SISSA
Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati

Translation of Announcement for 1 research position
at the Physics Area of SISSA
Decree No. 877 dated 10 November 2025

THE DIRECTOR

Having regard to Law No. 168 of 9 May 1989;
Having regard to Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990 and all subsequent amendments and additions;
Having regard to Law No. 413 of 12 October 1993;
Having regard to Presidential Decree No. 445 dated 28 December 2000;
Having regard to Legislative Decree No. 165 of 30 March 2001 and all subsequent amendments and additions;
Having regard to Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended by Legislative Decree No. 101 of 10 August 2018, which transposes the EU General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR);
Having regard to Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;
Having regard to Law No. 183 of 12 November 2011, and to Art. 15 in particular;
Having regard to the Statute of SISSA, issued by Directorial Decree No. 40 of 18 January 2012, published in the Official Journal No. 36 dated 13 February 2012, in force since 28 February 2012;
Having regard to SISSA Directorial Decree No. 121 dated 5 March 2012;
Having regard to Directorial Decree No. 295 of 21 May 2012, establishing SISSA's scientific Areas;
Given the Decree No. 639/2024 of 2 May 2024, issued by the Ministry of University and Research, concerning the determination of scientific-disciplinary groups and their descriptions, as well as the streamlining and updating of scientific-disciplinary sectors, and their reassignment to scientific-disciplinary groups, pursuant to Article 15 of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010;
Having regard to Decree-Law No. 45 of 7 April 2025, converted with amendments by Law No. 79 of 5 June 2025, and in particular to Art. 1-bis introducing Articles 22-bis and 22-ter into Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;
Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 592 of 6 August 2025, determining the minimum remuneration for post-doc and research appointment;
Given the resolutions adopted by the Academic Senate on 23 September 2025 and by the Board of Directors on 30 September 2025;
Having regard to the SISSA Regulation for the award of research appointments pursuant to Art. 22-ter of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010, issued by Directorial Decree No. 750/2025 of 1 October 2025;
Having regard to the resolutions adopted by the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors of SISSA on 20 February 2024 and 27 February 2024 respectively, providing for reimbursement of health insurance costs for foreign research

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personnel (EU and non-EU), to be covered either by external funds or by the School, including, where applicable, travel health insurance for relocation to Trieste;
Having regard to the resolution adopted by the Board of Directors on 28 October 2025, based on the assent granted by the Academic Senate on 21 October 2025, authorising the launch of the public selection procedure for the award of a research appointment pursuant to Art. 22-ter of Law No. 240/2010;
Given the availability of financial coverage for the abovementioned research position pursuant to Art. 22-ter of Law No. 240/2010, funded by the project HE-ERC-Synergy Grant, title of the project: Making Sense of the Unexpected in the Gravitational-Wave Sky, acronym "GWSky", scientific responsible: Prof. Barausse (UGOV code: R_HE_ERC_SyG_FISI_Barausse_1067; project code: G93C25000270006; Financing Agency: European Commission; Funding channel: ERC Synergy grant; Grant Agreement n.101167314);

D E C R E E S

Art. 1 - **A public selection based on qualifications and project is hereby announced for 1 research appointment in the research field detailed in Annex 1. Full details, admission requirements and duration are listed in Annex 1.**
Pursuant to Art. 7, par. 1, of the Italian Legislative Decree No. 165/2001, public administration bodies ensure gender equality and equal opportunities, as well as the absence of any form of direct or indirect discrimination on grounds of gender, age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, religious belief and language, affecting access to employment, working conditions and economic treatment, vocational training, career advancement and workplace safety. Public administration bodies also guarantee a working environment characterised by organisational well-being and undertake to detect, counteract and eliminate any kind of moral or psychological violence in the working environment".

Art.2 - Eligible candidates must hold a second-cycle (Master's level) degree or a single-cycle degree obtained no more than six years prior to the application deadline, and must possess a scientific-professional curriculum suitable for supporting research activities, as well as meet the additional requirements specified in Annex 1.
Individuals who have held fixed-term researcher positions pursuant to Art. 24 of Law No. 240/2010, as well as permanent staff of public administrations, are excluded from applying.
In accordance with art. 18 of the Italian Law No. 240/10, candidates having a family relationship or other degree of kinship up to the 4th degree with the following persons are also excluded from applying:

- SISSA Professors belonging to the Area that requested the position;
- Director of SISSA;
- Secretary General of SISSA;
- Member of the Board of Directors of SISSA.

Research appointments do not give rise to any rights regarding access to permanent positions within the institutions awarding them, nor can they be counted for the purposes referred to in Article 20 of Legislative Decree No. 75 of 25 May 2017.

