Annex 2)

PH.D. PROGRAMMES
Headquartered at the University of Florence
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
XXXVII CYCLE

D.R. rep. n. 914 ref. n. 167717 of 16 June 2021

Application deadline:
16 July 2021 at 12:00 (midday) EST*

* The registration procedure will be automatically interrupted at 12 pm sharp, it is necessary to begin the trials in advance to conclude it by the deadline

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

Disclaimer
The official and legally binding announcement is the Italian one available here. The present document cannot be used for legal purposes and it is only meant to provide information in English on the call for applications.
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Art. 1 – Ph.D. PROGRAMMES

1. The University of Florence has published the call for applications for the admission to the Ph.D. Programmes reported in Annex 3 which is an integral part of the call. All the information regarding the competition (curricula, research topics, number of positions, admission requirements, selection procedures and criteria) can be found in Annex 3 at https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html.

2. The number of positions, indicated in Annex 3, may be increased if additional scholarships financed by the University of Florence or by other universities, public or private Institutions are made available, provided the relative agreements are signed by 30 September 2021.

3. If further positions are made available notice will be given on the University’s website at the page https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html. The possible increase in positions does not, however, extend the deadline for the submissions of applications.

4. If any further Ph.D. positions will indeed be made available this does not extend the application deadline.

5. The Ph.D. Programmes will officially start on 1st November 2021 and will have a duration of three years.

6. If at times the use of one gender in the wording prevails this is to be intended as a neuter and inclusive gender, in no way discriminatory toward the other gender/s.

Art. 2 – WHO CAN APPLY

1. Anyone with an admissible qualification can apply, regardless of age and citizenship. The qualification must be held by the deadline of the call.

Admissible academic degrees:
- “laurea Specialistica/Magistrale” (Italian University degree 3+2 years or combined degrees);
- “laurea Vecchio Ordinamento” (Italian University degree, obtained before 1999, with a legal course of at least 4 years);
- academic title released by the Institutions of the performing arts sector AFAM (Alta Formazione Artistica e Musicale);
- academic degrees conferred by a foreign University (of at least 4 years) and declared equivalent (equipollente) to an Italian graduate degree by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) or acknowledged as equivalent by the Admission Board for the sole purpose of the selection.

2. Applicants who have not yet graduated but will obtain their title by 31 October 2021 will be admitted with reserve. In this case they have to send a self-certification of their title to the PhD Office (dottorato@unifi.it) as soon as possible and in any case no later than the date of commencement of the courses (1 November 2021), under penalty of exclusion from the programme.

3. Except as indicated in art. 3, additional admission requirements for particular types of
scholarships, where provided, are indicated in the individual course fact sheets included in Annex 3

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<tr>
<th>Art. 3 – PEGASO 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. In order to be eligible for the Regione Toscana’s Pegaso 2021 Scholarships, candidates must meet the following requirements:</td>
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<td>- be 34 years of age or younger at the time of application;</td>
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<td>- have an adequate knowledge of the English language (at least B2 level);</td>
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<td>2. At the time of enrolment, the successful candidates must formally commit to:</td>
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<td>- study abroad for at least 6 months (or 12 in case of “international scholarships”) during the three years of their Ph.D. programme, with the exception of recipients of a scholarship subject to topic restrictions that do not provide for a foreign stay. Failure to carry out the stay abroad may result in the revocation of the entire scholarship;</td>
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<td>- spend at least 3 months of hands-on training/research in an enterprise, a public research organisation, another public (non-university) institution (in case of a scholarship with a specific topic). Failure to carry out the internship may result in the revocation of the entire scholarship;</td>
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<td>- attend courses for the acquisition of soft skills and knowledge on the workplace and the world of research, which will be offered over the three-year period of the Ph.D. programme.</td>
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<td>3. The recipients of the Pegaso scholarships must also comply with the provisions established by the Notice of the Regione Toscana, issued with decree 1408 del 28 January 2021.</td>
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<td>4. The Pegaso Scholarships are financed with the resources of the Region of Tuscany that can represent an advance of POR FSE TOSCANA 2021/27 funds. The Pegaso Scholarships are the Region of Tuscany’s project to promote the autonomy of the youth falls within the sphere of &quot;GiovaniSì&quot; (<a href="http://www.giovanisi.it">www.giovanisi.it</a>).</td>
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<tr>
<th>Art. 4 – RESERVED POSITIONS</th>
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<td>1. For Ph.D. applicants who have obtained the qualifications for admission to the Ph.D. courses in foreign Universities or have obtained a scholarship from the Government of a foreign Country or have been admitted to specific international mobility programmes, a number of positions specified in Annex 3 is reserved. The applicants will participate to a competition based on the evaluation of their own curriculum, scientific qualifications and research project (if any). The Admission Board may also request specific admission procedures and for that purpose a separate ranking will be set up.</td>
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<td>2. The reserved positions not allocated can be made available for the standard ranking.</td>
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<td>3. The candidates employed by companies affiliated with the University of Florence in the context of the Industrial Doctoral programmes indicated in Annex 3, when completing the application for admission, need to select the position reserved for the Industrial Doctorate, if provided for the chosen course. In case they are successful in the competition, they are listed in a separate ranking from the ordinary one set up for non-reserved places.</td>
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Art. 5 – HOW TO APPLY

