



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS 2024
pursuant to art. 22 paragraph 4 letter a) of Italian Law no. 240/2010 of 30/12/2010 and the Research
Fellowships Regulation issued by Rector's Decree no. 416 of 19/04/2011

Ref. 457 Prot. 4346 of Dec 4, 2024

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Art. 1 — Overview

The Department of Political and Social Science of the Alma Mater Studiorum-University of Bologna, offers eight two-year “Roberto Ruffilli” Research Fellowships in the following research fields¹:

1. **Comparative Politics (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-02);**
2. **Cultural and Communication Sociology (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-06);**
3. **Political History and Theory (disciplinary scientific group 11/HIST-03; 13/STEC-01; 14/GSPS-01; 14/GSPS-03);**
4. **Law and Languages (disciplinary scientific group 12/GIUR-01, 12/GIUR-04, 12/GIUR-05, 12/GIUR-06, 12/GIUR-09, 12/GIUR-10, 12/GIUR-11, 12/GIUR-12, 10/SPAN-01);**
5. **Public Policy, Organization Studies, Public Administration (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-02);**
6. **International Relations and European Studies (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-02);**
7. **Sociology (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-05; 14/GSPS-07; 14/GSPS-08);**
8. **International History and Area Studies (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-04).**

Within the research fields indicated above, priority will be given to research projects which address not only the investigation of the following research topics being studied in the Department, but project proposals on other topics will also be examined to the extent which are congruent and complementary to the research activities carried out in the Department:

Comparative Politics

Political processes in a comparative perspective (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-02): political science in its subfields concerning comparative politics, political parties and interest groups, democratic institutions, nondemocratic regimes and democratic transitions, the Italian political system, the political system of the European Union, political language and political communication, parties' competition and electoral competition, legislative behaviour, political and electoral behaviour, regionalism and autonomy, political cultures, theoretical approaches to domestic politics (rational choice, neo-institutionalism and others), and comparative political economy.

Cultural and Communication Sociology

¹ Research Fellowships are formally designated as A-type research fellowships following the provisions of art. 2, paragraph 1, letter a) of the Research Fellowships Regulation issued by Rector's Decree no.416 of 19/04/2011.



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Sociology of cultural and communication processes (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-06): cultural, axiological, communication and media processes; the social impact of media and artificial intelligence; cultural, creative and media industries and production of social representations, narratives and imaginaries; ecosystems and digital platforms; practices and processes of construction, diffusion, negotiation and change of social meaning; consumption; political and journalistic communication; socialization and training processes; sociology of family and social policies targeted at families; sociology of religion; sociology of education; and gender-media relationships; social innovation projects implemented by public, private and non-profit institutions.

Political History and Theory

Contemporary history, economic history, political philosophy, history of political doctrines and institutions (disciplinary scientific group 11/HIST-03; 13/STEC-01; 14/GSPS-01; 14/GSPS-03): analysis of authors, doctrines, theories, concepts, and political, social, economic and cultural phenomena which have characterized the modern and contemporary age from a philosophical-political, historical-conceptual, and political history perspective; and history and theories of constitutional structures, as well as main state-level and international-level institutions.

Law and languages

Constitutional and Public Law; equality and equal opportunities; forms of State and Government; Administrative Law and Public organization; Information and communication law; labour law; International and international trade law; relationship between international actors; human rights protection; comparative law; EU law and relationship with member states' law; private and digital platform law; energy transition law; migration law; civil procedural law; system ad organization of justice; alternative dispute resolution system; grammar and lexicography in Spanish (disciplinary scientific group 12/GIUR-01, 12/GIUR-04, 12/GIUR-05, 12/GIUR-06, 12/GIUR-09, 12/GIUR-10, 12/GIUR-11, 12/GIUR-12, 10/SPAN-01).