Art.3 – The employment contract, drawn up in writing, is signed by the contractor and the Director.
The gross annual amount of the contract, as indicated in Annex 1, is stated before any charges payable by the contractor. Said amount shall be paid to the beneficiary in equal monthly installments in arrears.
The contracts are governed, for tax purposes, by Article 4 of Law No. 476 of 13 August 1984, as subsequently amended and supplemented, and, for social security purposes, by Article 2, paragraphs 26 et seq., of Law No. 335 of 8 August 1995, as subsequently amended and supplemented.
The School provides insurance coverage against workplace accidents and third-party liability for the contractors during the performance of their research activities. The cost of such insurance premiums shall be deducted annually from the amount payable to each contractor.

Art.4 – Research appointments are not compatible with attendance of Bachelor's, Specialist or Master's degree courses, PhD programmes, or medical specialization courses, either in Italy or abroad, nor with holding PhD scholarships or other scholarships of any kind awarded by national or foreign institutions, except when such scholarships are aimed at international mobility for research purposes. Research appointments are also incompatible with holding research grants, research contracts, other post-doc appointments or research assignments, fixed-term researcher contracts, and entail leave without pay for employees serving in public administrations.
Without prejudice to the above, holders of research appointments are subject to the provisions of the Regulation on assignments and external activities for academic staff regarding incompatible activities, activities requiring authorization, and activities freely exercisable. Activities subject to authorization shall be assessed and approved by the relevant scientific structure.

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Art.5 – To be eligible for the public selection for the award of the research appointment referred to in this announcement, candidates must meet the requirements described in Annex 1.
To prove the equivalence of a qualification so as to meet the requirements described in Annex 1, candidates must refer to the list of equivalences available on the website of the Italian Ministry of University and Research (https://www.mur.gov.it/it/aree-tematiche/universita/equipollenze-equivalenza-ed-equiparazioni-tra-titoli-di-studio/titoli-0).
Qualifications obtained abroad and declared equivalent by the Italian authority, according to the current legislation, will be accepted for the purposes of the selection procedure.
In the event of a foreign degree that has not already been declared equivalent in Italy according to the law (https://www.cimea.it/EN/), the examining board may admit the candidate upon evaluation of his/her study plan and its consistency with the scientific sectors specified in Annex 1. Such evaluation is relevant only for the purposes of this selection procedure.

Art. 6 - The Evaluation Committee is appointed by SISSA's Director's Decree upon proposal by the relevant Scientific Structures. The Committee is normally composed of at least three members, ensuring adequate gender representation, including a Chairperson and a Secretary, selected among professors and researchers from SISSA, universities, national or international research institutions, or experts in the disciplinary fields relevant to the call. The selection is carried out by the Committee based on the evaluation of the applications duly received, according to the criteria previously established as set forth in the following Table:

Qualification	Evaluation criteria	Score
Research project	Quality and relevance for the purpose of the research activity	max 40 points
Academic qualifications (degree, PhD, additional post-graduate diplomas, etc.)	Possession of the qualification, relevance to the research field covered by the contract, score/evaluation achieved	max 15 points
Publications and research (software, databases, patents, etc.)	Quality and relevance for the purpose of the research activity	max 30 points

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Other qualifications (professional experience in Italy and abroad, letters of reference if required, relevant technical or experimental skills, etc.)	Quality and relevance for the purpose of the research activity	max 15 points
TOTAL		**Max 100 points**

A candidate is eligible if s/he scores at least 70/100.

The Committee may use telematic tools for collegial work, carrying out the evaluation of qualifications, identifying eligible candidates, formulating the ranking list, and simultaneously drafting the minutes electronically.
At the conclusion of its work, the Committee shall prepare the minutes containing the evaluation criteria, the overall score of each candidate, and the ranking list. In the event of a tie, preference shall be given to the younger candidate.
The competition documents and the related ranking list shall be approved by a decree of the Director.
The candidate placed in a suitable position in the ranking shall enter into a contract with SISSA regulating the conduct of the research activity pursuant to Art. 22-ter of Law No. 240/2010.
Placement in the ranking list does not constitute a title for subsequent evaluation procedures.

Art.7 - **Under penalty of exclusion, the application** for this selection procedure, along with the relevant qualifications held and relevant scientific publications, **shall be submitted online through the electronic application accessible at the following address:** https://pica.cineca.it/sissa/idr-fe-fisi-04-2025.
A valid email address is required for the registration process.
Applicants shall upload all personal and professional data as requested by the application procedure and attach the documents in electronic PDF format. Each attachment may not exceed 30MB.
All fields in the online application form must be filled out. Under penalty of exclusion, the application must contain:

- a curriculum vitae with a complete list of the candidate's scientific and professional activities;
- a valid ID of the candidate, to be uploaded in electronic format.

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Candidates accessing the PICA platform using their digital identity (SPID – Public Digital Identity System) will not be required to upload a scan of their personal ID, nor to sign and upload their application.

