Notice of competition call for a 1-year research scholarship for foreign Ph.D. candidates at the Law Department of the University of Catania, Italy

Art. 1 – Object
The University of Catania calls for two publics competitions based on titles and interview, for the award of scholarship available to non-Italian Ph.D. candidates who are writing their Ph.D. thesis under the supervision of foreign faculty at a foreign University, whose topic relates to the projects of excellency Departments. The following link provides a summary of the project http://www.lex.unict.it/sites/default/files/files/profili-giuridici.pdf.

The amount of the scholarship is of euros 20.000,00 (twenty thousand/00) each and aims at financing research activities to be carried out at the Law Department of the University of Catania for one year. The scholarship is awarded based on resources in the D7 framework of the “Financing fund for Departments of Excellence”.

Art. 2 – Eligibility criteria
Eligible candidates must meet the following criteria:
- non-Italian citizenship;
- residency in a country different from Italy at the call’s expiration date;
- degree equivalent to the Italian law degree, awarded by a foreign University;
- Ph.D. candidate who is writing a thesis, under the supervision of a foreign Professor, concerning a topic related to the project of Department of Excellence;
- Knowledge of the Italian language;
- Under 35 years old at the call’s expiration date.

Art. 3 – Application
The current call is published in the section “Calls, contests and competitions” of the Internet web site of this University <https://www.unict.it/bando/diritto-allo-studio/borse-di-studio>, as well as in the online bulletin – Official University bulletin.
Applications to the call shall be filled out and submitted, exclusively on-line, on the model of the request for participation available on the same page in which the call is published, by 12:00 of January 31, 2020.
Applications not submitted by this deadline shall not be considered.
Applicants shall also attach a valid piece of identification.
In the application, candidates shall declare under their own responsibility, according to art. 46 of P.R. n. 445 of 28/12/2000 (and following amendments):
- their last name and name, birthday and birthplace, residency, citizenship, e-mail and address chosen for purpose of the call;
- the degree earned, with the date on which and the University from which it was earned;
- the University at which they are currently researching, the research project they are currently carrying on, the name and academic position of the faculty supervising the research activity (thesis director/tutor/supervisor);
- knowledge of the Italian language;
- possible knowledge of other languages besides Italian and their mother tongue;
Moreover, applicants shall attach (under penalty of exclusion from the competition):

- a copy of the Diploma supplement (in English) certifying the degree earned. In case the supplement is not available, candidates shall attach a copy of the earned degree in the original language accompanied by a translation in Italian or English, together with a "Dichiarazione di valore in loco" available from the competent Italian representation bodies in the Country in which the degree was awarded;
- copy, in Italian or English, of the research Project applicants intend to pursue;
- a reference letter, in Italian or English, from the supervising faculty (thesis director/tutor/supervisor), concerning their research activities at the academic venue of origin, certifying the progress of the research activity in the Ph.D. program;
- their résumé (curriculum vitae et studiorum), mentioning any other titles and awards, publications, research and teaching activities.

Applicants who declare false statements shall automatically be excluded from enrolment and possible award of the scholarship with retroactive effect, and shall also be subject to further administrative and/or criminal penalties provided by current law.

The Administration reserves the right to carry out proper controls and verifications provided by the current norms. The University in any case reserves the right to endorse, even after the completion of the competition, exclusion measures for applicants who did not comply with the call’s requirements or do not meet the eligibility requirements.

Eligibility requirements provided in the call shall be met at the call’s expiration date.

Art. 4 – Selection Committee
The scholarship shall be awarded by a special 3-member Committee, nominated by Law Department of the University of Catania.

Art. 5 – Admission procedure
The selection Committee shall carry out a comparing evaluation amongst the applicants, based on the qualifications declared, and an interview concerning the topics of the research project and also intended to verify knowledge of the Italian language.

Selection shall be based on the following criteria:

a) résumé (curriculum vitae et studiorum), max 35 points;
b) research project and progress towards the Ph.D. thesis, as stated by the submitted typescript in one of the following languages: Italian, English, French: max. 25 points;
c) possible publications, even if submitted with translation in Italian or English: max 20 points;
d) knowledge of the Italian language: max. 20 points.

Concerning the interview, intended to verify applicants’ potential in relation to their research project, the date and venue shall be communicated to those concerned via notice published in the same web section in which the call is published <https://www.unict.it/content/bandi-concorsi> and, at applicants’ request, can be carried out at a distance, via digital technology.

The scholarship shall be awarded to the first-ranking applicant, provided he/she meets the admission criteria, which can be ascertained by the Administration at any time, and submits the declaration of acceptance of the scholarship.

