



**The present document in English is to be considered as merely a summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition, which is available in Italian at the following [link](#). The text in Italian is considered to be the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, therefore, the Italian text is definitive in the event that there is a discrepancy between the Italian and English versions.**

### **Description**

The Department of Asian and North African Studies at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications in order to confer n. 3 self-employment assignments for independent contractors:

**Title:** "Support to the activity of the Principal Investigator of the Spin 2021 project *Language Endangerment and subjective wellbeing (LESWE)* through quantitative surveys to be carried out in the Ryukyu Islands"

**Principal Investigator** requesting support: Prof. Patrick Heinrich

**Duration:** 1 month each, with a starting date that could be different for each assignment, indicatively for all in the time span between 01st march 2022 and 31st August 2022.

### **Abstract of the SPIN project LESWE:**

Indigenous languages are more important for their speakers and society than has been previously thought. Most countries have established monolingual language regimes to create a sense of unity among their linguistically diverse population. Japan is a prototypical example. The effect is that indigenous languages – in Japan Ainu and Ryukyuan – have become endangered. We understand today that monolingual language regimes are problematic. Pilot studies among Aborigines in Canada and Australia show that linguistic assimilation that leaves no place for indigenous languages coincide with higher-than average mental and physical problems (e.g. depression, obesity). These findings prompt the following research question: *To what extent does the language people know and speak affect their mental and physical wellbeing?* To answer this question, this project studies language and wellbeing comparatively in three endangered language communities in the Ryukyus. The Ryukyus provide for a first compelling case as they are in themselves diverse, but the approach proposed here is replicable to all modern societies. This project adds a new perspective in the study of multilingualism that has implications for minority language education policies and for language maintenance and revitalization practices.

Candidates are requested to support the activity of the Principal Investigator of the Spin 2021 project *Language Endangerment and subjective wellbeing (LESWE)* through quantitative surveys to be carried out in the Ryukyu Islands.

### **Who can apply**

Candidates are expected to hold at least a BA degree and be proficient in Japanese language.

The knowledge of the Japanese language must be detectable from the course of studies, from language certifications, from long stays in Japan or from being a Japanese native speaker.

Candidates are moreover requested to have a good knowledge of the culture of the Ryukyu Islands or of linguistic activism in the Ryukyu Islands, detectable from the course of studies, publications or stays on site.

**Stipend: 1.430,00 Euro** (gross of withholding taxes and net of charges borne by the Institution).

**Deadline for submission of applications: December, 13th, 12.00 noon.**



Università  
Ca' Foscari  
Venezia

### **How to apply:**

Candidates should submit with the application form:

1. CV in European format (2 copies: 1 must be signed, 1 must not be signed)
2. declaration for assignments "Conferimento di incarichi" (2 copies: 1 must be signed, 1 must not be signed)
3. additional documentation that could be valid for evaluation purposes
4. A copy of a valid identity document

### **How to submit your application**

Applications should be submitted through the online procedure:

<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dsaam-occ-leswe2021>

**NB:** the University does not take on responsibility for wrong or late communication of addresses, nor for any communication problem not depending on the University.

### **Evaluation**

Up to 100 points, specifically:

Qualification beyond the BA degree: up to 10 pt.

Knowledge of the Japanese language: up to 45 pt.

Knowledge of the culture of the Ryukyu Islands or of linguistic activism in the Ryukyu Islands: up to 45 pt.

### **Information and contacts**

For further information please email: [ricerca.dsaam@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.dsaam@unive.it).