

## Call for the selection of no. 1 research contracts

The University of Pisa announces public selection procedures for the award of no. 1 research contract in accordance with Article 22 of Law 240/2010 as set out in Annex A) to this call, in which the information sheets indicating the reference structure, the description of the research project, the specific responsibility within the project and the functions to be performed, as well as the scientific disciplinary area and information on the interview, are provided.

**Deadline for submitting the application:** 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 1.00 p.m.

**Contract duration:** 24 months

**All-inclusive annual administrative gross amount:** € 54.910,09

### Admission requirements:

- A PhD or medical specialisation degree.

Students enrolled in the third year of a PhD programme or in the final year of a postgraduate medical specialisation programme are also eligible to apply, provided they obtain their degree within six months from the publication date of the selection notice. Failure to meet this requirement candidates will lose the right to be awarded the research contract.

### Documents to be attached:

The application must include:

- a) A research development project related to the research project specified for the selection in Annex A);
- b) A comprehensive scientific-professional curriculum containing all the necessary elements for assessing prior research activities and any relevant work experiences, in connection with the content of the research project under consideration (specifically indicating: date/duration, place of completion, etc.);
- c) For individuals with a foreign doctoral degree, an equivalence decree or determination; if the candidate already holds one, a copy of the foreign doctoral degree or a suitable certification issued by the foreign institution, confirming the components, duration, and activities of the doctoral programme undertaken to achieve the doctoral degree;
- d) Additional documents that the candidate deems useful for the selection purposes;
- e) Publications that the candidate considers relevant for the selection, considering the maximum number set for the selection, as indicated in Annex A), with a list signed by the candidate;
- f) Photocopies of the tax code and a current valid identification document.

**Candidates must submit the publications they intend to present exclusively in PDF format through the dedicated section of the online procedure.**

**Each publication shall not exceed 30 megabytes.**

**Publications not enclosed with the application will not be considered by the Selection Board. Lists with links to texts are not allowed as a replacement for publications.**

### Applications

Applications must be submitted online only, using the following link: <https://pica.cineca.it/unipi/>

or shall be invalid. An e-mail inbox is required to login and complete the application.

Candidates can login into PICA platform using the digital identifier SPID (Sistema Pubblico d'Identità Digitale - Public Digital Identity System) or Carta d'Identità Elettronica (CIE), selecting the University of Pisa among the available Institutions.

If candidates have no SPID, they can request it according to the procedures set forth on the website [www.spid.gov.it](http://www.spid.gov.it) or [www.cartaidentita.interno.gov.it](http://www.cartaidentita.interno.gov.it).

Candidates can also login with the credentials issued directly by PICA platform (please note: in order to apply online, the system requires an e-mail inbox for self-registration), with their LOGINMIUR, REPRISE or REFEREES account.

Applicants should provide all the required data and upload all documents in PDF format.

The system allows saving an application draft within the application deadline, recording the online application's date and sending a receipt with an automatic reply. After the deadline, the system will not allow login nor application submission.

Each application will be assigned a unique identification number to be referred to in all subsequent communications, along with the selection code provided by the application form.

Under penalty of exclusion, the application shall be valid only if including all the required data, the copy of a valid ID and:

- if submitted without accessing with digital identifier SPID/CIE, the applicant's signature is compulsorily required;
- If submitted by accessing with digital identifier SPID/CIE, the application will be automatically processed by the system and the applicant's signature is not required.

Applicants undertake to promptly communicate in writing any variations of what declared in the application form.

The communication shall be edited in PDF format, signed and forwarded to the Rector of the University of Pisa by the Italian certified e-mail system address ( P.E.C. Posta Elettronica Certificata): [protocollo@pec.unipi.it](mailto:protocollo@pec.unipi.it) or emailed to [concorsi\\_contratti@unipi.it](mailto:concorsi_contratti@unipi.it) , within the application's submission deadline.

An applicant's valid identification document shall be annexed.

For further information on application submission, please refer to [concorsi\\_contratti@unipi.it](mailto:concorsi_contratti@unipi.it).

For technical problems support only, please click on the bottom link available at <https://pica.cineca.it/unipi>.

#### **Selection procedure:**

For the selection under Annex A) the Director of the Department appoints a Selection Board consisting of the head of the research project and two other members.

Candidates are assessed comparatively on the basis of the following elements:

- a) Quality, originality and innovativeness of the research development project, with reference to the research project under consideration;
- b) Relevance and significance of the research activities previously carried out, as well as any work experience, in relation to the contents of the research project subject to the selection, in addition to documented qualifications (such as, for example, grade point average, postgraduate diplomas, any contracts, scholarships, conference presentations, and other documented qualifications);
- c) Quality, originality and innovativeness of the attached publications, as well as their relevance to the research project under consideration;
- d) An interview aimed at assessing the knowledge of the basic subjects of the scientific disciplinary sector to which the subject of the research project belongs, the suitability for carrying out the research activity under the contract and for the implementation of the research project, as well as the evaluation of knowledge of the English language and/or other languages relevant to the research (as reported in the

Annex A). During the interview, the Selection Board also assesses the knowledge of the Italian language for foreign candidates.

**The Selection Board has 100 points available for the comparative evaluation of the candidates: 60 points can be allocated for the criteria mentioned above under a), b) and c), and 40 points for the interview.**

The Selection Board may stipulate a minimum score below which eligibility cannot be awarded.