Art. 6 – Admissions graded list
The Dean endorses the call’s acts and enacts the admission-graded list for the selection of the winner to the scholarship.

Such ranking shall be published on the Internet web-site of this University <https://www.unict.it/bandi/diritto-allo-studio/borse-di-studio>, as well as on the online bulletin – University official bulletin. The ranking published on the website shall list only applicants’ ID number (ID reply) indicated in the application.
The winner shall communicate his/her will to accept the scholarship (declaration of acceptance) within 10 days, stating the starting date of his/her stay in Catania which shall be no later than 30 days after the date of their declaration of acceptance. Failure to submit the declaration of scholarship’s acceptance shall produce a scroll through the ranking. The Administration denies any responsibility in case of missing communications due to mistaken address by the applicant, as well as missing or late communication of the change of e-mail address provided in the application.

Art. 7 — Scholarship
The annual amount of the scholarship is euros 20,000,00 (euros twenty thousand/00). The amount shall be deposited to the winning applicant via three in-advance instalments. The first instalment of euros 6,000,00 (six thousand/00) shall be made available at the beginning of the research activity; the second instalment of equal amount, shall be made available upon completion of the fourth month of activity; the last one, amounting to euros 8,000,00 (eight thousand/00), upon completion of the eighth month of activity.

In case of incompliance with the agreed-upon research activity and of negative evaluation by the supervising faculty (more on that at the following art. 8) stating failure to meet the agreed-upon objectives, the scholarship shall be revoked, with following recovery action by the University Administration of the possible amounts already made available to the scholarship's holder.

In case the scholarship holder decides to waive the studying activities connected to the project of the present call, the recovery action describe in the previous paragraph shall apply. The scholarship is also subject to revocation, upon indication of the supervising Faculty in case of behaviours incompatible with the agreed-upon research objectives.

Beside the scholarship, in no case can further compensation, burdening the University of Catania’s funding, be awarded to the scholarship holder.

Art. 8 — Further obligations of the scholarship’s holder
The scholarship holder shall carry out his/her 1-year research activity at the Law Department of the University of Catania under the supervision of a faculty member, nominated by the same Law Department and shall also submit, every three months, a written report on the progress of his/her activities. The supervising Faculty can, if he/she deems, further inquire on the contents of the report through a special audition of the scholarship's holder.

The scholarship holder may be asked to participate in one or more seminars, during which he/she will describe the progress of his/her research project.

In his/her final Ph.D. thesis, the scholarship holder shall state that the dissertation has been accomplished “with funding of the Law Department of the University of Catania – Project Funds Department of Excellence 2018-2022”.

Art. 9 — Performance of the activity
The Law Department shall make available to the scholarship holder a workstation and shall guarantee access to the Library resources and related services.

The scholarship holder shall guarantee his/her presence at the Law Department for the whole period of the scholarship award, with the exception of the month of August and the days in which the Law Department is closed. The Supervising faculty shall attest compliance.

Periods of absence longer than 7 days shall be authorized in advance by the Director and in any case shall not be longer than 60 days total, under penalty of revocation of the scholarship.

During the period of scholarship award, the scholarship holder shall be covered by insurance for mobility students of the University of Catania, at the expense of the latter.

The scholarship holder shall cover any further expense.
In case the scholarship holder, after having started the research activity, fails to regularly and uninterruptedly pursue it for the whole duration of the scholarship, without any justified reason; or who is responsible for serious and repeated offences; or finally who fails to show sufficient attitude for research can be declared, via motivated deed by the Dean, revoked from further enjoyment of the scholarship.

Art. 10 — Processing of personal data
According to Regulation (UE) n. 2016/679 and law D.Lgs. of August 10 2018 and further amendments, personal data shall be managed by the University of Catania, located in piazza Università n. 2, 95131 Catania, and used for the aims relating to the award and following management of the procedural activities connected with the present call, in compliance with the relevant laws.

Art. 11 — Final dispositions
The person in charge of the administrative procedure is dott. Ignazio Zangara (tel. 095 7307995, email izangara@lex.unic.it). For any further information not contained in this call, see the Regulation of this University and the relevant laws.

Catania,

MANAGER OF TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Mr. Giuseppe Caruso

THE RECTOR

IL PRORETTORE
Prof.ssa Vania Patanè

IL PRESENTE BANDO È STATO PUBBLICATO IL GIORNO - 9 DIC. 2019
NELL'ALBO ONLINE DELL'UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA