



**Chaire
Méditerranée**
Religions et sociétés



Call for application

Mediterranean, Religions and Societies University Chair

The *Mediterranean, Religions and Societies Chair*, hosted by the Pontifical Institute for Arabic Studies and Islamology (PISAI) in Rome, is being put out to tender for the first time. It is open to a professor, lecturer or researcher from a university or research organisation of the Mediterranean countries.

The aim of the Chair is to help create a space for scientific, academic and non-confessional exchange and research from an interdisciplinary perspective, drawing the human and social sciences (history, sociology, anthropology, religious sciences, political sciences, economics and philosophy in particular) in order to gain a better understanding of the major contemporary issues facing the Mediterranean. Against a backdrop of growing conflicts and tensions in the region, the Chair aims to encourage high-level academic and intellectual exchanges to lay the ground for a culture of dialogue.

The Chair is to be held for a renewable period of one year from the 1st of September 2025.

Supported by the Institut français Centre Saint-Louis (IFCSL - French Embassy to the Holy See), in partnership with the PISAI, this Francophone Chair is open to multilingualism, in particular to the other Mediterranean languages. It draws on the scientific legitimacy of the PISAI in its areas.

The professor, lecturer or researcher will be hosted by the PISAI. He or she will continue to receive his or her salary from his or her home institution with IFCSL providing the budget to launch the Chair's activities.

Prerequisites:

- Hold a doctorate in human and social sciences and have experience of leading a research and teaching program related to the Mediterranean and of the study of religions;
- Hold a permanent position as professor, senior lecturer or researcher in a Mediterranean university or research organisation;

- Fluency in French and ability to communicate in this language. Knowledge of Italian and other languages of the Mediterranean will be taken into consideration.

Tasks:

- The chairholder will coordinate a week of academic and research activities in Rome on the theme chosen in agreement with the Scientific Board. The public will be made up of doctoral and post-doctoral students representing the various regions of the Mediterranean area and beyond.
- The chairholder will lead two or three round-table discussions, or even a conference, on the same theme during the year.
- In conjunction with the Scientific Board, the Chairholder will mobilise a network of partner universities and research bodies to organize meetings, promote publications and encourage the mobility of students and young researchers within the framework of this Chair. The promotion of knowledge for a wider public will be also a priority.
- For 2025/2026, the priority themes will be on one side building a culture of dialogue vis-à-vis the conflicts, particularly political and socio-religious ones, and on the other side the interaction between migrations and religions.

If you have any queries about this call for applications, please contact the Chair coordinator Mr Roland DUBERTRAND: roland.dubertrand@expertisefrance.fr

Applications (CV including a list of publications, teaching and scientific exchange proposals on the chosen theme) should be sent to the President of the PISAI in Rome (RP Wasim SALMAN, President of the PISAI, Viale di Trastevere, 89, 00153, Roma RM) and by e-mail (preside@pisai.it and scac@ifcsl.com) before the 1st of March 2025. The Chair's Scientific Board will notify the successful candidate within one month. Incomplete applications will not be considered.