



**ART. 4(2)(A) OF FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA REGIONAL LAW No 2/2011 – FUNDS 2026
CUP J93E25000050002**

**Call for funding for the departments of the University of Trieste wishing to host at-risk
visiting researchers**

2026 edition

1. Purposes of the scheme

The University of Trieste promotes a new call for applications for research fellowships designed for scholars whose academic freedom and research are seriously compromised in their country for the academic year 2026. The University does this in accordance with its Regulation on research grants and by virtue of its membership in the Italian section of the Scholars at Risk (SAR) network.

The call is addressed to University departments wishing to host at-risk scholars. Interested departments should submit their application to this selection procedure.

2. Number of fellowships

The University of Trieste will provide departments with monthly contributions to fund visiting research fellowships with a duration of 3 to 10 months in any academic discipline offered at the University of Trieste. Activities lasting 10 months must start before 20th February 2026.

These fellowships do not give the holder the right to enrolment as a member of teaching staff at the University of Trieste.

The SAR international network provides a list of scholars already registered with the network. Departments who wish to welcome a scholar at risk can find the list [here](#).

3. Value of fellowships

The University of Trieste will allocate a total of EUR 40,000.00 for these fellowships under the funds obtained through Article 4(2)(a) of FVG Regional Law No 2/2011 – 2026 funds – CUP item J93E25000050002.

The Visiting Fellowship amounts to €2,000 per month (corresponding to the visiting researcher's gross wages).¹

The entire contribution will be transferred to the host department once the University academic bodies have approved the selected fellowships.

Departments shall not be granted any additional reimbursement.

However, a department may decide to co-finance the fellowships and supplement the allocated amount on the basis of its independent evaluation and using departmental funds.

The co-financing quota may be further supplemented with contributions from other national and international bodies.

As fellowships funded by the University are allocated from FVG regional funds that are subject to reporting, any additional amounts implemented by departments must remain clearly distinct from those paid by the University. This must also be clear in the accounting records to avoid complicating final reporting to the funder.

4. Admission requirements

Visiting researcher candidates must be:

- a) non-Italian citizens meeting at least one of the following requirements:
- the candidate has been offered temporary protection pursuant to Decision (EU) 2022/382;
 - the candidate has a residence permit for asylum-seekers/subsidiary protection/political asylum/humanitarian protection/special protection in Italy or any other EU country;
 - the candidate has been granted scholar-at-risk status by SAR or by another recognised international organisation operating in the field, such as Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) and Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA).
- b) the candidate must have a master's degree or other academic qualification recognised as equivalent by the competent body for visiting researcher candidates. There are two types of degree recognition in Italy: generic (*equipollenza* - a longer and more expensive procedure that must only be requested once) or call-specific (*equivalenza* - a quicker and cheaper procedure completed on request for the sole purpose of a specific call).

5. Insurance

Before the arrival of the scholar, the host department shall verify the mandatory insurance requirements provided for by the current legislation and any additional requirements related to scheduled activities (e.g. access to laboratories, use of equipment, etc.). The department will do this with the help of the administration office in charge of insurance.

Scholars arriving from a Member State of the European Union have health insurance coverage through the European Insurance and Health Card (EHIC) scheme.

6. Incompatibility

For more information regarding the incompatibility of a visiting research fellowships with other positions, please refer to the provisions of Article 12 of the University's *Regulation on research grants*.

7. Submission of applications

Interested departments can submit their application from the date of publication of this call until funds are exhausted. In any case, no applications shall be accepted after **1st August 2026**.

Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Once the funds made available have been exhausted, the call will be automatically closed. This may happen before the deadline indicated above.

Applications must be sent to relazioni.internazionali@amm.units.it with the following email subject: **REGIONAL LAW No 2/2011 – CONTRIBUTION 2026 – CUP J93E25000050002 – 2026 SELECTION FOR VISITING RESEARCHERS – DEPARTMENT OF (name of the department)**.