Failure to comply with the online application procedure will result in the exclusion of the applicant from the selection.
Prior to final submission, and within the given deadline for applications submission, the online application procedure allows to modify and save the inserted information in a draft copy. Confirmation of final submission date will be certified by an automatic notification email. Submissions after the given deadline will not be accepted by the system, as the online application procedure won't be accessible.

The online application and submission procedure shall be completed **by 2 December 2025, 11.59 p.m. CEST (Rome time).**

The submission of the online application must be completed and finalized:

- **with the digital signature of the candidate**, by means of smart card, USB token or remote digital signature allowing the applicant to digitally sign electronic documents with a software using a PC or a web portal for Remote Signature, provided by a Certification Service Provider (CSP). Candidates with a smart card or a USB token for digital signature should check the compatibility with the Digital Signature system embedded in our server. In case of compatibility, candidates shall sign the application on the server (e.g. ConFirma);
- **holders of server-incompatible Digital Signature and holders of Remote Digital Signature** who can access a web portal for digitally signing electronic documents shall save the .pdf file generated by the system on their PC. The .pdf file shall not be modified in any way, and it shall be digitally signed in CAdES format: the system will generate a file with .p7m extension. The candidate shall upload the .p7m file on the system. No changes are to be made to the file by the candidates before the Digital Signature, on pain of exclusion from the selection procedure;
- **in case the two above-mentioned options do not apply**, candidates shall save the .pdf file generated by the system on their PC. The .pdf file shall not be modified in any way, on pain of exclusion from the selection procedure. The .pdf shall be printed out, signed on the last page, scanned in .pdf format and uploaded on the system.

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For any technical issue regarding the application, candidates may contact the technical support through the link at the bottom of the page: https://pica.cineca.it/sissa ("supporto").
The School will verify that all the statements made in the application and accompanying documentation comply with the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 445/2000.

Art.8 – After a budget verification has been carried out, the selected candidate will be formally notified of the award of the research fellowship.
Within 30 days from the start of the research activity at SISSA, Italian and EU candidates and non-EU citizens resident in Italy will have to submit a valid ID and fill out the following documents:

1) affidavit attesting birth, citizenship, place of residence and Italian tax code of the applicant;
2) affidavit attesting the possession of a University Degree;

Non-EU citizens authorized to sojourn in Italy owing to conventions between Italy and their own country have to submit the same above-mentioned documents.
Non-EU citizens regularly sojourning in Italy may submit an affidavit according to articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree No. 445/2000 exclusively for personal data and events which can be certified and attested by public Italian authorities.
In any other case, the information requested in points 1) and 2) of this article must be notified by means of an affidavit and plain copies of the relevant documents within 30 days from the beginning of the research activity at SISSA. Research fellows are requested to submit certificates and declarations issued by the foreign competent authorities, possibly accompanied by an Italian translation authenticated by the Italian Consulate abroad. The School reserves the right to verify all affidavits.
Should the winner refuse the position, not accept it or fail to submit the above-mentioned documents on time, the research appointment may be offered to the next eligible candidate in the classification list, following the authorization granted by the Director, at the express request of the Area Coordinator or the scientist responsible for the research activity.
The starting date of the appointment shall be agreed with the Area Coordinator or with the scientist responsible for the research project.
Should the financial coverage not be guaranteed by the funding body, SISSA reserves the right not to activate the research position. The start of the contract will therefore be subject to verification of the necessary financial coverage.

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Art.9 – Holders of research appointments shall carry out the research activities specified in the contract and compatible with the research programs of the relevant Area, in coordination with the Scientific Supervisor.
The research activity shall be conducted within the framework of the research project for which the appointment holder has been selected.
The activity may be suspended in the cases provided for by the School's current Regulations concerning the awarding of post-doctoral and research appointments, including maternity, illness, or other serious personal reasons, according to the procedures set out therein.
A total justified and agreed absence not exceeding thirty days in a year shall not constitute a suspension and shall not be subject to recovery.
Where required by the funding body, the research appointment holder may be asked to complete a time-sheet for reporting purposes only.