**Candidates are summoned for the interview on the day and time specified in the Annex A) for the procedure.**

Failure to attend an interview by a candidate is considered an explicit indication of their intention to withdraw from the selection process.

**Applicants for this selection are required to consult the University website at <https://bandi.unipi.it/public/Bandi?type=COR> (on the selection procedure page) during the two days preceding the date set for the interview.**

**On the University website (<https://bandi.unipi.it/public/Bandi?type=COR>), in the section dedicated to the procedure, the following will be published:**

- **Assessment scores for criteria a), b) and c);**
- **The list of candidates admitted to the interview;**
- **Practical instructions for carrying out the interview and/or any details should the interview be rescheduled;**
- **The procedure approval decree and the merit ranking that takes into account the scores achieved by the candidates.**

The prospective doctoral or postgraduate student may only enter into a contract after obtaining a doctoral or postgraduate medical degree. In the event that the PhD candidate or postgraduate student fails to obtain the degree within six months from the publication date of the selection notice, they will lose the right to be awarded the research contract.

Please note that the English version is given as a matter of courtesy, for the only purpose of information. It cannot be legally used in the event of a dispute or a claim arising from the interpretation of this translation and concerning the contents, a possible uncertainty, contradiction, or discrepancy. Should this occur, the Italian version of the call should prevail as the only valid. For full Italian text see: <https://bandi.unipi.it/public/Bandi?type=COR> (on the selection procedure page).

Department of Law

GSD 09/IINF-05 Information Processing Systems  
SSD IINF-05/A Information Processing Systems

GSD 12/GIUR-11 Comparative Law  
SSD GIUR-11/B Comparative Public Law

Progetto COMMJUST  
CUP I53C25002200001

Head of the Research Project  
Prof.ssa Angioletta Sperti

**Research Project:**

**Analysing Courts' Institutional Communication within the COMMJUST Project through Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, Large Language Models and Text Mining Methods**

The research project is part of the FIS3 Advanced project COMMJUST - Communicating Justice: Courts, Public Opinion and the Transformation of the Public Sphere, which is devoted to the study of the institutional communication of national and supranational courts and its effects on the public perception of justice, the legitimacy of courts, and the relationship between the judiciary, the media, and public opinion.

The research contract will concern scientific support to the PI, with particular regard to the scientific and methodological development of the artificial intelligence component of the project, and specifically to the application of Natural Language Processing, supervised and unsupervised machine learning, text mining, topic modelling, sentiment analysis, text classification, information retrieval, and Large Language Models (LLMs) to the analysis of large volumes of data relating to judicial communication, with particular attention to multilingual and comparative corpora drawn from different national and supranational legal systems.

The research will concern, in particular, the definition of criteria for the collection, selection, organisation, annotation, validation, and documentation of data according to principles of transparency and reproducibility, drawn from institutional websites, press releases, courts' informational materials, social media content, press articles, and other data relevant to the objectives of the project.

It will also include the methodological design of automated analysis procedures; the critical assessment of the outputs produced by the AI agent developed within COMMJUST, including benchmarking activities, empirical validation, and comparison with human coding procedures; the verification of risks relating to bias, algorithmic opacity, and misclassification; and the documentation of the methodological choices adopted.

The holder of the research contract will contribute to the integration of manual and automated data analysis, ensuring the connection between the scientific objectives of the project, the requirements of comparative legal analysis, and the technical solutions adopted for the development and refinement of the AI agent.

**Specific responsibilities within the project and functions to be performed:**

The holder of the research contract will carry out his/her activities under the scientific direction and coordination of the Principal Investigator, Prof. Angioletta Sperti, and will be specifically responsible for developing and overseeing the scientific and methodological component relating to the use of artificial intelligence, NLP and text mining tools within the COMMJUST project.

In particular, the holder of the research contract will be required to:

1. define the scientific and methodological criteria for the collection, selection, classification, annotation and validation of textual data relating to the institutional communication of courts;
2. identify, implement and assess Natural Language Processing, machine learning, Large Language Models, text mining, topic modelling, sentiment analysis, text classification and information retrieval methods;
3. cooperate, under the coordination and supervision of the PI, with the technologist/AI developer in defining the scientific and methodological requirements of the AI agent, contributing to the connection between the needs of comparative legal research and the technical development of the tool;
4. verify the quality, reliability and scientific consistency of the outputs produced by automated analysis tools, including through comparison with data manually coded or validated by the research team;

5. contribute to the prevention and mitigation of risks relating to bias, classification errors, algorithmic opacity and misunderstandings arising from technical legal language;
6. contribute to the documentation of data collection and analysis procedures, datasets, annotation criteria, evaluation metrics and the methodological choices adopted;
7. contribute to the definition of procedures for validating, replicating and ensuring the methodological robustness of the computational analyses developed within the project;
8. cooperate with the Principal Investigator and the other members of the research team in the preparation of reports, working papers, scientific articles and dissemination materials relating to the AI/NLP component of the project;
9. contribute, within his/her area of competence, to the interdisciplinary reflection on the use of artificial intelligence in the study of judicial communication and the public perception of courts

**Maximum number of publications that candidates may submit, including the doctoral thesis, if submitted: 6**

**Language skills:**  
English language

**Date, time and mode of the interview:**

**8<sup>th</sup> september 2026 at 10 am in presence at the Department of Law - Sala Pizzorusso, Piano terra - Piazza dei Cavalieri, 2 - Pisa**