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Competition by way of comparative evaluation for the awarding of 1 research grant at the Department of Political Science of LUISS Guido Carli in the scientific area of *Sociology*

THE RECTOR

- Having regard to Law No. 168 of 9 May 1989 concerning the establishment of the Ministry for Universities and Technological and Scientific Research.
- Having regard to Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010, and in particular article 22 providing that universities may award grants for the carrying out of research activities.
- Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 102 of 9 March 2011 on "Minimum Amounts for Research Grants – Article 22 of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010";
- Having regard to LUISS Guido Carli's Research Grant Regulations issued by Rectoral Decree No. 162 of 14 July 2011, subsequently modified with the Rectoral Decree No. 61 of 29 March 2012.
- Having regard to the resolutions of the Board of the Department of Political Science, the Academic Senate and the Executive Committee of LUISS Guido Carli, respectively dated 16 and 17 July and 23 July 2018;

DECREES AS FOLLOWS

ARTICLE 1

A notice of competition by way of comparative evaluation (annexed to this decree and of which it is an integral part) is hereby issued for the awarding of 1 research grant at the Department of Political Science of LUISS Guido Carli in the scientific area of *Sociology*; name of the research project "*Nudging and beyond. Manipulation and complex media systems: quality of democracy and the transformation of the public sphere*".

(F.to Prof. Andrea Prencipe)

NOTICE OF COMPETITION BY WAY OF COMPARATIVE EVALUATION FOR THE AWARDING OF 1 RESEARCH GRANT AT THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

ARTICLE 1 – SUBJECT MATTER OF THE NOTICE

The Department of Political Science of LUISS Guido Carli hereby issues notice of a public competition based on qualifications, publications and interviews for the awarding of 1 research grant in the scientific area of *Sociology* within the framework of the following scientific disciplines (*settore scientifico disciplinare*) and research projects:

| Scientific Discipline | Research Project | The Heads(s) of the Research Project | Duration |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------|
| SPS/08 | Nudging and beyond. Manipulation and complex media systems: quality of democracy and the transformation of the public sphere | Prof. Michele SORICE | 2 years |

A summary description of each research project, the countries in which the research can be conducted and the countries of residence of the candidates and their nationality can be found for each research project listed in the annex to this notice – which is an integral part hereof – on the University’s website at <http://www.luiss.it> and also at <http://bandi.miur.it> and <http://ec.europa.ec/euraxess>.

The gross annual amount of a research grant, inclusive of all charges to be borne by the University, is € 19,367 (nineteen thousand three hundred and sixty-seven euros) and will be disbursed to the beneficiary in deferred monthly instalments. The award of the position will be through the signing of an individual contract.

Pursuant to article 3 of LUISS Guido Carli’s Research Grant Regulations grants may last for between one and three years, are renewable and are not cumulative with scholarships awarded for any reason whatsoever, with the exception of those granted by national or international institutions that would be beneficial – through foreign studies – for the research activities of the grantees, including contributions for research activities given by LUISS Guido Carli.

The overall duration of the relationship established pursuant to the aforementioned article, including renewals if any, may not exceed four years not counting the period in which the grant is used to coincide with an unfunded research doctorate up to the statutory duration of the course.

A renewal, which cannot be for a period of less than one year, is decided by Executive Committee of LUISS Guido Carli on the proposal of the department concerned before the expiry of the contract.

The overall duration of the relations established with the holders of research grants covered by this notice and the contracts referred to in article 24 of Law No. 240/2010, concluded also with various public, private and distance learning universities as well as with public research and testing institutes including ENEA and ASI, with the same person, may not in any case exceed twelve years in total, continuously or otherwise. Statutory maternity or sick leave will not be taken into account for the purposes of the duration of the said relations.

ARTICLE 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Persons who fulfil the following requirements may participate in the comparative evaluation referred to in article 1 of this notice:

- maximum age 35;

- master's degree from an Italian university or comparable academic qualification (of at least the same duration) from a foreign university (translated and legalised by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representatives in the foreign country, according to the regulations in force, if not already declared equivalent);
- research doctorate degree, awarded in Italy or abroad, consistent with the announced grant or a scientific-professional curriculum suitable for the conduct of research activity.

The aforesaid requirements must be met by the application deadline. Otherwise the applicant's application will be rejected.

The comparative evaluation is not open to the "permanent staff" of universities, public research and testing bodies and institutes, the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA) and the Italian Space Agency (ASI).

