

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 1 RESEARCH GRANT POST**  
**ERC panels SH5 (Cultures and cultural production) and SH6 (The study of the human past)**  
Rector's Decree No. 191 of 27/04/2022

**Art. 1**  
**Object**

1. The University of Macerata announces the public selection procedure to award no. 1 research grant based on the evaluation of candidates' academic qualifications and interviews, as specified below:

<b>Research programme</b>	Cultures for democracy, inclusion and sustainability
<b>Areas</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. address the historical, ethical, cultural, affective and symbolic implications of the global climate emergency and technological acceleration;</li> <li>2. Investigate issues related to social inclusion and the role of culture in promoting social cohesion;</li> <li>3. Understand the problems democracies are facing, in which the cultural, historical and communicative components play a key role.</li> </ol>
<b>Description of the research</b>	<p>The topic of the grant is part of the departmental project 'Cultures for democracy, inclusion and sustainability'. The project proposes a re-articulation of research priorities that leverages the indispensable contribution of the humanities to cultivate the quality of democratic processes, facilitate social inclusion and bring culture to the centre of the debate on ecological, economic and social sustainability. In particular, we intend to give new impetus to humanities research in the above-mentioned areas.</p> <p>The research grant has two aims: 1) to support, in harmony with the Department's task force, the actions planned for the implementation of the departmental project; 2) to develop innovative research in one of the areas listed above.</p>
<b>Further information on the research programme</b>	<p>Applicants may submit a research project concerning at least one of the areas indicated, written in English and structured as described in the following art. 3.</p> <p>Applicants must demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the European and Italian research framework programmes (Horizon Europe; PNR; PNRR) and the priorities of the European Research Area.</p> <p>The supervisor will coordinate and oversee the research grant holder's collaboration and the number of days to be spent in the department.</p>
<b>Department</b>	Department of Humanities

<b>Supervisor</b>	Prof John Francis McCourt, Full professor of English literature – Department director
<b>ERC panels</b>	SH5 (Cultures and cultural production) and SH6 (The study of the human past)
<b>Number of published grants</b>	1 (one)
<b>Term</b>	24 (twenty-four) months – possibly renewable for further 12 months
<b>Grant amount</b>	€ 19,367.00 gross per annum
<b>Date, time and location of the interview</b>	The date, time and location of the interview will be announced on the University's institutional website at the link <a href="https://www.unimc.it/it/ateneo/bandi-e-concorsi/finanziamenti-ricerca/bandi-assegno-ricerca">https://www.unimc.it/it/ateneo/bandi-e-concorsi/finanziamenti-ricerca/bandi-assegno-ricerca</a> and be communicated to each of the candidates via e-mail

2. The University applies the principles contained in the European Charter for Researchers and a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, available on the University website <https://www.unimc.it/it/ricerca/hrs4r/hrs4r-human-resources-strategy-for-researchers>.

## Art. 2

### General admission requirements

- Individuals in possession of a PhD degree or an equivalent three-year academic degree obtained abroad, in the humanities or social sciences, accompanied by a scientific-professional curriculum which is suitable to the required research activity, may participate in this selection process.
- For academic qualifications obtained abroad, equivalence with the corresponding Italian qualifications is verified by the selection board for the sole purpose of participating in this selection process.
- To participate in this call for applications, it is also necessary to possess the following requirements:
  - To enjoy full civil and political rights;
  - To be in possession, except for those already holding Italian citizenship, of all the other requisites for Italian citizens;
  - For foreign citizens, to have an excellent knowledge of the Italian language.
- Applicants must be in possession of all the participation requirements on the expiration date of the deadline for submitting the application for admission.
- Candidates are admitted to the selection procedure with reservation. The Administration may at any time take measures to exclude candidates should they lack the prescribed requirements. This provision will be communicated to the interested party via the e-mail address indicated in the application form.

## Art. 3

### Additional preferential requirements for participation

- The selection board will pay particular attention to:
  - Excellent knowledge of English (C1 or C2);
  - Experience in project drafting (Italian or European);
  - Research experience in at least one of the indicated fields;
  - Scientific publications consistent with the indicated fields;
  - Experience in scientific research abroad at qualified public or private institutions;

- f. A draft research project, to be attached as part of the application, consistent with at least one of the research areas indicated in art. 1. The project, which should be between 2,000 and 4,000 words long, must be written in English and structured according to the following scheme:
- 1) Title
  - 2) Abstract
  - 3) State of the art
  - 4) Main objectives
  - 5) Outcomes
  - 6) Impact
  - 7) Workplan (3 years).

