



**UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DELL'INSUBRIA**

**DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE
TEORICHE E APPLICATE - DiSTA**
Il Direttore

Anno 2026

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N. Allegati /

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Object: Competition for a Research Assignment in Scientific Group 03/CHEM-01 Analytical Environmental and Cultural Heritage Chemistry, Scientific-Disciplinary Sector CHEM-01/B Environmental and Cultural Heritage Chemistry, as part of the project “Harmonizing the approach used in the European Union to perform and Report Read-Across: a LIFE project (HURRA-LIFE)” funded by the European Commission – Joint Research Centre - CUP J33C26000850006

THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT

- Having regard to Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010, which defines ‘Regulations on the organisation of universities, academic staff and recruitment, as well as delegating powers to the Government to promote the quality and efficiency of the university system’;
- Having regard to Article 22-ter of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010 on research assignments;
- Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 592 of 6 August 2025, registered with the Court of Auditors on 29 August 2025, under No. 1822, which defines the minimum remuneration for research positions advertised pursuant to Article 22-ter of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;
- Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 336 of 29 July 2011 concerning the determination of competition sectors, grouped into macro-competition sectors, referred to in Article 15 of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;
- Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 855 of 30 October 2015, concerning the redetermination of the competition sectors, grouped into macro-competition sectors, referred to in Article 15 of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;
- Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 639 of 2 May 2024, containing provisions on the determination of scientific-disciplinary groups and related declarations, as well as the rationalisation and updating of scientific-disciplinary sectors and the reclassification of the latter into scientific-disciplinary groups, pursuant to Article 15 of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;



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- Recalling the Rectoral Decree No. 1313 of 30 October 2025, which came into force on 3 November 2025, issuing the “Regulations for the assignment of research positions pursuant to Article 22-ter of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010”;
- Recalling the Department Director's Decree of 31 July 2026, rep. no. 213 which approves the launch of a selection process for the award of no. 1 research position for a duration of 12 months (renewable), under the guidance of the Head of Research, Prof. Ester Papa;
- Having ascertained that the amount of the research contract referred to in this call for applications is covered by the fund “2026_1 PAPA LIFE25-ENV-IT-HURRA-LIFE” - CUP J33C26000850006 – ID 20122

ORDERS

Art. 1 - Object

Notice of a competition by qualifications and interview announced for the Research Assignment in Scientific Group 03/CHEM-01 Analytical Environmental and Cultural Heritage Chemistry, Scientific-Disciplinary Sector CHEM-01/B Environmental and Cultural Heritage Chemistry to the Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences.

Title of the research: **“Development, Integration and Application of Read-Across Tools for Regulatory Assessment and Sustainable Design of Chemicals”**

Research Project:

“The HURRA-LIFE project aims to develop next-generation read-across platform facilitating the EU policy for streamlining the procedures for chemical assessment, reducing their environmental and health impact. Activities include data collection, the development, integration and application of read-across approaches and machine learning tools, also building upon existing QSAR models, to identify substances with potential climate impact through indicators such as Global Warming Potential (GWP), Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP), Radiative Efficiency and atmospheric lifetime, as well as to assess regulatory endpoints including CMR, PBT, vPvB, PMT and ED. The project involves the analysis of ecotoxicological, environmental and physicochemical data, the use of chemoinformatics and data science tools, and the identification of safer and more sustainable alternatives in line with the Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) framework and major European regulatory requirements.”

This research will be held at the Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences of the Insubria University.

Responsible Scientists: Prof. Ester Papa.

Art. 2 - Requirements for admission to the selection process

All those who have obtained a:

Master's Degree or Single-Cycle Master's Degree in:

- Environmental Engineering for the Sustainability of Work Environments, belonging to degree class LM-35 (Environmental Engineering);
- Master's Degree in Environmental Sciences, belonging to degree class LM-75 (Environmental Sciences and Technologies).



A similar academic qualification obtained abroad and recognized as equivalent to the Italian qualification by the competent academic authorities.

Preferential requirements include:

- Proven experience in the development, validation, and application of QSAR models within the context of chemical hazard and risk assessment and the study of climate impact, including regulatory frameworks.
- Use of machine learning methods for data exploration, data analysis, and the development and application of QSAR models.
- Knowledge and use of specific software for model development and application, such as QSARINS and QSAR-ME.
- Knowledge and use of R and the Microsoft Office suite.
- Good command of spoken and written English.

