



Università
Ca'Foscari
Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: MeMuRu - Places of Remembrance in Muslim Russia: Islamic Heritage and Moral Landscapes

FUNDING PROGRAMME: H2020 Marie-Sklodowska Curie Actions Individual Fellowship

CALL: H2020-MSCA-IF-2018-Global Fellowship – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships

SCIENTIFIC FIELDS: Social Sciences and Humanities

HOST DEPARTMENT: DSU – Department of Humanities

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Gianluca Ligi

FELLOW: Matteo Benussi

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 251.002,56	€ 251.002,56

ABSTRACT:

The goal of this project is to map Islamic places of remembrance in Central Russia's Volga region, and analyse their social, political, and affective life. The post-Soviet Islamic boom has raised acute concerns and generated debates on the place of Islam in Russia, home to an ancient Muslim community. So far, little fine-grained anthropological scholarship about Russia's Muslim population has been produced. My project seeks to fill this gap in our knowledge by looking at the concrete places where the post-Soviet Islamic revival manifests itself. The past few years have witnessed the rediscovery – sometimes reconstruction – of numerous Islamic sites throughout the Russian Federation, along with the emergence of numerous locales where self-cultivation, ethnically inflected civic engagement, conflict, and compromise are played out by Muslims through the prism of remembrance. Anthropological methods of investigation shall be utilised to analyse how both institutional initiative and grassroots creativity are involved in the production of multi-scalar moral landscapes at the intersection of the nation-state, the ethnic community, and the ummah. Special attention will be devoted to social memory dispositifs, from institutional heritage projects to intimate practices of remembering. This project, built upon specialised skills and experiences I acquired as a graduate student, will offer fresh contributions to ongoing debates on post-socialist and Islamic personhood; memory, state-Muslim relations in Russia; and the spatial manifestations of religious life amongst Eurasian Muslims. This Fellowship will give me a unique chance to complete my maturation as a social scientist. At the Universities of Princeton and Venice, I will undertake specialised training, broadening my area expertise, my methodological repertoire, and my theoretical competencies across disciplines such as social and historical anthropology, Russian studies, and Islamic studies.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
1 st September 2019	31 st August 2022

PARTNERSHIP:

1. Ca' Foscari University	Italia	Coordinatore
2. Princeton University	Stati Uniti d'America	Partner