Research fellowship on Liability arising from the use of artificial intelligence in business activities: liable parties and applicable regulations - 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: http://www.unive.it/data/12137/ 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 Economics at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications for a fellowship in:

- **Title:**
  
  Liability arising from the use of artificial intelligence in business activities: liable parties and applicable regulations.

- **Academic Discipline or disciplines specifically identified by the call** IUS/04
- **scientific coordinator and tutor:** Prof.ssa Giuliana Martina
- **duration:** 12 months (approximately starting on September 2023)

**abstract:**

The aim of this research is, firstly, to define the liability model of responsibility to which a company that uses artificial intelligence (AI) technologies is subject and, secondly, to verify whether the parties involved in various ways in the so-called ‘production and supply chain’ may be deemed jointly and severally liable.

The problem should be analysed starting from the assumption that systems implementing AI technologies are characterised by significant autonomy, whereas civil liability is traditionally linked to the concepts of fault and malice. It is, therefore, necessary to investigate whether the autonomy of these technologies is such as to break the chain of causal events between the conduct of a user of AI systems and the damage produced by their malfunctioning; and whether a case of strict liability arises.

A second aspect to investigate concerns the training of AI algorithms and the selection of the relevant data: although the algorithm may in itself be correctly programmed, scarce o poor quality of the data with which it is trained may lead to systematically wrong results.
Who can apply
Prospective candidates are expected to hold a PhD in the subjects of the research, 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.

Preferred qualifications
- PhD thesis in Commercial Law;
- Postgraduate diplomas and certificates of attendance at postgraduate courses with research topics relevant to the subject of the check, obtained both in Italy and abroad; the performance of documented research activities at public and private entities with contracts, scholarships or assignments both in Italy and abroad with research topics relevant to the subject of the grant.

Stipend: The research fellowship amounts to Euro 20,267.00 per year, gross to the recipient, net of the expenses to be sustained by the Provider. The amount may be subject to adjustment in the event of variations in the law.

Deadline for submission of applications: by and no later than 2023.06.30, h. 12:00 noon – local time.

If the deadline is on Saturday or on holidays, the deadline is extended to the first working day thereafter.

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. (http://www.unive.it/pag/28830)
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. Doctoral degree;
6. Declaration on availability to held the interview in remote (https://www.unive.it/pag/28830) to be send via email at the following address: simar@unive.it;
7. (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;
8. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice [http://www.unive.it/data/28825/](http://www.unive.it/data/28825/)).
All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website [http://www.unive.it/pag/28830](http://www.unive.it/pag/28830).

*Incomplete applications will be rejected.*

**How to submit your application**

Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage [http://www.unive.it/data/28825/](http://www.unive.it/data/28825/)


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 2023.06.30, h. 12:00 noon – local time.
If the deadline is on Saturday or on holidays, the deadline is extended to the first working day thereafter.

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 interview will be on 2023/07/10, at 10.00 AM.
The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the University’s webpage on **2023/07/06** (http://www.unive.it/data/28899/).

The interview will be held in remote only. Further details on how to connect online will be published alongside the convocation notice.

The **interview** will focus on knowledge of the following topics:

- AI techniques used in the conduct of business activities
- Corporate governance, appropriate structures and responsibilities in the use of AI
- Legal profiles of algorithm programming
- AI and EU regulatory proposals; big data and AI

**During the interview, the commission will check the candidate's proficiency in ENGLISH.**

**Information and contacts**

Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following webpage [http://www.unive.it/data/28825/](http://www.unive.it/data/28825/)

For further information please contact: Segreteria Amministrativa del Dipartimento di Economia, phone number: 041-2349173; e-mail: simar@unive.it