Florence 21/12/2023

Request of Approval: 20/2023

Dear colleagues,

I would like to inform that, in the "Disegno di Legge" no. 912/2023, converting into law Legislative Decree 18 October 2023, n. 145, currently being examined by the Italian Parliament, an amendment was proposed which moves the deadline for the opening procedures for new "assegni di ricerca" positions as ex art. 22 law n. 240/2010 to a new term (the 31st July 2024). The new deadline, however, will be submitted for approval in the framework of a new decree ("Milleproroghe") in the early 2024; the aforementioned amendment should provide the possibility of the activation of new "assegni di ricerca" limited to the resources already programmed or approved by the respective governing bodies by December 2023.

Therefore, on a prudential basis and in agreement with similar planning approved by the University of Florence, I propose to approve a planning of activation of "assegni di ricerca" positions for the year 2024 for projects currently active on the LENS budget and on projects that will be activated following the granting of financing by third-party bodies, including through donations and commercial activity agreements, in order to plan the activations and related resources. Therefore:

- Having seen Law 30 December 2010 n. 240, art. 22, regarding research grants and in particular paragraph 4, letter b);
- Recalling the Decree of the LENS Director n. 76 prot. 505 of 13/04/2021 issuing the "Regulations for the awarding of research grants, pursuant to art. 22, paragraph 4, letter b) of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010";
- Having seen the Decree of the Minister of Education, University and Research 9 March 2011 n. 102 which establishes the minimum gross annual amount of research grants
- Having seen the resolution of the LENS Directive Council of 21/05/2021 which establishes the criteria for the definition of the maximum annual gross amount of research grants;
- In the provision that the deadline for activation of new "assegni di ricerca" (December 31st, 2023) will be moved to July 2024 (Decree "Milleproroghe"), allowing to better allocate during the next year the resources, already programmed or approved for submission to competitive calls;
- Considering the opportunity to plan the activation of new "assegni di ricerca" positions and the related financial coverage for the year 2024

I ask you to approve the planning for the activation of research grants for the year 2024 for the projects currently active on LENS budget and for projects that will be approved following the granting of funding by third-party bodies, also through donations and agreements for commercial activities.

Thank you for a prompt answer.

The Director

Prof. Elisabetta Cerbai

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