Qualifications obtained abroad that have not already been declared equivalent under current legislation will be evaluated by the Selection Committee for selection purposes only. To this end, candidates must attach the original qualification or a substitute certificate to their application, accompanied by:

1. an official translation into Italian
2. legalization and “declaration of value in loco” of the qualification.

Admission to the selection process also requires the following requirements to be met:

- not be excluded from the active electorate;
- have no criminal convictions and no criminal proceedings in progress.

Candidates must have a master's degree or single-cycle degree obtained no more than six years ago and a curriculum suitable for assisting in research activities in accordance with Law No. 240/2010.

The requirements must be met by the deadline for submitting the application for admission.

Art. 3 – Incompatibility and prohibition of accumulation

1. Research positions are not compatible with attendance at bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree programs, or medical specialization programs, in Italy or abroad, without prejudice to the possibility of implementing specific European Union research funding programs within the scope of actions related to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie program (MSCA), nor with the award of doctoral scholarships or other scholarships of any kind granted by national or foreign institutions, except where these are aimed at international mobility for research purposes related to the assignment.
2. Research assignments, as well as research contracts referred to in Article 22, post-doctoral contracts referred to in Article 22-bis, and contracts referred to in Article 24 of Law 240/2010, are not compatible with each other and cannot be held simultaneously by the same holder. The total duration of the relationships established with the holders of the positions referred to in Articles 22, 22-bis, and 22-ter and the



contracts referred to in Article 24 of Law 240/2010, including with different universities, whether state, non-state, or online, with institutions of higher education in the arts, music and dance, with institutions whose scientific specialization diploma has been recognized as equivalent to a PhD degree pursuant to Article 74, paragraph 4, of Presidential Decree No. 382/1980, and with public research bodies may not in any case exceed eleven years, even if not continuous. For the purposes of the duration of the aforementioned relationships, periods spent on maternity or paternity leave or for health reasons in accordance with current legislation shall not be taken into account.

3. The holder of a research position may carry out limited self-employed work, subject to authorization by the Head of Research, provided that such work is compatible with the duties required of them and does not involve a conflict of interest with their specific work and does not damage the image or interests of the University. Overall, self-employment activities may not exceed a gross annual income of €15,000.00.
4. The holder of a research position may carry out curricular activities such as exercises, laboratories, and/or field activities, for a maximum total of 40 hours per academic year, or disciplinary or support tutoring, and receive the related remuneration, provided that this is authorized in advance as above. Such remuneration is added to any other income from self-employment and must fall within the income limit set out in paragraph 3 above.
5. The position of research assistant is incompatible with any permanent or fixed-term employment relationship, including part-time, in either the public or private sector.

Art. 4 – Application and deadlines

The application for participation in the selection, as well as qualifications held, the documents and publications voted helpful for the competition **must be submitted, under penalty of exclusion, via computer**, using the computer application dedicated to page: <https://pica.cineca.it/uninsubria/dista2026-idr-02>.

The computer application will necessarily require the possession of an e-mail address in order to perform the self-registration system. The candidate will have to enter all data required for the production of the application and attach the documents in PDF format. You can attach a maximum of n. 30 documents for publications and n. 30 documents for other qualifications to evaluate, and maximum 30 Mb size.

The application form must be completed in all its parts, as indicated in the electronic procedure, and must include:

- Curriculum of the scientific and professional activities
- Copy of an identity document valid

No other forms of submission of applications or useful documentation for participation in the procedure are allowed.

Within the application deadline, the system can be saved in draft mode. The date of electronic submission of the request for participation in the selection is certified by the computer system that will be received by automatically sent via e-mail.

At the end of the period for submission, the system will no longer allow access and sending the electronic form.



To every application will be assigned an identification number which, together with the competition code in your application information must be specified for any subsequent communication.