Public Policy-Organization Studies-Public Administration

Public policy-Organization Studies-Public Administration analysis (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-02): political science studies in its theoretical-empirical articulations focused on the study of decision-making and administrative processes. Topics of particular interest: intergovernmental relations; administration and politics of justice; healthcare and public health; big data, AI, and digitalization; crisis-planning and management; environment and climate change; agri-food; sustainable transition; evidence and knowledge in policymaking; behavioural public policy.

International Relations and European Studies

International relations and European studies (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-02): theory of international relations; international politics; global political system; European integration; strategic studies; international political economy; foreign policy analysis; conflict and co-operation processes; war and peace; international organizations, transnational governance.

Sociology

General sociology, economic sociology, sociology of labour, sociology of legal phenomena and deviance (disciplinary scientific group 14/GSPS-05; 14/GSPS-07; 14/GSPS-08): theory and history of sociology; comparative social system; social research methodology; evaluation of social policy; social innovation and sustainability; social policy and types of welfare; planning, organization and

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management of social services; mobility and migratory phenomena; science and technology; health; medicine; sport; education; functioning and transformations of socio-economic and work systems; industrial relations; sociology of profession; social impacts of economics, productivity systems and distribution of wealth; territorial development; sociology of law and legal institutions; deviant behaviour and crime; social change and digital transformation.

International History and Area Studies

History of international relations and non-European societies and institutions (disciplinary scientific group: 14/GSPS-04): the historical reconstruction of the relationships between state and non-state actors of the international system, also taking into account the specific case of the history of Central and Eastern Europe; the history and institutions of the American continent (with particular regard to the United States of America and Latin America), the African continent (with particular regard to Mediterranean Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, the Muslim world, Ethiopia and southern Africa), the Asian continent (with particular regard to the areas of the Muslim world, India, China, Japan, and the Near, Middle and Far East).

The research fellowships are issued pursuant to the University Regulation issued by Rector's Decree no. 416 of April 19, 2011 and resolved by the Head of Department Decree no. 456 of December 12, 2024.

The Department of Political and Social Science guarantees equal treatment and equal opportunities between men and women for the access to the job position and for the treatment in the workplace, as required by law n. 125, 10th April 1991 and by art.61, Legislative Decree, n. 29, 23rd February 1993, as amended by art. 29, Legislative Decree n.546, 23rd December 1993.

Candidates meeting the admission requirements listed in art. 2 below may submit an original research project on one of the fields of investigation described above together with their completed application form, including a current CV and list of publications.

The activities will be performed under the supervision of a tutor identified by the Head of Department among the research and teaching staff affiliated with the Department, on the proposal of Research Board. The tutor will supervise the activities of the research fellow, which will be performed in a non-subordinate relationship with no fixed working hours.

Art. 2 — Eligibility

The following can participate, without age or nationality limitations.

- candidates in possession of PhD title or similar academic qualification obtained abroad recognized as equivalent for the purposes of participation in this selection;
- candidates in possession of Master's Degree or equivalent second level qualification, only if they completed their doctorate cycle and waiting for defending their doctoral thesis. In this case: (i) specific self-declaration is required; (ii) if a candidate awaiting final discussion is the winner, if the PhD title is not obtained within 9 months of the conclusion of the doctorate cycle, the contract will be considered immediately terminated upon expiry of the aforementioned deadline.

Candidates must possess the admission requirements before the deadline for submission of applications.

Conditions of non-eligibility:

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- any person related, by blood or by marriage up to the fourth degree, to a Faculty member of the Department of Political and Social Science, University of Bologna, or to the Rector, Director General or a member of the Board of Governors of the University;
- permanent staff of Italian Universities and research centres pursuant to Law no. 240/2010, article 22 sub-paragraph 1;
- anyone who has held research fellowship contracts with any institution, pursuant to Italian Law no. 240/2010, for a period which, added to the foreseen duration of this contract, exceeds a total of 6 years, excluding any period in which the contract coincided with a Ph.D. without scholarship, for the maximum limit of the legal duration of the Ph.D. programme;
- anyone who held research fellowship or fixed-term researcher contracts at the University of Bologna or any other state-funded, privately funded, or distance-learning Italian university pursuant to articles 22 and 24 of Italian Law no. 240/2010, or with any other body listed in paragraph 1 of Art. 22 of Italian Law no. 240/2010 for a period which, added to the foreseen duration of this contract, exceeds a total of 12 (even non-consecutive) years. For the purposes of the duration of the above-described periods, in compliance with the current laws, any periods of maternity or sick leave shall not be calculated.

Art. 3 — Application form

Applications may only be submitted online by accessing the website: <https://concorsi.unibo.it>, after completing the registration process according to the web procedure instructions.

Applications must be submitted by January 07, 2025. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

The date shown on the acknowledgement of receipt sent electronically to the candidate is deemed to be the date of the application submission.

The Department is in no way responsible for applications submitted after the above-mentioned deadline.

All communications related to the present call for applications will be published on the website of the Department of Political and Social Science: www.dsps.unibo.it/it, "Bandi" section and on the University web page "Bandi, gare e concorsi": <https://bandi.unibo.it/ricerca/assegni-ricerca> (specific link related to this selection procedure). These communications constitute notifications to applicants.

Any request for clarification can be submitted by December 20, 2024 at 3.00 p.m. to the following email address: sps.direttore.mbx@unibo.it.

In the online application, candidates must supply the following:

- surname and name;
- date and place of birth;
- nationality;
- residence and chosen address for correspondence for the purposes of this selection;
- a declaration that they have no criminal record nor are involved in any current criminal proceedings (or state any exceptions to this condition);
- a declaration of receipt of the Ph.D., awarding institution, and date of receipt (according to Art. 2);

or

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- a declaration that they possess a Ph.D. equivalent earned abroad, the awarding institution, and date of receipt.

Candidates with a degree earned abroad must include in their applications a translation into Italian or English of their foreign degree, accompanied by a sworn statement that it is an accurate translation of the original certificate. The foreign degree may be declared admissible by the selection committee solely for the purposes of participation in the selection procedure.

Successful candidates with a degree earned in a country outside of the European Union must provide the Department, in the same manner as laid down for the presentation of applications, an official translation with a declaration of value of the foreign degree issued by the competent diplomatic representation or Italian consulate in their home country, in accordance with the applicable laws, within 30 days from the notification of official approval of the selection procedure reports. If the documents are not received by the Department within the stated deadline, the candidate will not be awarded the contract.

Applications must include, under penalty of exclusion:

- 1) an original research project draft by the applicant and not in collaboration with others or for which others can claim the original drafting. Within this call each applicant can submit only one research project: failure to respect this provision entails exclusion from the selection procedure. The project must be drafted in English language, for a maximum of 4,000 words (excluding bibliographical references, tables and figures) and must be related to one of the four scientific areas above listed in art.1 of this call and mention the relevant scientific area. Applicant is required to use the attached form “Application_template_research_project”;
- 2) a short scientific-professional CV including information about educational career, post-doctoral research activities and the list of scientific publications, according to the attached forms “application_template_cv”;
- 3) copy of a valid identity document;
- 4) if PhD title has not been obtained, the self-certification referred to in Art. 2.

Research project must include the object and objectives of the research, as well as the time frame for its development. As specified in "Application_template_research_project" form, the research project must specify the theoretical framework and scientific relevance of the proposal, the main research questions and hypotheses, the methodological approach and applied techniques used in the study and any further element aimed at evaluating its practical and scientific feasibility.

Applicant is required to use the attached templates for research project and cv, following the instructions contained within them.

At any time, even after participation in any stage of the selection procedure, the Department may, with justification, exclude a candidate from the selection procedure. The concerned candidate will be notified of such exclusion through an e-mail sent to the e-mail address which has been indicated in the application.

