Decree of the Rector n. 1309 of 06/12/2023
Competition for awarding 1 research grant at the University of Udine

DISCLAIMER:
The official and legally binding call for applications is in Italian only. This document cannot be used for legal purposes and is only meant to provide information in English on the call for applications (Decree of the Rector n. 1309 of 06/12/2023). Please refer to the official call published on: https://www.uniud.it/it/albo-ufficiale

Any change and integration will be made available on the above mentioned web page. Therefore, no personal written communication regarding the examination date and/or competition results shall be provided to applicants.

Annex 1

Competition Notice for the award of 1 research grant for carrying out research activities at the University of Udine on the following subject: “Resilient syntax in contact: for a structural assessment of minority languages (RESYNC)” SSD: L-LIN/01 (responsabile scientifico, Francesco Costantini).

Research fellowship financed with the resources of the research project PRIN 2022 PNRR, Prot. n. P2022T8LJH, titled “Resilient syntax in contact: assessing minority languages (RESYNC)”. Public call No. 1409 of 14/09/2022 – PRIN 2022 PNRR M4C2 Inv. 1.1. CUP G53D23007290001.

Art. 1

A selection procedure is hereby announced for the award of 1 research grant at the University of Udine, as identified in Attachment A which constitutes an integral and substantial part of this call. The research grant is linked to the research project and is subject and conditioned upon the relative funding.

Specifically, the project is placed within the context of the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (i.e., PNRR) – Mission 4: Education and research, Component 2: From research to business, Investment 1.1: Fund for the National Research Programme (PNR) and Research Projects of Significant National Interest (PRIN), funded by the EU-Next GenerationEU. Project PRIN 2022 PNRR, Prot. n. P2022T8LJH, titled “Resilient syntax in contact: assessing minority languages (RESYNC)”. CUP G53D23007290001.

The fellowship may be renewed, in compliance with Art. 22, Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010 (as in the text in force before the implementation of the Conversion Law of the D.L. 36/2022, L. 79/2022), Law No. 11 of 27 February 2015, and the current regulations of the University of Udine for awarding research grants, issued with the Rector’s Decree No. 182 of 31 March 2021. The renewal is subject to the scientific coordinator’s positive assessment of the researcher's activities, an adequate scientific rationale, and a corresponding financial covering.

The activities pertaining to this research fellowship will be monitored for compliance with the PNRR’s Do No Significant Harm principle (hereinafter DNSH), that is, they will not cause significant harm to the environment.
This call guarantees equal generational, gender and territorial opportunities.

The research findings resulting from the fellowship, as well as the related data, will be published in compliance with the Open Science and FAIR Data principles.

The research fellowship does not give rise to any right with regards to accessing University posts.

Any personal communication to candidates related to this selection will be sent exclusively to the email address indicated when registering for the selection, as mentioned in Art. 5.

**Art. 2**

The research grant described in this competition announcement and the required qualifications to apply for the position are identified in Attachment A. The lack of the admission requirements leads to the automatic exclusion from the competition procedure.

Possession of a PhD or equivalent degree obtained abroad or, only for the interested areas, of a medical specialization accompanied by an adequate scientific production, constitutes a preferential qualification for awarding the research fellowship of this selection, if it has not been provided as a mandatory requirement.

For the only purpose of the admission to the competition, the Examining Board (Art. 7) shall assess the equivalence of the qualification obtained abroad, except for the evaluation of the medical specialization qualification to which Article 38 of the Legislative Decree 165/2001 and subsequent modifications and additions, and EU regulations on the matter, shall be applied.

The Examining Board will proceed to the evaluation of the qualification obtained abroad according to the documentation attached to the application form. The Examining Board may exclude the candidate if the submitted documentation does not provide sufficient information for the assessment.

Therefore, applicants must enclose all the documentation in their possession relating to their qualification in order to provide the Examining Board with sufficient information for assessment.