Art.10 – Research appointments, including those awarded by different institutions to the same individual, shall have a minimum duration of one year and a maximum duration, including any renewals or extensions, of three years, even if non-consecutive.
The total duration of contracts awarded to the same individual under research contracts (Art. 22, Law 240/2010), post-doctoral appointments (Art. 22-bis, Law 240/2010), research appointments (Art. 22-ter, Law 240/2010), and fixed-term tenure-track researcher contracts (Art. 24, Law 240/2010, as amended on 30.06.2022), even if awarded by different institutions, may not exceed a total of eleven years, whether consecutive or not. For the purposes of this calculation, periods of leave taken for maternity, paternity, or health reasons, as defined by current legislation, shall not be counted.
Any extension of a research appointment, with a minimum duration of one month, may be requested upon a reasoned proposal by the Scientific Supervisor appointed by the School to oversee the research activity under the contract, and subject to an evaluation of the work carried out by the appointment holder in relation to the progress of the research project. For this purpose, the appointment holders shall submit a report on the research activity carried out to the relevant Area.
Any renewal of a research appointment, with a minimum duration of one year, may likewise be requested upon a reasoned proposal by the Scientific Supervisor appointed by the School to oversee the research activity under the contract, and subject to an evaluation of the work carried out by the appointment holder in relation to the progress of the research project. For this purpose, contract holders shall submit a report on the research activity carried out to the relevant Area. In the case of renewals funded by sources other than the School's own budget, the amount of the contract may be increased, within the limits permitted by current legislation, in accordance with the level of commitment required.

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In any case, extensions and renewals must comply with the overall maximum duration of three years.
The formal procedures relating to any extensions or renewals of the appointment are governed by the School's current Regulations on the awarding of post-doctoral and research appointments.

Art. 11 - Termination of the employment relationship shall occur upon the expiration of the contract term, through withdrawal by either party, or for any other reason provided for under applicable law.
Should the research appointment holder decide to terminate the contract before its natural expiry, they must provide written notice at least 30 days in advance. In the event of failure to give such notice, SISSA shall withhold an amount equivalent to the salary corresponding to the unserved notice period.
The termination of external funding that enabled the activation of the contract shall constitute grounds for withdrawal by the School. In such case, the School is required to provide at least 60 days' notice. Should the School fail to provide the required notice, it shall pay the appointment holder an amount equivalent to the salary corresponding to the unserved notice period.

Art. 12 - The Head of procedures is Dr. Alessandra Lucatello, Chief of the Human Resources Area (e-mail: contrattiricerca@sissa.it).

Art.13 – All personal data provided to this Administration shall be processed solely for purposes related to and instrumental to the present procedure, in compliance with the applicable legislation, pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30 June 2003, "Personal Data Protection Code", as amended by Legislative Decree No. 101 of 10 August 2018, "Provisions for the adaptation of national legislation to the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation)".

THE DIRECTOR
Prof. Andrea Romanino
(Italian version signed digitally)

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ANNEX 1

PHYSICS AREA
Public selection based on qualifications and project

Research title: "Tests of massive gravity with gravitational waves"

Fields of the research activity: Tests of gravity with gravitational waves.

Scientific supervisor: Prof. Enrico Barausse
Members of the research group: Astroparticle and Gravitational Physics Group, Physics Area, SISSA

Area 02 – Physics
Academic recruitment field: 02/PHYS-05- Astrophysics and cosmology, earth-space- and climate physics
Academic discipline: PHYS-05/A- Astrophysics, Cosmology and Space Science

Duration of the appointment: 24 months, renewable if applicable

Gross annual amount payable under the contract: € 35.500,00

Minimum requirements:
Master's degree in: Physics, Mathematics, Astrophysics or related degrees
PhD degree in: Physics, Mathematics, Astrophysics or related degrees (preferred qualification)

Proven experience in: Massive gravity.

Applicants are required to submit a short **research project** (max 3 pages). Both the project and the abstract must be uploaded at the time of application.

The online application and submission procedure shall be completed **by 2 December 2025, 11.59 p.m. CEST (Rome time).**

Evaluation criteria:
Research project: up to 40 points
Academic qualifications (degree, PhD, additional diplomas): up to 15 points
Published works and other research products: up to 30 points
Other qualifications: up to 15 points
TOTAL: up to 100 points

The research activity shall be carried out on behalf of and shall be funded by project HE-ERC-Synergy Grant, title of the project: Making Sense of the Unexpected in the Gravitational-Wave Sky, acronym "GWSky", scientific responsible: Prof. Barausse (UGOV code: R_HE_ERC_SyG_FISI_Barausse_1067; project code:

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G93C25000270006; Financing Agency: European Commission; Funding channel: ERC Synergy grant; Grant Agreement n.101167314).

A contribution towards relocation expenses in Trieste is envisioned for the successful candidate if resident abroad (in the EU or outside the EU). The costs will be covered by the project HE-ERC-Synergy Grant, title of the project: Making Sense of the Unexpected in the Gravitational-Wave Sky, acronym "GWSky", scientific responsible: Prof. Barausse (UGOV code: R_HE_ERC_SyG_FISI_Barausse_1067; project code: G93C25000270006; Financing Agency: European Commission; Funding channel: ERC Synergy grant; Grant Agreement n.101167314).

Position approved by:
Physics Area Council: on 09.10.2025
Academic Senate on 21.10.2025
Board of Directors on 28.10.2025

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