1. For the application, candidates must use exclusively the online procedure at the website http://sol.unifi.it/domdott/login_en.jsp. The window to submit the application is from 16 June 2021 until 16 July 2021 at 12 noon.

2. Applicants need to:
   - connect to http://sol.unifi.it/domdott/login_en.jsp;
   - register and log in following the instructions provided;
   - select a Ph.D. programme (see Annex 3);
   - fill in the application carefully following the instructions in the various screens;
   - upload all of the following documents, under penalty of exclusion:
     o copy of an ID;
     o self-certification stating that the applicant holds the university degree required for admission, including the final grade, for degrees awarded in Italy, the title of the thesis and list of all exams taken and grade using the dedicated form provided in each Ph.D. programme’s information sheet;
     o copy of the degree awarded, and a statement of academic record, for degrees awarded abroad.
   - Attach any other document as specified in the individual programme as per Annex 3, using a self-certification stating that it is a true copy of the original;
   - pay the application fee of € 30. Payment is due, under penalty of exclusion, within the deadline of the call, following the PagoPa procedure at the page: https://www.unifi.it/pagopa

3. For courses that require the interview to be held in person, the candidate has the right to opt for a videoconference. The option can only be chosen at the time of submitting the application.

4. Please note that the payment of the application fee is compulsory and failure to make payment will result in the exclusion from the selection. The application fee is not refundable under any circumstances.

5. An application form must be submitted for each of Ph.D. programme referred to Annex 3 the candidate chooses to apply for. The application fee must be paid for each Ph.D. programme for which the application form is submitted.

6. In the case of a Ph.D. programme that foresees separate rankings, the candidate can equally apply for standard ranking only, for one or more specific rankings or for both with the same application.

7. The candidate applying for a reserved position (art. 3) or for a supernumerary position (art. 6, paragraph 1, lett. a) can not apply for the other positions.

8. In the case of a Ph.D. programme structured in “curricula”, the candidate must select a specific curriculum; the candidate, if admitted to the course, will be enrolled in one curriculum only.

9. Candidates with disabilities or Specific Learning Disorders must attach to the application the appropriate certification - issued by a specialist - proving their disability or Specific Learning Disorder and specify any support that may be required, and - if applicable – any extra time that must be allowed for completing the admission tests.

10. After the closure of the online application, changes or uploading of other documents are not allowed, except for any documentation required afterwards by the
Administration.

11. It is in the interest of the candidates to make sure to complete and “close” the application well ahead of the deadline of 16 July 2021, at 12 pm (midday), Italian time. Please note that the payment will be accepted until 12 am (midnight) of the same day. No extension of the above deadline will be granted.