Candidates holding a qualification issued by a **European Research Area country**, if successful, must submit, if not already attached to the application form one of the following options:

- Supplement Diploma in English issued by the competent University.
- CIMEA Certificate of comparability of the foreign qualification, issued by CIMEA (Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence) via the "diplome" service at [https://cimea.diplo-me.eu/udine/#/auth/login](https://cimea.diplo-me.eu/udine/#/auth/login)

Candidates holding a qualification issued by a **non-European Research Area country**, if successful, must submit, if not already attached to the application form one of the following options:

- Declaration of the on-site value of the qualification and the certificate relating to the degree with examinations and grades. A certificate in a language other than Italian or English must be accompanied by an official translation into one of these languages (certified by the competent diplomatic-consular authority or certified by a court in Italy).
- CIMEA Certificate of comparability of the foreign qualification, issued by CIMEA (Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence) via the "diplome" service at [https://cimea.diplo-me.eu/udine/#/auth/login](https://cimea.diplo-me.eu/udine/#/auth/login)

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**RESEARCH SERVICES AREA**

Research Training Office

Department Head: Sandra Salvador

Procedure Supervisor: Sandra Salvador

Procedure Compiler: Francesca Mion
If the Supplement Diploma or the statement/attestation of comparability are not available when signing the contract, the applicant must demonstrate that he/she has requested the documentation and submit it as soon as possible.

Any exclusion from the selection procedure due to lack of eligibility requirements, absence of required documents, failure to sign the selection application or submission of the selection application in a manner different from what is provided for in this call for applications will be communicated to applicants exclusively at the email address indicated in the application form.

Art. 3
The research grant referred to in this call for applications cannot be awarded:

a. to employees of Universities and the entities referred to in Article 22, section 1, of Italian Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 (in the text prior to the reform introduced by Law no. 79 of 29 June 2022);
b. to those who have already been awarded research grants pursuant to Italian Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 (prior to the reform introduced by Law no. 79 of 29 June 2022) for the maximum period provided by law, even if not continuously, excluding the period in which the grant was used in conjunction with the doctorate, up to the legal term of the relative course;
c. to those who have already benefited from research grants and fixed-term researcher contracts provided for, respectively, in Articles 22 and 24 of Italian Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 (in the text prior to the reform introduced by Law no. 79 of 29 June 2022), for a total of 12 years, even if not consecutive;
d. to anyone who has a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with:
   - the Rector, the Director General or a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Udine;
   - the scientific supervisor or a professor/researcher belonging to the department or organisation hosting the research grant in question.

The research grant provided for in this call for applications cannot be combined:

a) with scholarships of any kind, except for those granted by Italian or foreign institutions to supplement, by means of stays abroad, the fellow’s training or research activities;
b) with other research grants;
c) with an employment relationship, even if part-time, without prejudice to the relevant provisions for employees of public administrations.

The grant awarded under this call for applications is also incompatible with simultaneous attendance at university degree courses, either Bachelors, specialistic or Masters, research Doctorates with scholarships and medical specializations, in Italy or abroad.

Art. 4
Applicants must enclose with their application, under penalty of exclusion, the following documents:

a) their professional scientific CV, highlighting the candidate’s aptitude for carrying out and implementing the research project (Attachment A);
b) their identity card, their passport or any other identification document1;
c) (for candidates with a foreign qualification only) certification or self-certification of both the academic qualification required for the admission to the selection, and of the exams (with

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1 Please be aware that the residence permit is not an identification document.
evaluation) took during the period of study abroad, and of any other document that can be useful to the evaluation of the degree by the Examining Board.

Applicants can attach to the application, publications and any other certification considered useful to demonstrate the qualification based on the research program (Attachment A) and to certify any research activity accomplished at public or private institutes (indicating the starting and ending date and the duration).

The documents and qualifications mentioned above must be submitted in Italian or English. Those that are not as requested will not be evaluated. Documents originally written in a language other than Italian or English must come with a translation in Italian or English, that the candidate will do on its own responsibility. The translation can be an abstract concerning the thesis.