In light of the provisions of the last sentence of article 18(1)(b) of Law No. 240/2010 referred to in article 18(1)(c) of that same law, the competition for research grants is not open to those who are related, by blood or marriage up to the fourth degree inclusive, to a professor in the department issuing the notice of competition or deciding on the renewal or to the rector, director general or member of the University's board of directors.

Holding a research grant is not compatible with participation in bachelor's, specialist, master's or funded research doctorate degree courses in Italy or abroad or university master's courses. For public sector employees it will entail taking unpaid leave including for part-time employees.

Private sector employees, even if just part-time, may not benefit from a research grant.

ARTICLE 3 – DEADLINE AND PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The application for admission must be submitted on line by the deadline of **14 p.m. Central European Summer Time (CEST), UTC +2 of 3rd September 2018**. Candidates are responsible for the information that will be input into the online form and the validity of the certification/self-certification submitted. The University is entitled to check the information and validity of the documents submitted and in the event of a discrepancy with what has been declared it may exclude the candidate at any time including after the competition has taken place.

The online procedure must be completed through accessing the University's website at <http://jsa.luiss.it/LGCAssegni/index.zul?CDS=AS2018>;

To submit the application candidates must adhere to the following procedure:

- a) go to the webpage <http://jsa.luiss.it/LGCAssegni/index.zul?CDS=AS2018>;
- b) fill out all the application fields, attaching the required documents:

Mandatory documents

1. master's degree certificate indicating the final grade of the degree examination and the results of the individual examinations or equivalent academic qualification (if awarded abroad) or copy of the qualification (if awarded abroad) duly translated and legalised by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representatives in the foreign country, according to the regulations in force;
2. research project;
3. curriculum of scientific and professional activities;
4. a list of publications and qualifications;
5. plain photocopy of a currently valid identity document of the applicant;

Elective documents

6. research doctorate degree certificate, if the applicant holds this kind of degree;
7. any other documentation and/or certification deemed useful as a proof that the applicant's scientific and professional curriculum is suitable for conducting research activity.

The application is to be considered for all statutory purposes as self-certification of the candidate's personal details and qualifications declared except for publications.

Once the procedure for submitting the application has been completed, the candidate will receive by email an application's copy as a proof of the procedure accuracy and validity.

For points 1 and 6, the applicant may submit self-certification in accordance with Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28 December 2000.

This University is obliged to make appropriate checks, including sample ones, and in all cases in which reasonable doubts arise as to the veracity of any declarations in lieu. Should the checks reveal that the contents of the declaration are untrue, the applicant will forfeit any benefits received as a result of the order issued on foot of the declaration which transpires to be untrue without prejudice to whatever other consequences may flow from the criminal law and other special legislation in the matter.

The University assumes no liability for any correspondence that goes astray as a result of the applicant's giving of imprecise contact details, the applicant's failure to or delay in notifying a change to the contact details specified in the application, errors on the part of the postal service or in any event problems in that regard attributable to third parties, chance or force majeure or non-return of the advice of receipt in the case of sending by registered letter.

ARTICLE 4 – EVALUATION OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Judging Committee is appointed by decree of the Rector of LUISS Guido Carli and made up of three tenured professors from Italian or foreign universities.

The Committee may avail of the services, free of charge, of highly qualified Italian or foreign expert auditors external to the University.

The Committee will make its comparative evaluation of the candidates based on qualifications, publications and interview.

For the purposes of that procedure the following amongst others will be considered as qualifications:

- research doctorate degree;
- the research project submitted;
- the carrying out of documented research activity with public and private parties through contracts, scholarships or assignments in Italy or abroad;
- any other documentation and/or certification deemed useful for ascertaining that the candidate's scientific and professional curriculum is suitable for conducting research activity.

The Judging Committee will award up to 60 points for the qualifications, publications and documented research activities and up to 40 points for the interview, which includes not just a presentation of the research project but also a discussion of the scientific works submitted, for a final score of up to 100 points.

The points to be awarded to qualifications will be divided as follows:

- a) up to 20 points for the academic curriculum, of which 10 points for the research doctorate degree;
- b) up to 10 points for the adequately detailed research project;
- c) up to 15 points for scientific publications that show originality, scientific relevance and consistency with the scientific area selected by the candidate;
- d) up to 15 points for documented research activity with public and/or private parties in Italy or abroad.

Candidates who are awarded a score of at least 36/60 in the evaluation of qualifications will be admitted to the interview phase.

Candidates awarded the minimum score or better will be notified that they have been admitted to the interview phase, indicating the date and place. Notification will be through publication on the University's website and e-mail sent to the address given for the purposes of the competition at least 15 days before the date scheduled for the interview,

To pass the interview, the candidate must be awarded a score of at least 24/40.

