointment;
 - b) the services requested;
 - c) the economic, social security and insurance treatment.
8. At the end of the contract, the holder of the assignment must submit a report on the activity carried out, countersigned by the Tutor, accompanied by the evaluation expressed by the Council of the Department or Autonomous Expenditure Center, accompanied by the scientific production.
9. Research assignments do not give rise to the right of access to the role of subjects of Universities, Public Research Bodies and Institutions whose scientific specialization diploma has been recognized as equivalent to the title of PhD pursuant to Article 74, fourth paragraph, of Presidential Decree No. 382 of 11 July 1980, nor can they be counted for the purposes of Article 20 of Legislative Decree No. 75 of 25 May 2017.

Art. 8

(Prohibition of cumulation and incompatibility)

1. Research assignments cannot be combined with scholarships or research grants of any kind awarded by national or foreign institutions, except for those exclusively aimed at international mobility for research reasons.



2. The research assignment is not compatible with the attendance of bachelor's, master's or master's degree courses, PhD or specialization in the medical area, in Italy or abroad, without prejudice to the possibility of implementing specific European Union research funding programs as part of the actions related to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA) program, and involves the placement on leave without allowances for the employee in service with public administrations.
3. Research assignments are incompatible with:
 - any other employment relationship, including part-time or fixed-term employment, with public and private entities;
 - holding research grants also at other universities or public research institutions.
4. The post-doc assignments referred to in Article 22-bis and the research assignments, as well as the research contracts referred to in Article 22 and the contracts referred to in Article 24, shall not be compatible with each other and may not be used simultaneously by the same holder.

Art. 9

(Economic, fiscal, social security and insurance treatment)

1. The holder of the research assignment shall be paid a salary set out in art. 1 of this call.
2. The provisions of Article 4 of Law No 476 of 13 August 1984 on social security matters, the provisions of Article 2(26) et seq. of Law No 335 of 8 August 1995 on compulsory maternity leave, the provisions of the Decree of the Minister of Labour and Social Security of 12 July 2007, published in the Official Gazette No 247 of 23 October 2007, and, in the matter of sick leave, Article 1(788) of Law No 296 of 27 December 2006 shall apply to the research assignment. During the period of compulsory maternity leave, the allowance paid by the National Social Security Institute (INPS) pursuant to Article 5 of the aforementioned Decree of 12 July 2007 shall be supplemented by the university up to the full amount of the remuneration for the research position.
3. The University provides the holder of the research assignment with insurance coverage for accidents and civil liability towards third parties in the performance of the research activity.
4. Health care is the responsibility of the holder of the office without any intervention by the University.

Art. 10

(Termination of office)

1. The termination of the appointment is determined by the expiry of the term or by the withdrawal of one of the parties and by any other cause for termination provided for by current legislation.
2. In the event of serious non-compliance, reported by the Council of the Department, of the Council of the Autonomous Expenditure Centre, the appointment may be immediately terminated by resolution of the Academic Senate, after hearing the person concerned.
Revocation is automatic in the following cases:
 - failure to start the activity within the established deadline;
 - unjustified suspension of the activity for a period of more than fifteen days;
 - serious violation of the incompatibility regime.
3. The holder of the research assignment may withdraw in writing by giving 30 days' notice. In the event of failure to give notice, the University will withhold from the holder of the assignment an amount corresponding to the salary for the period of notice not given.



Art. 11

(Processing of personal data)

1. Pursuant to EU Regulation 2016/679, the University undertakes to respect the confidentiality of the information provided by the candidate. All data provided will be processed only for the purposes connected and instrumental to the competition, in compliance with the provisions in force.

ART. 12

(Controls and sanctions)

1. The University checks the veracity of the self-certifications in accordance with the regulations in force by making use of the appropriate link with the Tax Registry of the Revenue Agency. In the event that, from the checks carried out, it appears that false declaration has been made for the purpose of awarding the scholarship, it will be revoked and the recovery of any sums already paid will be carried out, without prejudice in any case to the application of criminal laws.

Art. 13

(Responsible for the administrative procedure)

1. Pursuant to the provisions of art. 5 of Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, the official responsible for the procedure referred to in this announcement is Dr. Concetta Ceraulo, Head of the O.U. Scholarships for research.

Art. 14

(Publication of the selection procedure)

1. This announcement will be posted on the official notice board of the University of Palermo, (<http://www.unipa.it/albo.html>), on the inPA website (Recruitment Portal) and on the website of the MUR (<https://bandi.mur.gov.it/>) and on the Euraxess portal of the European Union.

Art. 15

(Common rules and referrals)

1. The holder of the research assignment is required to comply with the provisions of the law and the regulations of the University of Palermo.
2. All technical, administrative, scientific and educational data and information that the holder of the research assignment comes into possession of during the performance of the research activity must be considered confidential and therefore their use for purposes other than those for which the research contract is awarded is not permitted. The industrial and intellectual property rights deriving from the activities in which the holder of the assignment may participate in various capacities will be regulated according to the provisions of the law and the regulations of the University of Palermo on industrial and intellectual property.
3. For all matters not expressly regulated by these Regulations, reference is made to Law no. 240/2010 and to the laws and regulations in force on the subject.

The English version of this appointment is provided as a courtesy copy. Only the Italian version is considered legally valid

The Rector
Prof. Massimo Midiri

Firmato digitalmente da: Massimo Midiri
Organizzazione: UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI
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