



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DELL'AQUILA

Amministrazione centrale
Area Ricerca e Trasferimento Tecnologico
Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca

D.R. Rep. n. 1757/2022 - Prot. n. 147831 Attachments 1

of 22/12/2022

Year 2022 Tit. III Cl. 6 Fasc. 8 Sottofasc. 2

PUBLIC COMPETITION FOR ONE POSITION TO Ph.D. COURSE IN PHYSICAL AND CHIMICAL SCIENCES - OF THE PROJECT

**“HOMTech - Optical fiber higher order mode technologies and their application within communication,
sensing and bio imaging”**

Grant Agreement n. 101072409

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023

THE RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF L'AQUILA

IN FORCE OF law May 9, 1989 n. 168, concerning the establishment of the Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica;

IN FORCE OF law August 13, 1984 n. 476, establishing rules on university scholarships;

IN FORCE OF law November 30, 1989 n. 398, establishing rules on university scholarships;

IN FORCE OF article n. 4 of the law of July, 3 July 1998 n. 210, which provides that the universities, with their own regulation establish the Ph.D. schools;

IN FORCE OF article 19 of the law of December, 30 2010 n. 240;

HAVING REGARD TO the D.P.C.M. of April 9, 2001 "Disposizioni per l'uniformità del trattamento sul diritto agli studi universitari" according to the article n. 4 of the law of December 2, n. 390;

IN FORCE OF legislative decree March 29, 2012 n. 68;

IN FORCE OF subsection 262 of the law of December 11, 2016 n. 232;

HAVING REGARD TO the DD. MM. 509/1999 e 270/2004 which provides rules about the didactic autonomy of Universities;

HAVING REGARD TO D.M. n. 226 of 14 december 2021 “Regolamento recante modalità di accreditamento delle sedi e dei corsi di dottorato e criteri per la istituzione dei corsi di dottorato da parte degli enti accreditati”;

HAVING REGARD TO the rules for the admission of foreign students to the university course published on MUR web site;

HAVING REGARD TO the Regulation of the Ph.D. Schools of the University of L'Aquila;

HAVING REGARD TO Ethical Code of University of L'Aquila issued by D.R. n. 734/2020 of July 27, 2020;

HAVING REGARD TO the D.L. 36/2022, converted with amendments by Law 29 June 2022, n. 79;

CONSIDERED the transitional provisions of Article 14, paragraph 6-quaterdecies of Decree-Law 36/2022, converted with amendments by Law n. 79 of June 29, 2022;

HAVING REGARD TO the Grant Agreement n. 101072409 of the project “HOMTech - Optical fiber higher order mode technologies and their application within communication, sensing and bio imaging”;

HAVING REGARD TO the resolution of the Board of Professors of PhD course in Physical and Chemical Sciences of November 23, 2022, acquired as prot. n. 137307 of 24/11/2022;



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HAVING REGARD TO the resolution of the Academic Senate of December 13, 2022;

HAVING REGARD TO the resolution of the Board of Administration of December 14, 2022;

HEREBY DECREES

ART. 1

Public competition procedures based on qualifications and examinations for admission to the Ph.D. Course in Physical and Chemical Sciences at the University of L'Aquila.

Ph.D. Course in Physical and chemical sciences	
Positions available	1
Financial employment	First stage researcher
Start of business	By April 1 st , 2023
Grant Funding	Grant Agreement n. 101072409 of the project "HOMTech - Optical fiber higher order mode technologies and their application within communication, sensing and bio <u>imaging</u> "
Local Project Coordinator	<i>Prof. Cristian Antonelli</i> cristian.antonelli@univaq.it
Project Description	The project aims to develop multi-mode techniques and devices for space-division multiplexed optical communications, both fiber-based and in free space, as well as for sensing and bio-medical imaging. The research effort will involve seven universities, one research center, and three European industrial partners, and will be supported by two international research institutions that are leaders in research on optical communications, one in the US (Nokia Bell Labs) and one in Japan (the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology, NICT). The University of L'Aquila will share the INCIPICT testbed (http://incipict.univaq.it/) with the HOMTech consortium.
Candidate Profile	The candidates must have a Masters degree in Information Engineering or in Telecommunications or in Physics (or similar subjects) and are expected to be familiar with the fundamentals of communications, optics and photonics or foreign degrees with certified equivalency or recognized as equivalent to the aforementioned qualifications. A good knowledge of written and spoken English is required.
Duration	3 years
University Department Responsible for the Ph.D.Course	Department of Physical and chemical sciences
Web-site	https://dsfc.univaq.it/phdpc/
Ph.D. Course Coordinator	<i>Prof. Massimiliano Aschi</i> massimiliano.aschi@univaq.it