The sum of the qualifications, publications and interview scores will yield the overall score of each candidate. At the end of the process the Judging Committee will compile the overall ranking in decreasing order for each research project based on the scores obtained as above.

The Judging Committee's decision is final.

The ranking is approved by decree of the Rector of LUISS Guido Carli and published on the University's website.

Any grants that become available as a result of their being declined before the grantees have commenced their contract will be redistributed in accordance with ranking order.

ARTICLE 5 – OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS

The winners must submit a statement of acceptance within a maximum of 10 days following receipt of the notice of the grant award at the e-mail address given for the purposes of the competition, failing which the grant will be forfeited.

The date of commencement of the grant may be deferred solely for duly certified health reasons, compulsory maternity leave and duly proved cases of force majeure.

The grantees must undertake their research within the framework of research programmes approved by the department they pertain to.

The grantees are required to submit an annual report in writing on their activities to the management of the department in which their work is done together with the assessment of the head(s) of the research project.

The grantees are also required to submit a final report on their activities together with the opinion of the head(s) of research.

Subject to assuring the regular performance of the research activities assigned to them, subject to obtaining the prior authorisation of the department and after consulting with the head(s) of research, grantees may participate in the carrying out of research or advisory work on behalf of third parties who have commissioned those type of activities from the University and thus the grantees may share in the associated revenue in the manner laid down in the regulations governing such matters. The grantees may also participate in activities carried out within the context of national, EU and international programmes.

The grants do not give any rights concerning access to permanent positions at the University.

In the event of documented serious illness, the research activity and thus the grant may be suspended.

The grant will not be suspended for absences of less than a total of 30 days over the course of a calendar year and consequently no justification of absences will be required.

The absence of incompatibility under article 2 of this notice, the absence of cumulation and the obtaining of the period of leave referred to above must hold true at the commencement date of the grant and last for the entire duration thereof.

If after commencing his or her scheduled research activities a grantee does not regularly and continuously carry them out for the entire period without justifiable reason or is guilty of grave and repeated omissions and breaches, a procedure to terminate the contract will be commenced on the proposal of the head(s) of research subject to the approval of the board of the department involved.

ARTICLE 6 – DISBURSEMENT, TAXES AND SOCIAL SECURITY

The University will arrange insurance coverage against injuries and civil liability for the grantees within the context of the performance of their research activities.

For tax purposes, the grants will be subject to the provisions of article 4 of Law No. 476 of 13 August 1984, as amended; for social security purposes the provisions of articles 2.26 *et seq.* of Law No. 335 of 8 August 1995 as amended; for compulsory maternity leave purposes the provisions of Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare Decree of 12 July 2007 published in Official Gazette No. 247 of 23 October 2007; for sick leave purposes the provisions of article 1.788 of Law No. 296 of 27 December 2006 as amended.

During compulsory maternity leave when the running of time for the purposes of the duration of the grant is suspended, the maternity benefit paid by INPS pursuant to article 5 of the aforementioned Decree of 12 July 2007 will be topped up by the University to reach the amount of the grant.

ARTICLE 7 – FINAL PROVISIONS

For all matters not specifically addressed herein reference is to be made to article 22 of Law No. 240/2010, LUISS Guido Carli's Research Grant Regulations and, in so far as it is compatible, the general law on self-employment.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

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|---|--|
| Name of the research project | Nudging and beyond. Manipulation and complex media systems: quality of democracy and the transformation of the public sphere |
| Head(s) | Prof. Michele SORICE |
| Summary description of the project | <p>The research project is aimed to study the relationships between media system and the transformation of the public sphere. In particular, this transformation will be studied in the frame of the relationships between the capacity of the social media to activate forms of social engagement and their impact on the democratic institutions. A particular focus will be dedicated to the analysis of how media system can play a role in the emergence of new social trends.</p> <p>The research work will consist of four phases. The first, based on a broad survey of the literature, will aim to understand if and through which transformations and adaptations the research results media studies can move not only on policies, but also on the influence in the competitive partisan arena, including elections.</p> <p>The second one will reconstruct the experiences and consequences of political communication strategies on policies that have already been detected and analysed in the existing literature or above all with respect to regulatory policies.</p> <p>The third one will pass through the formation of 6 small research groups (2-3 junior researchers) whose aim will be to study some examples of influence/manipulation in the competitive party area in four European countries.</p> <p>The last phase will concern the drafting of the final report.</p> |
| Countries in which the research can be conducted (apart from Italy) | All |
| Countries of residence of the candidates | All |
| Nationality of candidates | All |