Applicants requiring special arrangements (hereinafter Adaptations) to participate to the examination, should submit specific documents as detailed below:

- diagnosis of Specific Learning Disorders, according to the Italian Law 170/2010, issued by the National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale) or by a private affiliated body or private professional including a document of conformity issued by the National Health Service itself. These documents must have a date of issue that does not exceed three years from the date of the application,

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or must have been issued after reaching the age of eighteen (*Due to Covid-19 emergency, which have provoked a reduction of National Health Services' clinics activity, documents older than three years proving a diagnosis of Specific Learning Disorders, according to the Italian Law 170/2010, will be considered valid, upon the condition to request integrations of documents provided, once National Health Services' clinics normal activity will be restored.*)

- handicap certificate according to the Italian Law 104/92;
- disability certificate;
- documentation proving a disorder that may determine a physical/mental inability, even temporary, (i.e. health conditions which may lead to certain specific needs during the examination);

(Please note: If an applicant owns both certifications according to the Italian Law 104/92 and some other medical documentation, it is strongly recommended to submit all of them.)

Applicants with disabilities or with Specific Learning Disorders, residing in foreign Countries who need to ask for adaptations, must submit an official document certifying such a disability or learning disorder issued in the Country of residence together with its official translation exclusively in Italian or English language.

Adaptations may consist in:

- extra time to take the examination (30% extra time for applicants submitting documents which certify Specific Learning Disorders, Special Educational Needs, pathologies; 50% extra time for applicants submitting documents which prove any disability and/or handicap as stated by the Italian Law 104/92)
- special aids available, such as reading aids, writing aids, non-scientific calculators, or other aids (the complete list of special aids can be found in the form).

In case of any organizational need and/or mandatory regulation that cannot ensure the required adaptations to applicants, an alternative but equivalent measure will be defined as well.

Candidates might contact the Department at the following e-mail sps.direttore.mbx@unibo.it, phone: +39 0512092503 before the deadline of the examination.

Candidates are admitted to the selection procedure with reserve.

Art. 4 — Comparative assessment of the candidates and evaluation board

The candidates and their projects will be assessed comparatively by an evaluation board, formed by seventeen of the Department's professors and researchers.

Evaluation board will be appointed, on the opinion of Research Board, by the Head of Department who indicates the President.

This board will carry out its work through an organization into sub-commissions.

The selection procedure will focus on the evaluation of:

- a) the submitted research project, by focusing attention to the following aspects: scientific approach, research and methodology design, level of innovation, research impact and feasibility (maximum 40 points);

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- b) the candidates' scientific-professional curriculum, the ability of scientific production and the list of scientific outputs indicated in the application (maximum 20 points);
- c) an interview, aiming to verify each candidates' solidity and the precision of the scientific approach, research and methodology design, level of innovation, feasibility and impact of the research, as well as the candidates' ability to discuss their research project in English (maximum 40 points).

In an initial phase, the evaluation board will assess the elements referred to in points a) and b). It will then admit to the oral interview (point c), in the light of those results, suitable candidates per each scientific area. Candidates shall not take part in the evaluation of qualifications and research projects.

Notice of day, time, methods of conducting the public interview and list of admitted candidates will be published at least 7 days before the interview on the Department of Political and Social Science's website <http://www.dsps.unibo.it/it> , "Bandi" section and on the University web page "Bandi, gare e concorsi": <https://bandi.unibo.it/ricerca/assegni-ricerca> (specific link related to this selection procedure).

The communications on university web pages are equal to notifications to applicants, without obligation of any further communication. Candidates will be responsible for consulting the selection websites to find the necessary information.

Art. 5 — Procedure for conducting the interview

Examinations will be public and will be held through MS Teams platform (the workstation from which the candidates will participate to the interview must be equipped with a webcam - essential for candidate recognition - a microphone and headphones and/or speakers).

Candidates admitted to the interview must promptly forward their email account to be used for the MS Teams connection with the Commission to the email address: sps.direttore.mbx@unibo.it.

At the beginning of the interview, candidates must show to the examination board the same identity document which was attached to their application.

The interview will take place in Italian and may take place in English upon request of the candidate. During the interview, the examination board will verify knowledge of English language on topics related to subjects referred to in the call for application.

