

Research fellowship on “The political economy of food in post 2003 Iraq - Università Ca' Foscari Venezia
(Italian law 30 December 2010, n.240, art. 22 and subsequent amendments and additions)

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition which is available in Italian at the following ([link](#)) The text in Italian is the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, in the event of non-conformity with the present document, it shall prevail.

Description

The Department of Asian and North African Studies at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications for a fellowship in:

Title: The political economy of food in post 2003 Iraq

Scientific sector: L-OR/10, SPS/14

Scientific supervisor and tutor: dott.ssa Maria Cristina Paciello

Duration: 12 months

Abstract:

The project is part of the PRIN project "We want bread, not bullets': Iraqi food politics in historical perspective", conducted jointly by the Department of Asian and North African Studies (DSAAM) and the research units at the University of Naples L'Orientale, the University Roma Tre and La Sapienza.

Food is essential for life. Therefore, it is central to many different political and cultural dynamics and a powerful lens through which to explore broader issues of power and identity. Food politics is of crucial importance to the Arab region, one of the most food insecure regions of the world. Yet, it remains an under-studied subject. This is even more true for Iraq, home of the flood plains of the Tigris and Euphrates, a country self-sufficient in food until the 1980s and today heavily dependent on food imports and highly food insecure.

How did a state so abundantly rich in agriculture mere decades ago become such a net food importer? What policies of food production, consumption and distribution have domestic political leaders and external actors adopted in search for food security and political stability? How have these policies impacted the lives of the Iraqi population? What do Iraqi civil society and social movements have to say about it?

To answer these and similar questions, the PRIN project aims at reconstructing the politics of food in Iraq since the US-led occupation of 2003 through an interdisciplinary approach and three analytically different, but largely interrelated areas of research:

1) Food politics at the national, regional and global level. This area of research aims at a comprehensive historical reconstruction of state policies and narratives with respect to food production, consumption, and distribution. Furthermore, an important part of the research will be focused on the international dimension of food politics, that is an analysis of the policies of global and regional actors, international aid, patterns of food trade and their consequences on the country and on the livelihoods of the Iraqi population.

2) Contentious food politics and collective action. This area of research aims at investigating how, over the period under scrutiny, emerging and more consolidated civil society groups and social movements in Iraq have positioned themselves with respect to the food question and to the policies and narratives deployed by state, regional and global actors, but also at spotting bottom-up initiatives, alternative models and practices and new forms of mobilization.

3) The politics of food from a cultural perspective. Food politics is also strictly related to culture and identity. This area of research aims at delving into the rich production of Iraqi cultural actors living in the country or in the diaspora with respect to food practices. Food is in fact also a crucial element of the continuous production and reproduction of cultural identities both in terms of dominant narratives and of production of Tarikh Muwazin (counter narration) of the Iraqi historical scene.

The research fellow will specifically work on the first research area (“Food politics at the national, regional and global level”), but will interact synergistically with the other two research areas during the project. Specifically, the research subject will be the analysis of food and agricultural policies in post Iraq 2003, the role of state, regional and international actors, and the implications for the local population and communities. The research fellow will be expected to contribute to the collection of primary and secondary sources and the writing of research products, to participate in the research missions to Iraq and to assist in the organization of seminars and the final conference

The research may be carried out in English.

The fellowship is intended to provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to pursue his/her own

research while benefiting from the range of expertise at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia.

Who can apply

Prospective candidates are expected to hold a master's degree and have a CV suitable for the requested research activities.

Ca' Foscari encourages applications from researchers with positive evaluation in all the criteria in individual proposals such as Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar.

Researchers having successfully completed Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar funded projects are warmly encouraged to apply.

Duration of contract: 12 months (approximately starting: September 1st, 2024)

Stipend: The research fellowship amounts to 19.367,00 Euros per year, including taxes and social charges.

Deadline for submission of applications: June 14th, 2024

How to apply:

Candidates should submit:

1. The application form;
2. A motivation letter (max 1 page) along with their CV in European format, duly dated and signed, both to enclosed as a one single.pdf file. ([link](#))
3. A copy of a valid identity document (either Identity Card or Passport);
4. (If available) Evaluation Summary Reports of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) individual proposals having passed all the evaluation thresholds;
5. (If available) Details of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships, ERC Starting Grants, FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/ SIR Scientific Young Independence Research funded projects;
6. Declaration on availability to held the interview in remote ([Link](#)) to be send via email at the following address: ricerca.dsaam@unive.it
7. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice [link](#));
8. The short-list of publications.

All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website ([link](#)).

How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage ([link](#))

Or submit here: <https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dsaamprinpac24> by inserting their Italian Tax Code.

Foreign citizens not yet in possession of the Italian Tax Code can use the following link <https://apps.unive.it/utills/cf> to obtain a temporary one and be able to proceed with the request.

The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of his/her application.

The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials by the link provided by the e-mail, in any case any updates must be made no later than the deadline June 14th, 2024.

Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 24 hours prior to the deadline.

Please note that in case of an high number of applications and / or weight of the materials loaded by the candidates the system might become slower, Therefore it is suggested not to start the process close to the deadline.

NB: the University does not take on responsibility for wrong or late communication of addresses, nor for any

communication problem not depending on the University.

Evaluation

Up to 100 points, specifically:

For qualifications, publications and possible tests, from 0 to 60;

For interview, from 0 to 40.

Selection procedure

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview and the related calendar, or any postponement, will be published on the University's webpage on June 28th, 2024. ([link](#)).

Information and contacts

Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following ([link](#))

For further information please email: ricerca.dsaam@unive.it