

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC SELECTION FOR 1 RESEARCH GRANT
(Italian law No.240, Art.22, 30 December 2010)

Description

The Scuola Normale Superiore announces a selection, based on work to date and interview, for 1 research contract named “*The Darwinian roots of Primo Levi’s ‘Philosophy of power’*”, as part of the research project PRIN 2020 entitled “*New Paradigms of Unfreedom. Historical genealogies and critical strategies*” (code 2020BYAP4_004, CUP E53C22000540001).

The selected researcher will be involved in the following activities:

In recent decades, Primo Levi’s work has also been read as an important contribution to political philosophy. It has often been juxtaposed with the notion of the “banality of evil” as elaborated by Hannah Arendt and, in some cases, with the “microphysics of power” as understood by Michel Foucault. This research project aims to reconstruct, yes, the possible connections between Levi and authors of contemporary political philosophy, but above all to investigate the Darwinian basis of the Turin author’s political thought. We will have to focus, in particular, on the way in which notions typical of the anthropological-evolutionary debate are grafted within Levi’s ethical inquiry into human behavior. In fact, Levi combines Darwin with Manzoni, Dante with Konrad Lorenz, resulting in one of the most original and productive ethical-political reflections of the twentieth century. While it is true that Levi’s theoretical proposal is assimilable to the conceptual universe of the banality of evil, it is equally true that, to such results, he arrived at them from assumptions that contemporary political philosophy has rarely been able to make its own. The research project will involve several levels of analysis, including the philological-deductive investigation of Primo Levi’s naturalistic and political sources (from the partisan experience to the sociobiology of Konrad Lorenz) and the comparative approach between Levi’s position and that of other authors (particularly Arendt and Foucault in relation to the obedience-dissidence nexus). The ultimate goal of this project is to define a conceptual paradigm that through Levi can go beyond Levi

Duration of the contract: 1 year

Annual gross remuneration, inclusive of all taxes: € 23,890

Application deadline: 31 October 2022.

Information about the selection procedure can be found below. Applicants are advised to read the official announcement (*Bando*) and to follow exclusively its detailed instructions should they decide to apply.

Requisites

Applications are invited from candidates who have completed a PhD in Philosophy, Political Philosophy or Political theory. Applicants who have completed the aforementioned degrees abroad may also apply, if that degree is recognized as equivalent to the corresponding Italian degree.

Knowledge of English language is also required to carry out the research activity.

How to apply

Applicants with all the aforementioned requisites who wish to participate in the selection process must submit:

- a) their application, using the attached form (**Att. A - Application form**), written on paper with their original signature under penalty of exclusion (unless applicants choose to send their application form using a PEC e-mail address);
- b) a copy (non-authenticated) of a valid identification document;
- c) a signed and up-dated curriculum vitae containing a detailed description of their educational career and professional experience;
- d) publications, including their PhD thesis, and any other document that they believe may be useful to the assessment of their application (it is mandatory to attach all publications that applicants intend to submit for assessment by the Commission). The publications must be provided exclusively on a digital storage device (cd, USB flash drive etc.), in pdf format. For those

unpublished texts accepted for publication, applicants must include the relative document in its final form and the publisher's certificate or a detailed substitute statement of affidavit confirming that the relative text has been accepted for publication (please use Attachment B);

- e) a signed list of the submitted publications.

If the application is presented directly to the "Ufficio Protocollo" [Documents Registry Office] of the Scuola Normale or sent by registered mail or courier, the digital storage device must contain also a scanned copy of the application, the curriculum vitae and the list of publications.

In order to submit the application and documentation listed above, applicants must use one of these options:

- a) applicants can present the application form and documentation directly, during office hours (for information on opening hours please contact protocollo@sns.it), to the "Servizio Archivio, Protocollo e Posta" [Documents Registry Office] of the Scuola Normale, located at Via del Castelletto, n. 11, 56126 Pisa (Italy);
- b) applicants can send the application form and documentation by registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt or courier to the following address: Ufficio Protocollo della Scuola Normale Superiore, Via del Castelletto n. 11, 56126 Pisa (Italy). In this case, it is recommendable to write on the envelope "*The Darwinian roots of Primo Levi's 'Philosophy of power'*";
- c) applicants can send the application form using the electronic mail only if they possess a personal certified e-mail address (the Italian PEC - Posta Elettronica Certificata). In this case, they should send the application form to the address protocollo@pec.sns.it.

If applicants send their application via PEC - Posta Elettronica Certificata, the presentation of documents and publications on paper, CD or USB flash drive is not requested.

Any candidature sent from a simple e-mail address, different from the one described above, will not be accepted.

No other delivery method will be accepted.

Interview

The Committee can decide to conduct face-to-face interviews or online interviews with the admitted applicants. In any case, the online interview will be permitted to applicants who live permanently outside Italy or are domiciled abroad for work, study or research and request to conduct an online interview instead of a face-to-face interview. Applicants who are unable to carry out an on-site interview for further different reasons can request an online interview and the Committee will decide whether or not to permit it.

In case of online interview, candidates will have to comply with the guidelines on how to conduct online interviews available on the website of the Scuola Normale (<https://amministrazionetrasparente.sns.it/scuola/opportunit%C3%A0-offerte-dalla-normale/bandi-di-concorso/assegni-di-ricerca>), under penalty of exclusion.

The interview will focus on the the applicants' qualifications, on the scientific topics related to the research to be carried out, on the applicants' proficiency in English and on the following scientific issues: political philosophy in Hannah Arendt and Michel Foucault; Primo Levi's work; Charles Darwin's work.

For the interview, applicants must show a valid identification document, otherwise they will not be permitted to take part in it.

Applicants who submit the wrong contact details, miss the connection at the date and time communicated by the Administration or fail to submit an identification document forfeit their right to participate in the interview and consequently in the selection process.

The Scuola Normale is not responsible for any technical problems that may arise during the interview.

For further information or questions about the application procedure and the relative documentation, or about the selection process itself, applicants can write an email to job.opportunities@sns.it