At the end of the selection procedure, the examination Board will draw up a ranking list of candidates for each of the four areas listed in Art. 1.

In case of equal scores, preference will be determined by the possess of PhD title and, subordinately, by younger age.

The ranking list will be posted on the Department of Political and Social Science website <http://www.dsps.unibo.it/it>, "Bandi" section and on the University web page "Bandi, gare e concorsi": <https://bandi.unibo.it/ricerca/assegni-ricerca> (specific link related to this selection procedure).

The ranking list will remain valid for 5 months.

The Head of Department shall confirm approval of the list drawn up by the examination Board through a decree.



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The list of candidates may be used to award other research fellowships within the same scientific area, which may be of shorter duration than those indicated in the call for applications but, in any case, no shorter than one year.

Art. 6 — Duration and amount of the fellowship

The research fellowships have a duration of 24 months.

The fellowships may be extended in the terms laid down in article 8 of the University Regulation concerning research fellowships, as issued by D.R. no. 416 of April 19, 2011.

The gross amount of the research fellowship contract is € 20.429,12 per annum. The amount is exempt of withholding tax and includes all statutory social security charges to which research fellows are subject.

The amount will be paid in deferred monthly payments.

The research fellows are covered by accident insurance, against payment of the required contribution which will be withheld from the first monthly instalment.

Furthermore, successful candidates are granted the possibility to carrying out missions for the purposes of the activity of the contract, funded by Department's budget, subject to authorization and upon presentation of suitable documentation, in compliance with the current "Mission Regulations and related expense reimbursement" of the University of Bologna.

Art. 7 — Contract signature

Successful candidates will be invited to sign a contract for research activities with the Department, after publication of the ranking list.

Non-compliance within the deadline notified by the Department entails forfeiture of the right to sign the contract.

The starting date for the research activity is set for March 1, 2025.

Art. 8 — Rights and duties

For obligatory maternity leave, the contract is governed by the provisions of paragraph 6 art. 22 of Italian Law no. 240/2010.

Research activities are carried out under the supervision of the tutor, in a non-subordinate relationship with no fixed working hours. The research fellow shall personally carry out the required activities laid down in a work plan agreed with the tutor without any substitution. Except for authorized travel periods or explicit dispensation granted by the tutor, it is understood that research activities will be carried out at the Department of Political and Social Sciences. In the event of significant candidate's breaches with respect to the work plan, the tutor proposes to the Department Board the interruption of the contract and grant's disbursement.

At the end of the project activities, each research fellow shall present a detailed final report to the Quality into research Commission and the Department's Board, describing the activities carried out, the results achieved and the scientific production, accompanied by the tutor's written assessment.

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The research fellow may spend a period of study abroad, according to a programme agreed with the Department of Political and Social Sciences and with expenses borne by the Department, without prejudice to the possibility to obtain specific funding.

Art. 9 — Regulations concerning intellectual property

Industrial property rights over the results achieved by the research fellow in the execution of research activities undertaken on behalf of the university, including but not limited to industrial inventions, models, drawings, plant varieties, as well as the intellectual and industrial property rights deriving from the production of software or databases ("Results"), belong exclusively to the university, which may freely use them also within agreements made by the departments with third parties, without prejudice to the moral rights of the research fellow who shall be acknowledged as the author or inventor.

The research fellow has the right to publish the results of his/her research activities, provided that the publication does not prejudice the rights of the university over the protection of the results.

If products elaborated during the fellowship are published, the research fellow must clearly acknowledge the affiliation to the Department. The research fellow therefore undertakes to promptly notify the achievement of the results to the tutor, who shall verify the existence of any such prejudice.

In any case the research fellow undertakes to sign a specific Undertaking of Confidentiality with the Department, which will be annexed to the contract.