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Admission Pre-requisites	<p>Candidates should hold a Master-level Degrees in Information Engineering or in Telecommunications or in Physics (or similar subjects) or foreign degrees with certified equivalency or recognized as equivalent to the aforementioned qualifications.</p> <p>Candidates should have a strong background in fundamentals of communications, electromagnetic fields, optics and photonics.</p> <p>At the time of recruitment, the candidates must not have resided, or carried out his/her activity in Italy for more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to recruitment date.</p> <p>When starting their contract selected researchers should be within the first four years of their careers. This means being both within a four years window following their most recent graduation and not having been awarded a prior doctoral degree so far.</p>
How to apply	<p>The application must be submitted only via the online procedure available at: https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/dott38-sfc-homtech</p> <p>The documents must be attached in pdf format.</p> <p>The application and the attached documents are submitted automatically by closing the online procedure. So, no hard copy of the application and of the documents must be sent to the office.</p>
Admission Procedure	<p>Qualification assessment and oral exam.</p> <p>Candidates take the oral exam via web (Microsoft Teams). In the application form, the candidate must indicate a valid contact address. The testing commission will certify the identity of the candidate, to this end the candidate shall be required to show a valid identification document with recent photo, during the oral exam. Foreign applicants may sit the oral exam in English.</p>
Documents to be enclosed in the Application	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Curriculum Vitae2. Candidates holding Italian Degrees must provide a self-certification concerning their Bachelor-level Degree and Master-level Degree with a list of exams taken and marks obtained (only for candidates who have obtained their Degree in Italy or a EU country); If the candidate has a foreign Degree (Bachelor-level Degree and Master-level Degree) obtained in a non-EU country, a copy of the Degree certification obtained with a transcript of records of the exams taken and an Italian or English translation provided by the applicant under his/her responsibility; any other documentation deemed useful for the qualification assessment (Diploma Supplement, diploma translated and legalized by the competent Italian Diplomatic Authorities in the country where the degree has been awarded, declaration of value on site if already in possession, etc...).In any case, the examination commission reserves the right to evaluate the foreign Degree presented by the candidate.3. The candidate must indicate the name of two professors with their e-mail address. The referee will receive an e-mail with the instruction to write the recommendation letter directly on line.4. A summary of their Master Degree thesis (<i>Max 2 pag.</i>)5. Motivational letter that highlights the coherence between the candidate's profile and the positions referred to in this announcement.



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	<p>6. Any publications deemed appropriate for evaluation;</p> <p>7. Other qualifications deemed appropriate for evaluation.</p> <p>8. Photocopy of the candidate's identity card.</p>
Language(s)	<p>Assessment of foreign language skills English language skills and competence shall be assessed during the oral exam</p> <p>Admission The candidate may take the oral exam in ENGLISH</p>
Exam schedule	<p><i>Evaluation of documentation: February 8, 2023</i></p> <p><i>Interview: February 15 and 22, 2023</i>, via web - Microsoft Teams platform. (Candidates will receive communications about the admission, the date and the time of the interview by email from the Local Project Coordinator.)</p>
Assessment Criteria	<p>The assessment procedure consists in two phases: qualification assessment and an oral exam. Scores are indicated out of a total of 100 points, assigned as follows:</p> <p>1. Qualification assessment: Max. 50/100 points attributed through assessment of the candidate's CV, motivational letter, publications and other qualifications. The minimum score required for admission to sit the oral exam is 40/100.</p> <p>2. Oral exam:</p> <p>Max. 50/100, with a 40/100 passing mark. The oral exam aim is to evaluate the candidate's aptitude and motivation for research.</p> <p>The oral exam will be mainly on topics related to basic aspects of telecommunications and electromagnetic field propagation, also taking into account the candidate's curriculum vitae.</p> <p>The exam includes assessment of the candidate's English language skills. Foreign students may sit the oral exam in English.</p>