Only applications made using the form attached to this call (**Annex A**) and complete of all required documentation will be considered.

Along with Annex A, the department shall submit:

1. candidate's **letter of request for hospitality** at the head of the host department (on plain paper);
2. **documentation certifying the candidate's status as a scholar at risk** referred to in Article 4(a) of this call (candidates shall attach a copy of the documentation to their application, certifying their status as a scholar at risk issued by SAR - or by another recognised international organisation operating in the field. The candidate should also include proof of their right to temporary international protection or a documentation attesting they have a residence permit for asylum-seekers/subsidiary protection/political asylum/humanitarian protection/special protection in Italy or any other EU country);
3. candidate's **curriculum vitae** with details of their academic career, in English;
4. **description of the proposed research activity** (including any agreed title);
5. **copy of the minutes of the department council meeting or an emergency decree by the head of department**. The minutes or decree should indicate:

- the department's support for the candidature. The document must also clearly indicate if the department prioritises one candidate over the other.
 - the point of contact within the department;
 - the department's commitment to providing the visiting researcher with a workstation;
 - the availability of the equipment necessary to carry out the planned activities;
 - verification of the necessary insurance, in accordance with Article 5 of this call.
6. **current residence permit** (only applicable for candidates already in Italy).

8. Selection

The Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks will verify that each application complies with the admission requirements set out in this call.

Eligible applications will then be forwarded to the University Committee for Internationalisation. The Committee was nominated by Decision of the Board of Directors No 510/2025, registered under No 192281/2025.

The Committee may decide to adjust the number of monthly instalments and the total amount of the contribution for reasons linked to the available budget. This decision is final.

The identity of the selected candidates will be submitted to the academic bodies of the University of Trieste for their approval at their earliest meeting. After the academic bodies have approved the selection results, they will be published on the University's website.

The official selection results will be communicated to the relevant department, which has the right to accept or reject the assigned contribution.

9. Scheduled activities

The scholar's work at the host department can only begin after the approval of the academic bodies and must be **concluded by 20 December 2026**.

Before scheduling any activities, the host department must obtain written acceptance from the scholar and inform the Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks of the period during which the research activity will be actually carried out.

The amount corresponding to the allocated monthly instalments will thus be paid to the relevant department. The department is obliged to use these funds for the purpose set out in this call.

At the end of their stay, the visiting researcher will submit a brief report on the activities they carried out at the host department. The visiting researcher's point of contact within the host department will countersign the report and send it to the Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks on behalf of their department.

Activities may start from **7th January 2026** and must be completed by **20th December 2026**.

10. Templates

In order to standardise all the documents required under this call, the University has prepared the following templates: invitation letter, acceptance letter, statement of expenditure, final report.

11. Advertising

This call and the selection results will be published on the [University webpage dedicated to Scholars at Risk](#).

<https://portale.units.it/en/international/welcome-to-units/scholars-at-risk>

For information not included in this call on hosting scholars, please contact the Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks at the following email address: relazioni.internazionali@amm.units.it

12. Processing of personal data

Pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended by Italian Legislative Decree No 101 of 10 August 2018, and pursuant to EU Regulation No 679/2016 – General Data Protection Regulation, the University undertakes to respect the confidential nature of the information provided by candidates. All data provided will be processed only for purposes related to this selection

procedure and the eventual management of an applicant's relationship with the University, in compliance with the provisions in force.

13. Member of staff in charge of the administrative procedure and contacts

Pursuant to Italian Law No 241 of 7 August 1990, the person in charge of this administrative procedure is Carla Savastano, Head of the Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks.

14. Referral clause

This is a courtesy translation provided in order to facilitate the dissemination of the call. Only the Italian version shall be valid for the settlement of any and all disputes and any other legal purposes. For any matters not covered by this call, please refer to the University's *Regulation on visiting professors* and the *Regulation on research grants*.

The Rector
Prof. Donata Vianelli