The process of compiling and submitting electronic applications must be completed **no later than 07 September 2026, 12:00 pm.**

The presentation of the application form must be completed and concluded as follows:

- **Sign your document with ConFirma**
In order to sign digitally the application it is necessary to have a hardware (e.g. smart card or USB with digital signature certificate issued by an approved certification body) compatible with ConFirma service. After signing, applicants can download the signed pdf application.
- **Sign the application digitally on your electronic device**
In order to sign digitally the application it is necessary to have a hardware (e.g. smart card or USB with digital signature certificate issued by an approved certification body) and a software for digital signatures in order to create a pdf.p7m file from the pdf file downloaded from this site. The pdf.p7m file must be uploaded in the website again.
- **Sign the application (no digital signature)**
If you can't sign the document digitally as specified in the other sections you need to download the pdf file of the application, print it, sign it in original, scan it in a pdf file and upload it again on the website.

WATCH OUT: the copy of a valid identity document must be included as the last page of the scanned pdf, after the application form pages (this step can be dispensed with if a copy of the document was uploaded as an attachment of the application form)

They will be declared inadmissible the applications without the signature of the candidate.

Foreign nationals residing in Italy can take advantage of self-certification above, limited to cases where it is necessary to prove conditions, facts and personal qualities certifiable by Italian public or private entities (art. 3 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

Foreign nationals not resident in Italy cannot rely in any way on the institute of self (art. 3 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

Bonds, certificates and publications produced in a manner different than indicated above will not be taken into account. In application of the rules of self-certification matter, the University will undertake verification of the veracity of substitutive declarations and self-certifications under Presidential Decree n. 445/2000.

It is considered validly made exclusively the documentation received by the final deadline indicated in the notice. It is not eligible for introduction into the evaluation of their qualifications earned or after the date of deadline of the notice.

It is not allowed to make reference to documents and publications previously submitted for participation in other contests by this or other Administrations.

Candidates must provide their own expenses to the restitution of securities and publications sent for participation in the selection, subject to agreements with the Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences of the University of Insubria, Varese.



Art. 5 - Information on the implementation of legislation on the prevention of corruption

The University, in implementation of the legislation on the subject, adopted its three-year plan for the prevention of corruption and appointed the Head of the Prevention of Corruption.

The three-year plan is published on the corporate website at:

[Portale Trasparenza Università degli Studi dell'Insubria - Piano triennale per la prevenzione della corruzione e della trasparenza \(PTPCT\)](#)

Any reports can be sent to: anticorruzione@uninsubria.it

Art. 6 – Selection procedure

Selection is made with comparative evaluation of the candidates' CVs who have applied on the basis of qualifications and publications.

For the evaluation of the candidates commission has **100** points, of which:

Candidates are evaluated comparatively on the basis of the following criteria and according to the distribution of points provided below:

QUALIFICATIONS (UP TO 100 POINTS)

1. Academic Degree (Master's Degree) - Evaluation criterion: Verification of possession of the Master's degree, relevance of the thesis topic to the research field of the position, and final grade/evaluation obtained (up to a maximum of **30** points);
2. Publications and Other Research Products (Articles, conference presentations, software, etc.) - Evaluation criterion: Relevance to the research sector of the position (up to a maximum of **35** points);
3. Other Qualifications (Professional experience in Italy and abroad, relevant technical or experimental skills, participation in summer schools or training courses within the research sector of the position, etc.) - Evaluation criterion: Quality and relevance to the research sector of the position (up to a maximum of **35** points).

The Commission formulates an overall assessment for each candidate and, at the end of the proceedings, draws up a merit ranking based on the sum of the scores obtained by the individual candidates.

The selection is considered passed with a score equal to or greater than 60 points out of a total of 100.

The judgment of the Selection Committee is final.

In the case of a tie in scores, preference is given to the candidate with the younger age

The final ranking list is approved by the Head of Department and will be published on the University's official notice board and website, serving as notification to interested parties within 120 days of the deadline for submitting applications, unless there are justified and objective impediments.



The ranking list is valid for 120 days from the approval of the documents and must be used for scrolling in the following cases:

- a. impossibility of finalising the contract due to failure to meet the requirements stated in the application form;
- b. renunciation of the contract by the winner before the start of the activity.

In the event of withdrawal by the successful candidate after the start of the activity and within the validity period of the ranking list, at the request of the Tutor, the position may be assigned to the next eligible candidates on the ranking list, subject to approval by the Department Council.