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<th>Art. 6 – FOREIGN ACADEMIC TITLE</th>
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<td>1. Applicants with a foreign degree (equivalent to “Laurea Magistrale, Laurea Specialistica, Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento”), may apply for the admission, enclosing the official transcripts of the academic degree, accompanied by an Italian or English translation, also made by the applicant’s and under their own responsibility. It is assumed that the candidate will file for a request of equivalence of their title to the competent authorities, following the official procedures (see para. 3. below) These applicants are conditionally admitted to the competition and will be excluded from it, if the academic title does not comply with the requirements for access to the Ph.D. level, as stated in this announcement.</td>
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<td>2. The foreign degree must have been awarded by an officially recognized academic institution, that fulfil the requirements for admission to PhD studies in the country it was awarded, and that is equivalent in length, level and subject to the required Italian title. The eligibility of the foreign degree is verified by the Admission Board of the doctorate according to the laws and regulations in force in Italy and in the country where the degree was awarded, as well as to the treaties and international agreements concerning the mutual recognition of titles for pursuing doctoral studies.</td>
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<td>3. The documentation relating to the foreign degree duly translated and legalized and with a declaration of value, issued by the competent Italian Consulate/Embassy in the Country where the qualification was obtained must be submitted to the appropriate offices, on or before the enrolment deadline. Alternatively, the candidate can submit the Statement of Comparability of the foreign title issued by ENIC_NARIC in Italy (CIMEA). The statement must contain all the necessary information to allow a proper evaluation of the title. If the foreign title was obtained in an EU country the Diploma Supplement will suffice.</td>
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<th>Art. 7 – SUPERNUMERARY POSITIONS</th>
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<td>1. Individuals falling under the following categories may be admitted as supernumerary students, previous submission of the application within the term of expiration using the online platform as per art. 5:</td>
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<td>a) non-EU citizens, with the required degree for the admission to the Ph.D. courses, holders of a scholarship awarded by the Italian Government, or by other national or international Institutions, and research fellows funded by European Union or by other European or International scientific institutions. Applicants shall enclose the documentation proving they hold the grant and they shall provide all relevant information in their online application. In this case applicants are conditionally admitted. The equivalence of the degree and the modalities of the admission will be established by the PhD Academic Board (“Collegio dei Docenti del Dottorato”);</td>
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b) researchers according to art. 22 of the law n. 240/2010, if they are eligible in the ranking;

c) compatibly with the sustainability of the course, in terms of the ratio between positions with and without a scholarship, established by the Ministry of University and Research, public administration employees, including temporary ones, who are found to be suitable following the competition procedures. Admission is approved by the Academic Board and is subject to placement on leave pursuant to art. 2 of the law n. 476/1984, as amended by art. 19 of the law n. 240/2010. If the employee does not obtain the placement on leave, admission to the course is subject to the opinion of the Academic Board which verifies the compatibility of the work activity with the learning and research activities provided for in the PhD course.

2. Applicants, previously selected within a research programme of the European Union or under other programmes of international cooperation (Erasmus Mundus, AICS, specific agreements with the University of Florence signed by the Rector, etc.) may be admitted to a Ph.D. course, despite not having applied to participate to the competition within the due deadline, if they have submitted an application for Ph.D. admission before the starting date of the same course, and provided they are able to attend courses on that date. Enrolment is also subject to the verification of academic qualifications and to the prior approval of the Academic Board of the chosen Ph.D. programme who, for candidates having a foreign qualification, will decide on the declaration of equivalence of the foreign degree with an Italian Master’s degree.

**Art. 8 – ADMISSION PROCEDURES**

1. The Ph.D. programmes are accessed upon successfully completing a public competition that provides for the evaluation of titles and subsequent interview carried out in-person or by videoconference, using the most widely used IT applications. For each of the courses, the forms set out in Annex 3 shall indicate the procedure for carrying out the interview, in the presence or by videoconference, and any information useful for the purposes of admission.

2. The Admission Board shall make a preselection on the basis of titles submitted by the candidate. Candidates who pass the pre-selection are admitted to the interview, having obtained the minimum score indicated on the Ph.D. programme's information sheet.

3. The interview may be carried out in one of the foreign languages indicated in the doctoral programme and may include the verification of the knowledge of one or more foreign languages and of the Italian language for foreign nationals.