ART. 2 Requirements for Access

Candidates holding a Master-level Degree or other University Degree corresponding to criteria specified in DM – Ministerial Decree – 509/1999, or those holding a foreign Degree with certified equivalency, within the deadline of this selection announcement, may, with no limitations as to age or citizenship, apply to participate in the Ph.D. selection process.

Candidates holding a foreign Degree who have not as yet obtained certified equivalency required for the admission to the Ph.D. course, must include the following documents in their application (necessary for the Examination Commission to evaluate the Degree as conforming to requirements):

- a copy of the Degree certification (Bachelor-level Degree and Master-level Degree) obtained with a transcript of records of the exams taken and an Italian or English translation provided by the applicant under his/her responsibility;



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- any other documentation deemed useful for the qualification assessment (Diploma Supplement, diploma translated and legalized by the competent Italian Diplomatic Authorities in the country where the degree has been awarded, declaration of value on site if already in possession, etc..).

The academic qualification held by the candidate must refer to a course with a duration of at least 4 years and allow the access to a Ph.D. course in the country in which it was awarded.

Eligibility of the qualification will be verified by the Course's Admission Committee and will only be granted for the sole purpose of admission to the chosen Ph.D. course.

The selection procedure is **NOT OPEN** to candidates who have already been awarded by a doctoral degree.

The selection procedure is **NOT OPEN** to candidates that at the time of recruitment, have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Italy for more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to recruitment date. When starting their contract selected researchers should be within the first four years of their careers. This means being both within a four years window following their most recent graduation.

ART. 3 Applications

The application form may only be submitted using the dedicated online procedure, available at: <https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/dott38-sfc-homtech> **starting at 11:00 a.m. on December 23, 2022 and no later than 1:00 p.m. (CEST) on January 25, 2023 (the expiration date of the notice)**

The application must be signed.

Lack of signature or typed signature is grounds for exclusion from selection.

There are 3 methodologies to sign it and the candidate must select one of them and read carefully they directions.

- By digital signature using smart card, USB token or remote signature which allow the owner to sign general documents by means of a signature software or a Remote Signature web portal made available by the Auditor. Those who have a Digital Signature smart card or USB token shall verify that they are compatible with the Digital Signature system integrated in the system server. If so, the owner may sign the application directly in the system server (e.g. ConFirma);

- Those who do not have compatible digital signature devices and the Remote Digital Signature Owners who may access a web portal for signing general documents shall save in their own PC the .pdf file generated by the system and, without modifying it, digitally sign it in CADES format. A .p7m file will be generated, which shall be saved and uploaded again in the system. Any editing to the file before signing with the Digital Signature shall interfere with the automatic check of correspondence between the content of such a document and the original, and this will bring to the application exclusion;

- If none of the above-mentioned options can be used candidates shall save in their own PC the .pdf file generated by the system and, without modifying it, print and sign it with full original signature in the last page of the printed document. A scanned .pdf copy of such a document shall be produced and the file thus obtained shall be uploaded to the system.

In case the access to the platform is via SPID, it is not necessary to sign the application with one of the aforementioned methods.

All required documents to be submitted, listed in the information sheet for the Ph.D. course (art. 1), must be annexed to the application form, together with a copy of an identity document. All documentation must be attached in pdf format.



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For all legal purposes, the application is to be considered as a self-certification of the data included therein and of the attached documents, in accordance with articles 46 and 47 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments.

The candidate must request reference letters. A notification will be sent automatically sent to the selected referee only when the application has been fully submitted. The referee must compile the reference letter scheme and submit it by the deadline of **January 31, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. CEST**.

Reference letters attached by the candidate will not be taken into consideration.

The application is automatically sent to the University when the online procedure has finally been completed. Therefore, no paperwork needs to be delivered or sent to the University's offices.

