Research fellowship on Microplastics in the environment: quantitative analysis and identification of polymers.
- Università Ca' Foscari Venezia-
(italian law 30 December 2010, n.240, art. 22)

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 Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications for a post-doc fellowship in:

**TITLE:** Microplastics in the environment: quantitative analysis and identification of polymers

**SSD:** Analytical Chemistry - CHIM 01

**Tutor:** Prof. Andrea Gambaro

**Duration:** 12 months

**Abstract:** Microplastics pose a worldwide threat for the environment. Contamination by plastic debris in marine environments has been documented from the 1970's and is now a top emerging global issue, due to its persistence, its ubiquity and the threat posed to biota. Together with microplastic particles, synthetic fibers are recognised as pollutants. They contribute to ocean pollution and are estimated to be 85% of man-produced debris on world coasts. Accumulation of microplastics (20 µm-1 mm) in natural habitats threatens the biota and humans, as well. Microplastics can be ingested and accumulated within organisms, causing physical harm (internal abrasions and blockages). Toxic effects due to organic compounds and trace elements adsorbed on the microplastics may be a potential hazard, as well.

The sources of microplastics are several, from household washing to marine litter. Aerosol may be another important source, because the particle carried from aerosol may settle on land and waterbodies and then organisms can ingest them and may accumulate them.

The aim of the study is to investigate microplastics in the environment and in the biota.

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 in Environmental Sciences or related disciplines.

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: May 2019

**Stipend:** The research fellowship amounts to 19,367.00 Euros per year, including taxes and social charges.

**Deadline for submission of applications:** 02/05/2019, 12.00 noon.

**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. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice [link](#)).
7. Environmental Sciences, experience in quantitative analysis and identification of microplastics via MicroFTIR

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](#)).
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 **02/05/2019, 12.00 noon**.

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 a 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 interview will be **on 03/05/2019 h10.00** at the Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, - Scientific Center – Delta Building – Third floor – Gambaro’s Office, Via Torino, 155 – 30172 Mestre (Venice).

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview will be available on **03/05/2019** out of meeting room.

**The interview:**

The interview questions will cover:

- Sources and paths of microplastics in the environment, sampling strategies, MicroFTIR
- Good knowledge of English
- Good knowledge of Italian (in case of foreign candidates)

Candidates living farther than 200 Kms from Venice may ask to hold a telematic interview.
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 contact Prof. Andrea Gambaro, email: gambaro@unive.it - Phone +39-041-234899.

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Prot. 21871-III/13
Venice, 15/04/2019

Il Direttore del Dipartimento di
Scienze Ambientali, Informatica e Statistica
Prof. Antonio Marcomini