In the case of a successful candidate with non-EU citizenship, the start date is postponed until the necessary documentation for the start of research activities in Italy has been completed.

Art. 7 – Exclusion

Candidates are admitted conditionally.

The following imply exclusion from the procedure:

- 1) the application sent by a method other than that indicated in Article 4 of the notice;
- 2) the failure to sign the application in the manner specified in Article 4 of the notice;
- 3) the lack of the participation requirements set forth in Article 2 of the notice;
- 4) the existence of situations of incompatibility.

Exclusion is provided for with a motivated decision of the Director of the Department and shall be communicated to the candidate using the e-mail address provided.

Art. 8 – Renouncing of the candidate for the procedure

Any waiver of the candidate to participate in the procedure will be sent as so-and exclusively on the web address shown above, Art. 4 of this announcement, by filling in the form of renunciation.

Art. 9 – Contract agreement

The research assignment is conferred through the signing of a private law contract between the University and the successful candidate; the contract is signed by the holder of the assignment and the Head of Department.

This contract does not in any way constitute an employment relationship and does not give rise to any rights regarding access to the roles of the institutions from which they are provided, nor can they be counted for the purposes of Article 20 of Legislative Decree No. 75 of 25 May 2017.

The holder of the assignment reports to the requesting Department for the performance of the activities provided for in the contract.

The amount is paid to the beneficiary in monthly instalments in arrears.



The mission allowance for the research assignment holder is covered by the funds of the Research Manager or the Department, in accordance with the procedures laid down in the University's regulations on missions.

Art. 10 - Rights, duties, and methods of performing the assignment

The research assistant is required to perform the activities specified in the individual contract and is entitled to use the facilities and equipment of the relevant Department for this purpose. The activity may be carried out in part at external facilities, only with the express authorization of the Head and the Department Council.

The activity must be carried out continuously, within the limits set out in the research programs and in accordance with the instructions given by the Research Manager, who is also required to verify it in compliance with the "Research Safety Guidelines" drawn up by the University.

At the end of the contract, the research project leader is required to submit a final report on the activities carried out to the Department Council, subject to approval by the Head, and to present the final results of their work in a special seminar or in any other form defined by the Department Council.

The activity must be suspended during the period of compulsory maternity leave, as required by current legislation. The suspension of research activity also applies in cases of high-risk pregnancy and parental leave. The contract expiry date will be extended by a period equal to the suspension period taken. During the period of leave related to childbirth, research assistants are entitled to maternity allowance paid by INPS (the Italian National Social Security Institute) in accordance with current legislation. During the period of compulsory maternity leave, the allowance paid by INPS pursuant to Article 5 of the Decree of July 12, 2007, is supplemented by the University up to the full amount of the remuneration for the research assignment.

The activity and assignment must be suspended for absences due to illness exceeding 30 consecutive days in a year. Subject to agreement with the Manager and in compliance with any limits imposed by the available funding, the contract will be extended for a period equal to the suspension taken.

A total period of justified absence not exceeding thirty days in a year does not constitute suspension. Any days of absence for reasons other than illness must in any case be agreed with the Research Manager. A period of stay abroad at one or more qualified universities or research institutions, authorized by the Department Council and the Research Manager, is permitted for research activities related to the subject of the assignment. The call for applications must expressly state whether, for the duration of the period spent abroad, the amount of the assignment is increased, at the request of the Research Manager, by up to 50% to be paid from the Department's budget or specific research funds. The increase referred to in the previous period cannot be combined with other forms of financial contribution or scholarships awarded for the same purpose.

For research assignments awarded on clinical research programs to be carried out at facilities affiliated with the University, prior notification must be given to the General Manager of the affiliated facility for the purposes of



For research assignments awarded on clinical research programs to be carried out at facilities affiliated with the University, prior notification must be given to the General Manager of the affiliated facility for the purposes of access to the facilities, which takes place under the care responsibility of the Director of the clinic or service.

Art. 11 – Remuneration, tax, social security, insurance, and health benefits

The annual amount of the research grant is € 41.147,86 net of charges payable by the administering body and is paid to the grant holder in equal monthly installments.