Candidates are invited to complete applications for the selection process well in advance of the closing date specified in this call. Candidates are responsible for verifying that the procedure is completed correctly. No complaints will be accepted for any malfunctioning of the IT system due to overload experienced by candidates near the closing date.

After the deadline of the call it will no longer be possible to change the application for participation.

In force of Italian Law no. 104/92, as amended by Italian Law no. 17/99, disabled candidates may request an individual examination (with the use of aids, any additional time required, etc.) to complete the required entry examinations.

According to the art. 15 of Law 183/2011 and following the interpretation done by the Directive of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, signed by the Minister of Public Administration and Simplification, n. 61547 of 22/12/2011, the University can't accept certifications issued by other Public Administrations.

Therefore, if the titles declared by candidates and attached to the application for admission to the competition, have been issued by Italian public universities, they must only be self-certified.

Following the rules on self-certification, the University will verify the veracity of the self-certification, pursuant to the Consolidated Law on Finance. 445/2000.

ART. 4 Examinations

1. The examination procedures and the dates of the exams are indicated in art. 1.

Candidates are not required to be present during the evaluation procedure of the submitted documents.

The Candidates will receive communications about the admission, the date and the time of the interview by email from the Local Project Coordinator.

A candidate's absence at the time and place indicated for examinations will automatically mean he/she renounces to participate at the competition.

ANY CHANGES IN DATES AND TIMES WILL BE MADE PUBLIC ON THE UNIVERSITY WEB-SITE

2. Candidates sit the oral exam via web conference communication systems (Microsoft Teams). The candidate is required to provide contact information in their application and guarantee the use of a web-cam to allow the Examination Committee to verify the candidate's identity.

3. Foreign applicants may sit the oral exam in English.



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ART. 5

Examination Committee Assessment Criteria and Ranking List

The Examination Committee is appointed by the Rector through a specific decree and is composed by a minimum of three to a maximum of five members among professors and assistant professors. At least one of the members must be full Professor.

Having regard to Italian Law about “Equal Opportunities for Men and Women” and specifically to Art. 57 of the Leg. Decree n. 165, 30 March 2001, at least one third of the Examining Board has to be women, except impossibility to be demonstrated when the Board proposal is made. In any case the gender balance must be respected: each gender must be represented at least by one third of components.

Having regard to Art. 35 bis of the Leg. Decree n. 165, 30 March 2001, Individuals condemned for crimes – even if not yet sentenced – in Book II of the Italian Penal Code (“crimes by civil servants against public administration”) cannot be nominated as members of the Examining Board.

Teachers who have issued letters of reference to candidates cannot be part of the exam boards.

The Commission can carry out the preliminary meeting and the meeting relating to the evaluation of the candidates' qualifications electronically. Insofar as they are compatible, the rules of the University Regulations on the subject are guided (D.R. n. 467–2016 of 18/04/2016 modified with D.R. 318-2020 of 17/03/2020 and with D.R. n. 21 of 17/01/2022).

The candidate's scores will be indicated out of a total of 100 points.

The results of the assessment of the qualifications will be published on the web site of the University <https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2163> and on the web site of the concerned Department.

The interview will focus on the topics indicated in the sheet (art.1).

At the end of the session the Examination Committee draws up the list of the interviewed applicants with the obtained scores.

The lists, signed by the President and by the secretary of the Examination Committee will be published on the site of the Department at which the test was conducted, on the same day of the oral examination. (<https://dsfc.univaq.it/phdpc/>).

Once the competition have been completed, the Examination Committee draws up two final ranking lists, The University Administration makes this list public by publishing the list on the official notice board of the University and on the University web site provided, the validity of the examination procedure has been checked.

Candidates will be admitted to the course according to the order established in the general merit ranking within the limit of the places specified in the announcement.

In case of equal merit, the Ph.D. position will be conferred to the younger candidate.

This selection is also valid to get the employment position as first stage researcher.

ART. 6

Enrolment in Ph.D. Courses

Successful candidate must submit their enrolment through the University of L'Aquila official website (https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2163&lang_s=en), within 15 days from online publication of selection results.