**Art. 9 – INTERVIEW**

1. Candidates to doctoral programmes that provide for the videoconference interview or those who, in any case, wish to take advantage of this possibility, must ensure to have a webcam at their disposal in order to allow the Admission Board to identify and have full view of the candidate during the interview. The Admission Board will send the link to conduct the interview.
2. On the day and time of the test, if the interview takes place in person and the option for distance interview has not been taken, the candidate shall be present at the place indicated on the course information sheet, or, in the case of remote interviewing, be reachable the contact number/address provided. The candidates are required to identify themselves before the interview begins by presenting a valid identification document.

3. Failure to show up, failure to connect, unavailability of the candidate on the day or time set, or failure to provide a valid identification document, are grounds for exclusion from the selection procedure.

4. Where technical problems of connection arise during the videoconference interview, if the problem concerns one or more Board members, the interview shall be postponed by default to another date, if the problem concerns the candidate, the Board may, on grounds of good reason, postpone to another date, respecting the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment between candidates.

**Art. 10 – ADMISSION BOARDS**

1. The Admission Boards are nominated by the President, on proposal of the competent Academic Board, in accordance with the University Regulations on Ph.D. Programmes.

2. The composition of the Admission Boards is available at [https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html](https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html).

3. Admission Boards shall carry out a preliminary meeting, in-person or remotely, to evaluate the admission titles of the candidates and assign a score that will determine if they can be admitted to the interview or not.

4. At the end of the interview the Boards draw the ranking (or more than one in case of separate rankings) and forward the minutes of their meetings to the President who will issue a decree of approval of the deeds.

**Art. 11 – ADMISSION TESTS SCHEDULES AND RESULTS**

1. The dates of the admission tests are indicated in the Annex 3 for each Ph.D. programme.

2. The list of the applicants admitted to the interview will be published at [https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html](https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html) at least five days before the date of the interview itself. Such publication is to be considered as a legal notification convening the candidates.

3. The ranking, based on the scores assigned to the applicants will be published on [https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html](https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html).

**Art. 12 – ADMISSION TO THE COURSES AND ALLOCATION OF THE POSITIONS**

1. The successful applicants, who are placed in the topmost positions in the ranking list, are admitted to the course. In case of equal score, the allocation of positions without grant will be based on the principle of younger candidates first.

2. In case any of the winners does renounce, the next candidate down in the ranking list will be eligible to take the position within sixty days from the date of the beginning of course.

3. In case a candidate is successfully placed in more than one ranking list of different
courses, they must select the one Ph.D. programme in which to enrol. The same choice is also necessary if the candidate is successfully placed in different rankings within the same Ph.D. programme.

4. Candidates who are placed in winning positions will receive indications regarding the formalities and the peremptory terms, for the acceptance or the possible renouncement. The indications will be sent by e-mail to the address communicated in the application form.

5. The award criteria of the various types of scholarships, also with specific aims and dedicated funding, are established by the Academic Board, according to the requirements and attitudes of the successful candidates.

6. If a scholarship is funded by an Institution whether public or private, the Academic Board will take into account the specific research purpose of the funding as was established in the agreement.

Art. 13 – ENROLMENT

1. To confirm the enrolment the successful applicants have to submit the following documentation within the deadline and with the modalities stated in the call:
   - enrolment form;
   - copy of a valid identity document;
   They also need to pay the Regional tax and stamp duty. Instructions to this regard will be provided by the PhD office.

2. In the enrolment form the candidate needs to indicate also:
   - Nationality
   - permanent residence and domicile
   - declaration that they are not enrolled in any other study programme, such as PhD, undergraduate or postgraduate, specialisation school or professional master course at the University of Florence or any other university. In case the candidate is indeed enrolled in another study programme, they must commit to suspend the other programme for the legal duration of the PhD programme. Joint attendance of the medical specialization course and the PhD course is however permitted, as established by art. 15 of the University Regulations for PhD Programmes. In this case, enrolment in the specialization course must be declared in the application form;
   - declaration of having already obtained a PhD or equivalent qualification;
   - declaration of not having already benefited, even partially, from a doctoral scholarship;
   - declaration of non-cumulation of the scholarship for this PhD programme with other scholarships awarded for any other reason, except with those granted by national or foreign institutions useful for integrating, with stays abroad, the research activity of the doctoral student.