Art. 10 — Non-accumulation, incompatibility, leave

The position of research fellow is incompatible with the following positions:

- a) fixed-term and full-time staff employed by the bodies listed in art. 22 par. 1 of Italian Law no. 240/2010;
- b) persons employed by any private bodies, on a fixed term, permanent or part-time basis;
- c) researcher with fixed-term research contracts with any university;
- d) adjunct professors with official teaching responsibilities in degree programmes or specialisation schools in any university;
- e) persons enrolled in any first-, second- or single-cycle degree programmes, Ph.D. programmes with scholarships or specialisation school. Self-funded research contracts are compatible with enrolments in non-medical specialisation schools, for which no study grant or contract is foreseen or master's degree, only where authorised in advance by the Department's Director, and having sought the opinion of the tutor.
- f) persons awarded research fellowships at any other body.

Employees of public administrations other than those listed in point a) with a fixed-term, permanent or part-time contract shall take unpaid leave of absence for the whole period of the research contract.

Freelance professional activities are compatible with the research fellowship contract if authorized

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in advance by the Department Board, gathering the tutor's motivated opinion on this and having verified that the activities in addition to the research fellowship do not prejudice the regular execution of the contract.

The accumulation of the research fellowship contract with study grants awarded for any purpose is not permitted, with the exception of those granted by national or foreign institutions for the purposes of integrating the research activities with study periods abroad.

The above requirements must be possessed from the moment of entry into force of the contract. Winning candidates shall sign a specific affidavit undertaking to notify the department any variations in the declared situations as soon as they occur.

Art. 11 — Forfeiture

Any candidate who does not sign the contract within the deadline notified by the Department, unless for promptly and duly demonstrated reasons of health or force majeure, shall forfeit the right to sign the contract.

In case of serious and significant breach to the provisions of Articles 1453 and subsequent articles of the Civil Code by the research fellow, the contract will be terminated. These occurrences must be reported and motivated by the tutor and notified to the Director of the Department, who can propose to the Department Board the interruption of the contract and grant disbursement.

Art. 12 - Reference norms

For any matters not laid down in this call for applications, please refer to the Regulation on Research Fellowships issued by the University of Bologna by Rectoral Decree no. 416 dated April 19, 2011 and other statutory regulations in force.

The submission of an application by a candidate in relation to the current selection procedure implies acceptance of the rules contained in this call for applications and the University Regulation on research fellowships.

In accordance with art. 13 of the EU Regulation 2016/679, the processing of the personal data provided by the applicants, participating to the selection procedure, or acquired for this purpose by the Department is solely aimed to carry out the activities related to selection procedure. Data will be managed by the people in charge of the selection procedure, including the Examination Board, in the manner and within the limits necessary to achieve the above-mentioned purposes, which may also be communicated to third parties.

The Department will keep and use the personal data and contacts provided by the candidates taking part in the selection procedure also after its completion, for operational, administrative, accounting and/or other purposes related to the management of institutional activities and legal obligations.

Applicants have the right to access their personal data, to request amendments, elimination, limitation of treatment, as well as to object to the processing of the above-mentioned data by addressing their requests to privacy@unibo.it.

The data holder is Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna (registered office: via Zamboni n. 33, 40126 - Bologna, Italy; e-mail: privacy@unibo.it; PEC: scriviunibo@pec.unibo.it).

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The contact details of the Personal Data Protection Officer are: registered office, via Zamboni n. 33, 40126 - Bologna, Italy; e-mail: dpo@unibo.it; PEC: scriviunibo@pec.unibo.it.

For further information, please consult the information available on the [University website](#).

The participation in the competition involves the expression of tacit consent so that:

1. - the names of the candidates and the results of the selection examinations could be published on the Department's website;
2. - the documentation presented can be available to other candidates undertaking “access to documents” procedure, who may use it only to protect their personal interests.

Art. 13 – Person in charge of the selection procedure

The person in charge of the selection procedure is the Head of Department, Prof. Filippo Andreatta. This call for applications will be published on the University Portal, in the MIUR website and on the European Mobility Portal (Euraxess).

Dated December 4, 2024

The Head of Department
Prof. Francesco Niccolò Moro
(Digitally signed)