#### **Art. 4**

##### **Prohibition of cumulation and incompatibility**

1. The overall duration of the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, including the duration under this call, cannot exceed six years, apart from the period in which the grant was received in concomitance with Ph.D. research, within the maximum limit of the legal duration of the relative course.
2. The overall duration of the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship together with fixed-term research contracts, including those with other universities or with other qualified entities that award research grants, cannot in any case exceed twelve years, not necessarily consecutive, including the duration of the contract specified in this call. For the purposes of the duration of the above-mentioned relationships, periods spent on maternity leave or for health reasons pursuant to current legislation do not count.
3. Permanent staff at the following institutions cannot participate in the selection process: universities; public institutions and bodies for research and experimentation; the National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA); and the Italian Space Agency (ASI). This also applies to permanent staff of institutions whose Diploma of Higher Training has been recognized as equivalent to the title of PhD in accordance with art. 74, paragraph four, of the Presidential Decree 11 July 1980 no. 382.
4. Individuals within four degrees of consanguinity with a professor belonging to the facility making the proposal to activate the contract, or with the Rector, the General Manager or a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Macerata cannot participate in the selection process.
5. Employees serving in public administrations can hold research grants as long as they are placed on unpaid leave for the entire duration of the contract.
6. The research grant is not compatible with enrolment in a bachelor's degrees, master's degrees or specialisation schools, MA, research doctorates with scholarships or medical specialization, in Italy or abroad.
7. The research grant cannot be combined with other grants or scholarships, with the exception of those granted by national or foreign institutions useful for integrating the research activity of the holder of the research grant with a study period abroad.

#### **Art. 5**

##### **How to submit applications**

1. The present call for applications will be published on the University website (<https://www.unimc.it/it/ateneo/bandi-e-concorsi/finanziamenti-ricerca/bandi-assegni-ricerca>), on the

website of the Ministry of University and Research (<http://bandi.miur.it>) and on the European Commission website, Euraxess (<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>).

2. The application for participation in the selection process must be submitted electronically through the online form available at the following link <https://pica.cineca.it/>, by selecting University of Macerata – Bandi/Calls. The online submission procedure of the application form must be completed within thirty days starting from the day following the publication of the present call on the institutional website of the University.
3. In the application form, the candidate must declare under his/her own responsibility and pursuant to articles 46, 47 and 76 of the Decree of the President of the Republic of 28 December 2000, No. 445:
  - a. Personal details, date and place of birth, citizenship, tax code, residence and address elected for the call, specifying the zip code, telephone number and e-mail address elected for the call;
  - b. For Italian citizens, the municipality on whose electoral lists she/he is registered or the reasons for the non-registration or cancellation from such lists;
  - c. The level of knowledge of the English language
  - d. That they have not been convicted or found guilty of any criminal offence and that they have no ongoing criminal proceedings;
  - e. Foreign citizens must also declare their citizenship, to enjoy civil and political rights even in their country of origin, or the reasons for their deprivation of the same, and that they are adequately fluent in Italian;
  - f. The academic degree held, the title of the thesis, the name of the advisor, the date and the final grades of graduation and the University where the course is held, or the equivalent academic qualification obtained from a foreign university;
  - g. The PhD degree held, the title of the thesis, the name of the advisor, the date of graduation and the University where the doctoral course is held, or the equivalent academic qualification obtained from a foreign university;
  - h. In the event that the foreign academic qualification has not been declared equivalent, request for a Statement of Equivalence, accompanied by the documents (copy of the academic qualification accompanied by a copy of the legalized translation, as well as a certificate indicating the tests taken and relative assessment, also accompanied by copy of the legalized translation) needed to permit the selection board to declare equivalence for the sole purpose of participating in the selection procedure;
  - i. Not to incur in the cases of incompatibility and prohibition of cumulation referred to in Article 4;
  - j. To undertake to promptly communicate, by electronic certified e-mail or registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt, any changes in their position, as well as in residence and/or address that may occur after the application;
  - k. To have read the regulations provided for in this call for applications;
  - l. Any previously awarded research grants or other contracts;
  - m. Any other qualifications obtained that are useful for the purposes of evaluation.
4. Candidates with disabilities, under law no. 104, will have to make an explicit request for any help needed to be able to take the tests.
5. Candidates must attach the following documentation:
  - a. Their scientific-professional curriculum, signed and dated;
  - b. The list of all academic qualifications and publications considered useful for the purposes of the evaluation;