Art. 14 – REGIONAL TAX FOR ACCESS TO THE PROGRAMMES

1. Pursuant to art. 1, paragraphs 252 and 262 of law n. 232/2016, PhD students, in addition to the stamp duty, doctoral students are required to pay the regional tax for the right to university education (pursuant to art. 18, paragraph 8, of Legislative
Decree no. 68/2012) the amount of which, for the academic year 2020/2021 (unless otherwise determined by the Region of Tuscany by 30 June 2020), is set at € 140.00.

2. The following categories of individuals are not required to pay the regional tax for the right to university education:
   a. those who have applied to the Regional Board for the Right to University Study (DSU Toscana) for the academic year 2020/2021 Students who have not subsequently been successful/eligible in the scholarship ranking list must pay the regional tax for the right to study, after the publication of the definitive ranking list by DSU Toscana, within the deadline and in the manner that will be communicated later on the University website on the Doctorate page;
   b. students with certified disabilities, (art. 3, paragraph 1, of Law n. 104/1992) or with a disability equal to or greater than 66%;
   c. students whose parents are the beneficiaries of a disability pension (art.30 of law n.118/1971)

3. Admission to subsequent years of the programme and to the final examination is subordinate to the verification of the payment of the regional tax.

**Art. 15 – SCHOLARSHIPS**

1. The scholarships will be awarded as indicated in art. 10.

2. In cases of equal merit in the admission ranking, the evaluation of the most disadvantageous economic situation will prevail, in accordance with DPCM n. 159/2013. To this end, PhD students must obtain their net worth estimate declaration (DSU) from a CAAF office or directly at INPS (the National Institute for Social Security) which will be needed for calculating the Certificate of the Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator (ISEE) for the benefits for the right to university study, necessary to obtain the benefits for the PhD courses, by 15 December 2020. It should be noted that, pursuant to art. 8, paragraph 4 of the DPCM n. 159/2013, the family of the applicant for the benefits for PhD courses is made up exclusively of the applicant, their spouse, children under the age of 18, as well as adult children, according to the rules set out in paragraphs 2 to 5 of the art. 3 of the same DPCM Decree n. 159/2013, and in any case without prejudice to the possibility for the beneficiary to establish the family unit according to the ordinary rules. PhD students, when completing the DSU, must specify to the CAAF/I.N.P.S. that the declaration is intended to obtain the ISEE for university study and whether they intend to benefit from the specific concessions provided for students enrolled in PhD programmes. Different types of ISEE will not be valid.

3. The yearly gross amount of the scholarship is € 15,343,28. If different amounts are envisaged for specific programmes, these will be indicated in Annex 3.

4. The scholarship is paid in deferred monthly installments; if the PhD student renounces to continue the course, they lose the right to receive the scholarship from the month following the date of the renunciation.

5. The amount of the scholarship can be increased by 50% for any periods of stay abroad up to a maximum of 18 months.

6. Scholarships funded by external Bodies, including grants from the Regione Toscana, are awarded to PhD students without prejudice to the successful allocation to the University of the financial resources and of the agreements between the University and the funding
bodies.

7. In the event of renunciation to continue the programme or to receive the scholarship, the scholarship will be destined, for the remainder, to the PhD student holding a position without a scholarship, respecting the merit ranking.

8. If the renouncer is a scholarship holder who receives dedicated funds, the transfer of the residual scholarship to the next student in the ranking without a scholarship is applied only after the approval of the Academic Board, without prejudice to the provisions of any agreement in place.

9. Those who had already received, even a partial scholarship for another Ph.D. programme, will not eligible to apply for it a second time.