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No information will be sent to the candidate's home. Candidate granted admission to the Courses are responsible for checking enrolment dates and procedures.

Failure to enroll by the deadlines set for each Course will be considered as drop out and the place will subsequently be assigned to the next candidate according to the ranking.

The enrolment forms, available on the University website, duly signed, must be delivered to the "Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca", within the deadline foreseen for the enrolment. The documents can be delivered in one of the following ways:

- by certified e-mail (PEC) addressed to protocollo@pec.univaq.it.
The certified e-mail account used must be the candidate's personal account. The administration shall not accept documents from candidates using certified e-mail accounts belonging to other individuals or to institutions. The University Administration declines all responsibility for any non-deliveries or misdeliveries of the documents sent via PEC or in case the documents attached to it are non-readable or damaged. The date of submission will be indicated on the receipt sent automatically by the PEC system.
- by mail addressed to concorso.dottorati@univaq.it. All documentation must be attached in pdf format.

Candidates with a qualification obtained abroad, when they arrive in Italy, are required to deliver the originals of the documentation relating to the qualification to the Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca.

The documents to submit compulsory are the followings:

- a) Enrolment form;
- b) Self-Declaration in substitution of certification and Self-Declaration in substitution of attested affidavit in accordance with articles 46 and 47 of the Presidential Decree – 28th December, 2000, n.-445 (using the forms available on the University website <https://www.univaq.it/section.php?id=684>);
- c) a copy of an identity document;
- d) a photocopy of the candidate's fiscal-code number;
- e) a photocopy of the candidate's "Italian-residency permit" (permesso di soggiorno) – only for non-EU citizens.

Foreign citizens must declare possessing the following requisites:

- 1) that they benefit from civil rights and right to vote in their country;
- 2) that, aside from Italian citizenship, they possess all other requisites required for citizens of the Italian Republic.

Applicants holding a university Degree awarded abroad must enclose, also, the following documents, translated and certified by competent Italian Diplomatic Authorities:

- copy of their university degree indicating their final mark;
- degree transcripts indicating the exams taken during their course and marks awarded.

Alternatively, the winner may present the certificate of comparability issued by CIMEA as part of the agreement stipulated with the University of L'Aquila (<https://www.cimea.it/pagina-attestati-di-comparabilita-e-verification-of-qualifications>).

For the registration, please enter the service Diplome, via the following link <https://cimea.diplome.eu/univaq/#/auth/login>.



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If the above documentation is not available at the time of enrolment, the candidate's enrolment shall be deemed "subject to verification". In this case all above mentioned compulsory documentation must be consigned by and no later than the June 30, 2023; failure to do so will result in expulsion from the course.

Within 15 days from the start of the Ph.D. Course, successful candidate must send by mail at dsfc.sac@strutture.univaq.it, (Accounting Office of Department of Physical and Chemical Sciences) a photocopy of a receipt from the INPS (national social security service), certifying that they have been registered in "posizione contributiva alla gestione separate" (for information visit the INPS web-site at www.inps.it).

False declarations shall lead to the candidate's expulsion from the Ph.D. course and to prescribed sanctions for such offenses, vacant positions will be assigned to other candidates according to the ranking list.

Successful candidates who do not want to enroll in the course they have been selected for, must immediately send a signed letter of renouncement enclosing a photocopy (front-back) of their identity card.

Candidates selected as replacements must write a letter of acceptance within three days of notification that they have been accepted. All other necessary documents indicated in this announcement must be consigned within, and no later than, ten days after receiving notification.

ART. 7 **Salary amount**

The Research employment contract, indicated in the Ph.D. chart (art. 1) is assigned according to the ranking list drawn up by the Examination Committee as established in the previous art. 5.

The successful candidate will receive a gross living allowance per year of € 39.739,20 (including income tax and retirement pension contribution). This amount is subject to INPS (Social Security Service) contributions amounting to 35,03 % for the year 2022 of which 11,677 % is to be paid by the grant beneficiary.