- c. The publications referred to in paragraph b) above in PDF format;
  - d. Any other optional attachments considered useful for the purposes of the evaluation. **The research project referred to in Article 3, paragraph 1, letter f), must be attached to this section;**
  - e. Copy of a valid identity document;
  - f. Copy of the tax code;
  - g. Copy of the receipt of payment for the € 15.00 contribution to the costs of the call, to be made through the PagoPA payment system using the payment portal at the following link: <https://unimc.pagoatenei.cineca.it/#/> (choose “pagamento spontaneo” and indicate as “motivo pagamento” the option “Contributo spese assegni di ricerca – partecipazione bando di concorso” and write in the purpose of the payment “Assegno di Ricerca SH5/SH6”).
6. The academic qualifications for which the candidates request to be evaluated must be possessed before the deadline established for the submission of applications.
  7. What self-certified by the winner of this selection process may be subject, by the University, to appropriate veracity checks.
  8. It is not allowed to refer to documents and publications that were already submitted for the participation in other contests organized by the University of Macerata.
  9. Applications not signed with handwritten and/or digital signature, those without personal data, documentation and declarations indicated in the present article, as well as applications submitted in ways other than those indicated in paragraph 2 of this article will not be taken into consideration. Candidates whose applications have been excluded will be notified at the e-mail address indicated in the application.
  10. The University administration is not responsible for any failure to receive communications due to inexact indications by the candidate of the address indicated in the application, or failure or delay in communicating changes of the same, nor for any technical problems or in any case attributable to third parties, chance or force majeure.

## Art. 6

### Selection board

1. The selection board is appointed by the chancellor of the University and is made up of three university professors and researchers indicated by the Department.
2. The selection board will have to assess, on the basis of the academic qualifications presented and the outcome of the interview, that the candidate possesses the necessary knowledge to carry out the research activity covered by the call.
3. Before viewing the applications, the selection board will define the general criteria for the evaluation of academic qualifications and the interview, and establishes the score to be awarded for each type of academic qualification, in compliance with the evaluation grid outlined in article 7 below.
4. The evaluation of academic qualifications is carried out before the interview.

## Art. 7

### Selection and formation of the list

1. To rank the candidates, the selection committee has a total of 100 points distributed as follows:
  - For academic qualifications, from 40 to 70 points;
  - For the interview, from 30 to 60 points.
2. Candidates who have obtained a score equal to or greater than 60/100 are considered suitable. Where merit is equal, the youngest candidate is preferred.

3. Candidates invited for an interview must be in possession of a valid identification document.
4. Failure to attend the interview will be considered withdrawal from the call.
5. Candidates resident or domiciled abroad, or resident in municipalities that are located more than 300 km from Macerata, can request that the interview be conducted remotely by sending a request to the e-mail address [ufficio.ricerca@unimc.it](mailto:ufficio.ricerca@unimc.it).
6. The selection committee will prepare special reports containing the evaluation criteria, the individual evaluations of the candidates, the overall score attributed to each candidate and the merit list.
7. The merit list is approved by Rectoral Decree, it takes effect immediately and is published on the University website.
8. Successful candidates will be notified in writing of the award of the grant via the e-mail address indicated in the application.

### **Art. 8** **Contract**

1. The research grant is awarded with a private law contract in accordance with art. 2222 and following of the civil code.
2. The contract does not in any way constitute an employment relationship and does not give rise to rights regarding access to University positions.
3. The postponement of the conclusion of the contract in relation to the date established by the University, as well as postponements in the beginning of the activity, may be requested by the interested party exclusively for serious health reasons or for duly certified cases of force majeure, as well as for the application of the provisions referring to the protection of maternity and paternity.
4. In the event of express renunciation or failure to sign the contract by the winner of the selection within the deadline indicated by the University, the grant is awarded to the candidate who is in next on the ranking list.
5. Winners who have earned their academic qualification abroad, must send the competent authority by registered letter with return receipt, the original of the official translation with the declaration of value of the foreign academic qualification on site by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representations in the country that issued the academic qualification, according to the regulations in force, within 60 days from the decree of approval of the selection documents, under penalty of forfeiture of the right to stipulate the contract.

### **Art. 9** **Economic treatment**

1. The grant shall be paid in monthly instalments.
2. The provisions of article 4 of law no. 476 shall apply to research grants in fiscal matters, as well as, in social security matters, those referred to in article 2, paragraphs 26 and following, of law no. 335, and subsequent amendments. The holder of the grant has the burden of registering with the INPS separate management.
3. In the matter of 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, paragraph 788, of the law of 27 December 2006, no. 296 and subsequent amendments shall apply.