Research positions are subject to the provisions of Art. 4 of Law No. 476 of August 13, 1984, with regard to taxation, the provisions of Art. 2, paragraphs 26 et seq. of Law No. 335 of August 8, 1995, with regard to compulsory maternity leave, the provisions of the decree of the Minister of Labor and Social Security of July 12, 2007, published in the Official Gazette No. 247 of October 23, 2007, and, with regard to sick leave, Article 1, paragraph 788, of Law No. 296 of December 27, 2006.

The University shall provide annual insurance coverage for accidents and third-party liability on behalf of the research fellow in the course of their research activities. With regard to health coverage for winners of “non-EU” research positions, the Research Manager shall first charge the related expenses to the research project funds and secondarily to their own research funds. Only if it is not possible to use these funds may they request reimbursement of healthcare expenses from the Central Administration.

Art. 12 - Renewal and extension

Upon expiry, the research assignment may be renewed, in compliance with the duration referred to in Art. 1, paragraph 3, subject to the positive opinion of the Research Manager and approval by the Department Council, specifying the objectives underlying the request for continuation of the research assignment. For the purposes of renewal, the report produced by the research assignment holder on the activities carried out shall be taken into account.

If the research project on which the assignment is based is extended for a period of less than one year, which is therefore insufficient to proceed with renewal, the contract may be extended accordingly, always in compliance with the maximum duration.

The extension is also permitted in the event of objective and exceptional impediments, for reasons not attributable to the holder of the assignment, which have made it impossible to complete the activities within the specified time frame.

The extension and renewal of the contract are decided by the Department Council, within the limits of its budget, taking into account legal constraints and the extension granted by the funding body.

Art. 13 - Termination, withdrawal, forfeiture, and cancellation of the contract

The termination of the relationship is determined by the expiration of the term or by the withdrawal of one of the parties and by any other cause for termination provided for by current legislation.



The holder of the research position who intends to withdraw from the contract is required to give written notice to the institution at least 15 days in advance. The payment of the last month's salary will be commensurate with the period of activity carried out; failure to give notice or late notice will result in the withholding of one month's salary.

Those who do not declare their acceptance of the position and sign the appropriate contract within the deadline set in the selection notice shall be declared disqualified, except for reasons of health or force majeure duly and promptly proven.

Those who provide false statements or omit communications as required by the individual selection notices shall also be disqualified, without prejudice to further penalties provided for by current regulations.

The contract may be terminated, upon notification by the Research Manager and following verification of the facts by the Department Director, after hearing the interested party and subject to approval by the Department Council, in the following cases:

- a. unjustified failure to commence work;
- b. serious and repeated breaches;
- c. violation of the incompatibility rules established in the previous articles;
- d. negative evaluation of the activity by the Department Council;
- e. violation of the obligations arising from the Code of Conduct for Public Employees referred to in Presidential Decree 62/2013 and from the Code of Ethics, Conduct, and Standards for Integrity in Research of the University of Insubria.

The forfeiture and termination of the contract shall be ordered by decree of the Director.

Art. 14 - Intellectual and industrial property regulations

The research project leader has the right to publish the results of their research activity, provided that publication does not prejudice the University's right to protect the results. They are also obliged to deposit a copy of the publications produced with the Italian National Research Council (<https://irinsubria.uninsubria.it/>) and to promptly notify the Head of Research of the results achieved, who is responsible for verifying the existence of any prejudice. In any case, upon signing the contract, the research fellow will be required to sign a specific confidentiality agreement with the department that initiated the assignment.

The industrial property rights on the results achieved by the person appointed on behalf of the University in the performance of their research activities are subject to the provisions of the University's Industrial Property Regulations in force at the time the results were achieved.

Art. 15 - Processing of personal data

The personal data provided will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR, EU Regulation 2016/679).

The Administration undertakes to provide the applicant with the Data Processing Policy specifically prepared for the activities described in this Call for Applications.

Art. 16 - Final provisions



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For anything not covered by these regulations, reference shall be made to the relevant laws in force and to the University regulations.

Varese, *date of digital signature*

The Director of the Department
Prof. Alberto Coen Porisini
Digitally signed