Italian and Community candidates wishing to submit qualifications referring to conditions and facts attested by Public Administrations must proceed exclusively with self-certification. Non-EU citizens legally residing in Italy may self-certify only data that can be verified or certified by Italian public bodies. They may also use declarations in lieu when provided for by an international convention between Italy and the declarant's country of origin.

Non-EU citizens not residing in Italy cannot self-certify.

Only the qualifications possessed by the candidate on the date the application form is submitted and submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 5 will be assessed.

Failure to submit mandatory documents provided for in this article will constitute grounds for exclusion from the selection.

Art. 5

The submission of the applications for the present call starts on December 21, 2023 at 2:00 pm (Italian time) and ends on January 16, 2024 at 2:00 pm (Italian time).

The application to take part in the selection must be completed, under penalty of exclusion, using the appropriate online procedure, available at the link https://pica.cineca.it/

The procedure involves an applicant registration step, for those who do not already have an account, and then an application completion step.

Once completed, the online application must be signed in the manner described in the online procedure (manual signature with attached identity document or digital signature), under penalty of exclusion from selection. The application does not have to be signed if you access the above-mentioned online procedure using your SPID ID.

The qualifications referred to in Article 4 must be attached to the application in .pdf format. Individual .pdf files may not exceed 30MB.

The application for participation in the selection is automatically sent to the University of Udine with the definitive closing of the online procedure.

The University Administration: - is not responsible if it is impossible to read the submitted documentation in electronic format due to damaged files;
shall not accept or take into consideration qualifications or documents received in paper form or by any means other than what is specified in this article.

Reference to documents or publications already submitted in connection with other competitions is not allowed.

The Administration is not responsible for any missing document or communication because of inaccurate indication of residence and/or address submitted by the candidate during the application. Also, the Administration is not responsible if the candidate has not communicated changes in this information, or has communicated them too late. The Administration is also not responsible for any postal or telegraphic problems not attributable to the Administration itself.

Applicants are advised not to wait until the last few days before the closing date to submit their application. The University accepts no responsibility for any malfunctions due to technical problems and/or overloading of the communication line and/or application systems.

Art. 6
The selection procedure is held in accordance with the modality indicated in Attachment A.

The test will aim to assess the general preparation, experience and aptitude for research of the candidate. It will consist in the evaluation of the professional scientific curriculum, of the publications and qualifications presented, and of the interview, where foreseen.

Art. 7
The Examining board for the competition is identified in Attachment A of the present competition announcement, of which it is an integral part.

At its first meeting, the Examining board shall appoint its President and Secretary, and establish the criteria and methods for evaluating the qualifications and the interview, where foreseen.

The results of the qualifications assessment must be disclosed to applicants during the interview, where foreseen.

The Examining board can award a maximum of 100 points (one hundred out of one hundred) to the selection.

At the end of the evaluation procedure, the Examining board shall formulate the general merit list based on the overall score of each candidate, and draw up the minutes of the whole competition procedure.

Based on the ranking list, the assignment is awarded to candidates who have obtained a minimum overall score of 70/100 (seventy out of one hundred).

The Examining board's judgement is final.

The ranking list will be made public exclusively through publication on the University's official website.

Applicants will not be notified of the outcome of the evaluation.
Those who do not declare their acceptance of the research grant and do not present themselves at the research centre within the deadline communicated by the latter, even if not formally, shall lose the right to receive it. Exceptions to this term will only be granted in cases of documented force majeure.

Art. 8

The research activity cannot be started before signing the contract defining the terms and conditions of the collaboration.

The activity covered by the research grant must have the following characteristics:

a) it must be carried out as part of the research programme covered by the grant and not be a merely technical support to it;

b) it must have a close connection with the realization of the research program for which the winner of the grant has been awarded the contract;

c) it must be continuous and, in any case, temporally defined, not merely occasional, and in coordination with the overall activity of the University;

d) it must be carried out autonomously, solely within the limits of the programme prepared by the programme supervisor, without predetermined working hours.

The researcher is required to submit a detailed written report on the work carried out and the results achieved, accompanied by the opinion of the scientific supervisor, to the reference organisation at the intervals set out in the contract. The researcher must also submit interim reports and timesheets, if requested by the reference organisation.