The successful candidate will receive a mobility allowance of € 7.200,00 per year and a family allowance (depending on family status at the date of recruitment) of € 5.940,00 per year

The above salary cannot be accumulated with other grants except for those provided by national or foreign institutions which are aimed at integrating the Ph.D. student's research activity with periods abroad.

The total of the living allowance will be paid monthly.

ART. 8 **Lessons Abroad**

During the three years of the PhD course, the Ph.D. student will to spend time in other participating institutions, according to the Local Project Coordinator advise.

The Ph.D. student before going abroad, must sent to the Ph.D. office, *Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca*, the following documents:

- signed authorization by the course Coordinator for training/study periods abroad of less than 6 months or
- board resolution allowing a period of over 6 months.



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Upon returning to Italy the Ph.D. student shall present to the course Coordinator the certification from the foreign institution stating the Ph.D. student's attendance, to be transmitted to *Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca*.

ART. 9 Tuition Fees

The full tuition amounts to the required Regional university tax.
In case of delayed payment the students has to add to the previous amount the tax of € 52.00.

ART. 10 Rights and Duties

1. Ph.D. students are obliged to attend lessons and carry out all prescribed activities regularly in accordance with the programs and schedules set by the Board of Professors and according to the Local Project Coordinator of the project "*HOMTech - Optical fiber higher order mode technologies and their application within communication, sensing and bio imaging*";
2. He/She will have to participate to the activities of the project "*HOMTech - Optical fiber higher order mode technologies and their application within communication, sensing and bio imaging*" o as specified by the Program and/or required by the Project Coordinator and/or Supervisors, including involments in meetings, schools, workshops and training activities;
3. He/She will write up the results of research activity and present research papers and publications at meetings and conferences as advised by Supervisors.
4. The University provides insurance coverage for the entire duration of the Ph.D. course and for activities pertaining to the course;
5. Interruptions in attendance shall be allowed for, illness or injury for periods of 30 days or more;
6. Maternity/paternity leave and leave for adoption or foster care may also be authorized. Maternity-leave laws and regulations as indicated in Gazzetta Ufficiale n. 247 of 23rd October, 2007 shall be applied.
7. A Ph.D. student's unexcused absence or non-fulfillment of obligations shall result in his/her exclusion from the course by the Board of Professors.
8. Ph.D. students enrolled at the University of L'Aquila may carry out limited teaching or tutoring activities within the University's Bachelor and Master-level degree courses if so established and programmed by the Board of Professors in agreement with the University Department.

ART. 11 Graduation

The title of Doctoral degree (Dott. Ric or Ph.D.) will be awarded provided a positive evaluation of the Ph.D. thesis, taking into account the achieved results.

The Ph.D. thesis can be written in Italian or in English and has to have an abstract in English. The Ph.D. thesis can be written in a language different from Italian or English provided the Board of Professors's authorization.

The evaluation committee for the Ph.D. thesis defence will be appointed according to the Ph.D. Courses University Rules.



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ART. 12

Head of the Competition Procedure

According to art. 5 of law 07/08/1990, n. 241, the Head of the Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca of the University of L'Aquila (Piazza Santa Margherita, 2 – Palazzo Camponeschi - L'Aquila) shall be responsible for the competition procedure.

ART. 13

Legal Reference

For all other matters not foreseen or included in this announcement we shall refer to Law n. 210 of 03/07/98, Law n. 240 of 30/12/2010, Ministerial Decree 226/2021 and to the “Regolamento dei corsi di Dottorato di Ricerca” (Ph.D. regulations) of this University and to the Grant Agreement N. **101072409** of the project “*HOMTech - Optical fiber higher order mode technologies and their application within communication, sensing and bio imaging*”.

This announcement is available at: https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2163&lang_s=en

Further information may be requested by contacting the competent Ph.D. office:

Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca – tel. 0862/432032/432055/432704/432061/432032

e-mail: dot@strutture.univaq.it.

Further information concerning the Project “**HOMTech**” may be requested by contacting the Local Project Coordinator: *Professor Cristian Antonelli* cristian.antonelli@univaq.it

L'Aquila, 21/12/2022

The Rector of the University of L'Aquila
Signed Prof. Edoardo Alesse