

LUISS



Leonardo 2019 Fellowship Luiss – UF One Health Center of Excellence

International trade issues and economic ramifications of the African Swine Fever crisis in Europe

Call for Application

DEADLINE: **October 25th, 2019** – 17.00 CET

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

ENVIRONMENT

African Swine Fever (ASF) is becoming a major veterinary concern. It is a viral disease of pigs accounting for mortality rates approaching 100%, meaning every infected individual has a near 100% chance of dying. Infection was recently detected in five wild boars on the boundaries between France and Luxemburg, in the heart of Europe. There is no vaccine against ASF, which makes mass culling the only option for disease control. This issue does not specifically concern the veterinary or the agricultural sector only. It causes major economic losses with short, medium and long-term implication for the disruption of the production system.

The European Union (EU) economy and trade regulations have been supported by a Common Agricultural Policy since 1958. This has been one of the strongholds of the EU, enabling it to become a top commercial player in the global economy, also in the agricultural sector. This devastating disease has the potential of seriously shaking such foundations. The management of a massive ASF outbreak in the EU comprises not only huge direct costs associated with the death (and necessary slaughtering) of infected pigs, but also indirect costs related to halting on production and exports, to indemnification of farmers and to swine depopulation. In addition, there are other serious challenges to consider: the political and ethical issues associated with the killing of clinically healthy, but potentially infected animals, the practical difficulties on the disposal of carcasses and animal waste and the sanitization of swine.

OBJECTIVES OF THE FELLOWSHIP Research programs spanning across the multiple disciplines are urgently needed. The six-month Fellowship will address the **ASF crisis in Europe**, with a completely novel multi-layer interdisciplinary approach that will involve as core institutions Luiss Guido Carli University (Luiss), University of Florida (UF), Institute for Scientific Interchange (ISI) and other partner institutions which will be identified at a later stage.

EXPECTED RESULTS The outcome of the Fellowship will be at least **one published article or feasibility study** following the research conducted by the selected candidate and a final dissemination event (conference or similar).

SUPERVISOR **Pr. Ilaria Capua**
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HOST INSTITUTIONS Luiss Guido Carli University, Rome, Italy
University of Florida (UF), Gainesville, Florida
Institute for Scientific Interchange (ISI), Turin, Italy

POST DESCRIPTION

TITLE Leonardo Fellowship on “International trade issues and economic ramifications of the African Swine Fever crisis in Europe”.

RESEARCH AIM The selected candidate will be in charge of exploring the economic implications of the spread of African Swine Fever (ASF) to the industrial compartment in selected pilot European countries, possibly including projections of the potential costs of delays to the implementation of control measures.

HIRING INSTITUTION Luiss Guido Carli University, Rome, Italy

LOCATION The selected candidate will be based in **Rome**, Italy (Luiss), but he/she must be able to conduct short research periods either to Gainesville, Florida (UF), Turin (ISI) or any other partner institutions which will be identified at a later stage.

DURATION **6 months** (January 20th, 2020 – July 20th, 2020)

INCOME 1500 € gross per month (not covering visa expenses)

REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE and CAREER At least 3 years Bachelor's Degree, in the area of Economics, International Trade, Food and Agricultural Sciences, Healthcare, Health Economics, Veterinary Studies, Global Governance, Development Studies.

Preferably enrolled in a PhD program.

Knowledge of the **food supply chain** or previous working experience in this field is highly appreciated.

LANGUAGE Excellent oral and written **communication skills in English** are a prerequisite.

English proficiency must be attested through an internationally recognized proficiency certificate (i.e. IELTS, TOEFL or Cambridge).

HOW TO APPLY

June 1st 2019 TILL
OCTOBER 25TH 2019

Online **application open** and accessible through the [Luiss website](#).

**BY OCTOBER 25TH
2019**

Candidates must apply through Luiss online application which will request the following information:

1. Updated academic CV
2. A proof of language proficiency
3. Two academic recommendation letters (if available)

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER 25TH 2019
TILL NOVEMBER 8TH
2019

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to submit to a **Skype interview in English** with the supervisors.

BY NOVEMBER 30TH
2019

Shortlisted candidates will be informed about **final decision**.

BY JANUARY 20TH
2019

The selected candidate will arrive at the Luiss Guido Carli (Rome, Italy) to **start** his/her fellowship.