4. The University provides insurance coverage for the holder of the grant against the risk of accidents and civil liability towards third parties as part of the research activity.
5. The research grant is suspended in periods of absence due to maternity or paternity for the entire period of compulsory leave required by law, with the extension of the employment relationship, upon the termination of the contract, in accordance with the provisions of current legislation. During the period of compulsory leave, the allowances paid by INPS, in accordance with article 5 of the above-mentioned decree of 12 July 2007, is supplemented by the University up to the amount of the research grant.
6. Without prejudice to the provisions of current health policy, the withdrawal of the grant for periods of absence due to illness or for optional abstention for maternity or paternity of less than thirty days in a year, does not lead to any extension of the employment relationship.
7. On the proposal of the supervisor, in the event of absences of more than thirty days in a year, the employment relationship may be extended where it is necessary for the completion of the research activity.

#### **Art. 10**

##### **Rights and obligations of grant holders**

1. The holder of the research grant carries out his/her activities under the supervision of the supervisor, in conditions of autonomy and on a permanent basis.
2. The holder of the research grant has the right to use, for the purpose of carrying out the research activity, the equipment of the facility where he/she carries out the activity.
3. The holder of the research grant, subject to the favourable opinion of the supervisor, may also carry out the research activity in facilities outside the University, as well as in a research institution abroad, in line with the program and objectives of the research. The period of stay abroad must be previously authorized by the relevant institution, following a motivated proposal from the supervisor.
4. The holder of the research grant can participate in research groups, as well as in research activities carried out in the context of national, EU and international programs; he/she may also participate in the execution of research and consultancy on behalf of third parties commissioned to the University and in the distribution of the relative proceeds according to the procedures established by the current regulatory standards, as long as this activity does not conflict with the service performed as Postdoctoral Research Fellow.
5. Without prejudice to the obligation to fully carry out their institutional duties, the holder of the grant, subject to a favourable opinion from the supervisor and subsequent authorization of the relevant facility, may carry out self-employment activities, including the performance of professional activities, which means trade and industry, as long as the activities in question are carried out in times and in a manner compatible with the smooth running of the research activity, do not involve a conflict of interest with the specific research activity carried out, and do not cause any prejudice to the image or the interests of the University.
6. The holder of the grant may be entrusted, subject to a favourable opinion from the research supervisor and authorization of the relevant structure, with a limited teaching activity under the conditions laid down in the current regulatory standards, provided that they do not jeopardize the profitable outcome of the research activities.
7. The holder of the grant can carry out the activities of speaker in seminars, conventions and conferences and publicity activities; he/she may also attend additional Ph.D. courses without a scholarship as long as he/she passes the admissions tests and, if applicable, pays tuition for the courses.

8. The holder of the grant is required to submit a written report on the activity carried out and the results achieved to the relevant structure annually and, in any case, upon termination of the contract, accompanied by the evaluation of the supervisor.

#### **Art. 11**

##### **Withdrawal and termination of the contractual relationship**

1. The holder of the research grant may withdraw from the stipulated contract, with written notice of at least thirty days communicated to the relevant structure and to the supervisor.
2. In the event of lack of proper notice or notice communicated without observing the minimum term referred to in the previous paragraph, the University has the right to withhold or recover an amount corresponding to the salary for the period of non-notice.
3. The University may order the forfeiture of the grant and the consequent termination of the contract in the following cases:
  - a. Unjustified non-commencement or delay of the research activity;
  - b. Unjustified interruption of the research activity;
  - c. Violation of the provisions relating to incompatibilities and prohibition of overlapping;
  - d. Negative opinion on the research activity expressed by the structure to which they belong during the period of the collaboration;
  - e. Other serious non-compliance.
4. Only delays or interruptions due to serious health reasons or duly substantiated cases of force majeure can be justified.
5. In the case of violation of the incompatibility regime, the holder of the grant is required to return the payments already received for the period in which the incompatibility arose.

#### **Art. 12**

##### **Treatment of personal data**

1. The personal data sent by the candidates with the applications for participation in the selection process, in accordance with the Legislative Decree of 30.06.2003 No. 196 and of the EU GDPR 2016/679, will be processed exclusively for purposes of managing this procedure.

#### **Art. 13**

##### **Individual in charge of the call**

1. In accordance with article 5 of Law 7 August 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and addenda, the person in charge of the administrative procedure is Dr. Silvana Tartufoli, Research Area - Office for Scientific Research and Doctoral Studies, T 0733.258.2890 – e-mail [ufficio.ricerca@unimc.it](mailto:ufficio.ricerca@unimc.it).

#### **Art. 14**

##### **Regulatory reference**

1. With regards to anything not expressly regulated in the present call, the provisions of the current legislation on the subject apply.

Macerata

The Rector

Prof. Francesco Adornato