**Art. 16 – ATTENDANCE AND OBLIGATIONS OF Ph.D. STUDENTS**

1. During the Doctoral Programme, Ph.D. students are required to attend the courses and perform all their scheduled research activities on a full-time basis as established by the Academic Board in accordance with art. 17 of the University Regulations on Ph.D. Programmes. In particular, each PhD student has to acquire 6 credits (CFU) by attending specific courses on complementary skills.

2. Enrolled students may be engaged in subsidiary or supplementary teaching activities, approved by the teaching staff, not in contrast with the research activity connected with the doctorate and pursuant to paragraph 4 of the aforementioned art. 17.

3. In the event of justified impediments that do not allow effective attendance (sickness, maternity and post-natal care or further serious and documented reasons), the PhD student may request a waiver to the obligatory attendance to the courses. This will consequently result in the interruption of the scholarship and the extension of the programme’s duration. The Academic Board will decide on the matter.

4. If the PhD student carries out work activities, the assessment of compatibility with the fulfillment of the obligations foreseen by the PhD programme is entrusted to the Academic Board.

**Art. 17 – AWARDING OF THE Ph.D. DEGREE**

1. To obtain the Ph.D. Degree it is necessary to pass the final exam as per art. 21 of the University Regulations on PhD Programmes.

2. PhD candidates are required to upload the electronic version of their thesis in the appropriate repository of the University as established in the University Regulations for the Deposit of PhD Theses issued with con D.R. n. 1238 of 20 December 2012.

**Art. 18 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ON RESEARCH RESULTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

1. Industrial property rights and copyright related to the results attained by PhD students are protected according to relevant laws (Law on copyright - D.lgs. 633/1941 – and Industrial Property Code - D.Lgs 30/2005), to the "Regolamento per la gestione dei diritti di proprietà industriale e intellettuale con riferimento alle attività di ricerca svolte da personale universitario" and – when applicable - according to what is established in the specific agreements with the relevant universities, enterprises and institutions.

2. Candidates holding scholarships awarded by third parties external to the university are
bound by the provisions about industrial property and copyrights contained in the agreements between the university and the financing organizations. The PhD student keeps, however, his/her inalienable moral right to be recognized as author or inventor.

3. The PhD student is bound to sign a specific confidentiality agreement concerning information, data, and documents of internal nature with which he/she can come in contact during the implementation of the activity within the university and/or on its behalf.

4. The PhD student has the possibility, however, to carry out the expected publication activities established in the educational program, that will have to be planned so as to make them compatible with the protection of any result attained.

**Art. 19 – PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA**

1. The personal data in possession of the University of Florence, provided by the applicants together with the application form, will be treated in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) – EU Regulation 2016/679.

2. The candidates, as data subjects, may exercise their rights anytime according to the GDPR. For more details see https://www.unifi.it/cmpro-v-p-11360.html

**Art. 20 – PUBLICITY**

1. The Call is published, as a notice, on the “Gazzetta Ufficiale dello Stato - Serie Speciale Concorsi ed esami” (the Italian Official Bulletin) - and in its entirety, on the Official Register of the University of Florence and on the website at the https://www.unifi.it/p12018.html It is also advertised on the Ministry of Education’s website and on the European website Euraxess.

**Art. 21 – UNIT IN CHARGE OF THE SELECTION PROCEDURES**

1. For all purposes pertaining to this call for admissions, the unit in charge is the Unità di processo “Offerta formativa e qualità dei corsi di studio” Ph.D. Office, Piazza San Marco 4, 50121 Florence.

2. Any queries can be addressed to: dottorato@unifi.it or by calling 055 2757 668 – 671 – 678 – 681 – 309, Monday to Friday 10 am – 1 pm and Thursday 2.30 – 5 pm.

3. The officer responsible for the procedure is Sabrina Pazzagli.

**Art. 22 – FINAL PROVISIONS**

1. The competition documents are public, access is allowed in the ways established by the Law n. 241/1990.

2. For anything not expressly provided for in this announcement, please refer to the legislative, regulatory and ministerial provisions mentioned in the part relating to the legal conditions.

3. The University reserves the right to exclude at any time the candidates participating in the competition called with this announcement for failure to comply with the instructions given therein or the terms indicated, or if candidates lack the qualifications required.