Either the fellow or the reference organisation may withdraw from the contract. The reference organisation may terminate the contract not only in the cases referred to in Article 9, sections 2 and 3, of the "Internal rules for awarding research grants pursuant to law 240 of 30 December 2010" of the University of Udine, but also in the event the research project and therefore the financial coverage on which the research grant is based cease to exist.

Art. 9

The following legal dispositions shall apply to the grant referred to in this call for applications:

- for tax matters, the provisions of Article 4 of Italian Law no. 476 of 13 August 1984, as subsequently amended and supplemented;

- for social security matters, the provisions of Article 2(26) et seq. of Italian Law no. 335 of 8 August 1995, as subsequently amended and supplemented;

- for mandatory maternity leave, the provisions of the Italian Ministerial Decree of 12 July 2007;

- with regard to sick leave, the provisions of Article 1(788) of Italian Law no. 296 of 27 December 2006 and subsequent amendments.

During the period of mandatory maternity leave, the allowance paid by INPS according to Art. 5 of the Italian Ministerial Decree of 12 July 2007 is supplemented by the University up to the full amount of the research grant.

The grant will be paid in monthly instalments.
Art. 10
The data collected as part of the procedure referred to in Art. 5 are necessary to properly manage the selection procedure, for any subsequent management of the research grant and for purposes related to managing services provided by the University. The University of Udine is the Data Controller. At any time, the data subject may request access, rectification and, depending on the University's institutional purposes, cancellation and restriction of processing or oppose the processing of their data. The data subject can always lodge a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority. The complete disclosure is available on the University of Udine website in the "Privacy" section, accessible from the home page www.uniud.it Direct Link: https://www.uniud.it/it/pagine-speciali/guida/privacy

Art. 11
For all matters not expressly mentioned in this call for applications, refer to the regulations in force on the subject cited in the introduction and to the "Internal rules for awarding research grants pursuant to Italian Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010" of the University of Udine, issued by Rector's Decree no. 182 of 31 March 2021.

Art. 12
The procedure supervisor is Dr Sandra Salvador, Head of the Research Services Area of the University of Udine.

The Responsible office at the University of Udine is "Area Servizi per la Ricerca - Ufficio Formazione per la Ricerca", via Mantica n. 31 - 33100 Udine, Italia.

To request information about the call for applications, please complete the following form available on the University of Udine website:
https://helpdesk.uniud.it/SubmitSR.jsp?type=req&accountId=universityofudine&populateSR_id=42105
Attachment A

Responsabile scientifico della ricerca / Principal investigator:

Nome e cognome / Name and surname: Francesco Costantini
Qualifica / Position: Professore Associato / Associate Professor
Dipartimento / Department: Studi umanistici e del patrimonio culturale (DIUM) / Humanities and cultural heritage
Area MUR / Research field: 10 – Scienze dell’antichità, filologico-letterarie e storico-artistiche
Macrosettore concorsuale e Settore scientifico disciplinare / Scientific sector: 10/G1; L-LIN/01 (Glottologia e linguistica)

Titolo dell’assegno di ricerca / Topic of the research fellowship “assegno di ricerca”:

I bandi sono consultabili dal sito dell’Ateneo, del MUR e di Euraxess / The calls are available on the University, MUR and Euraxess websites

Testo in italiano:
Sintassi “resiliente” in contatto: per una valutazione strutturale delle lingue minoritarie (RESYNC).

Text in English:
Resilient syntax in contact: for a structural assessment of minority languages (RESYNC).

Obiettivi previsti e risultati attesi del programma di ricerca in cui si colloca l’attività dell’assegnista di ricerca / Foreseen objectives and results of the research programme performed by the research fellow “assegndata di ricerca”:

I bandi sono consultabili dal sito dell’Ateneo, del MUR e di Euraxess / The calls are available on the University, MUR and Euraxess websites

Testo in italiano:
Ottetti di ricerca

Per salvaguardare una lingua minoritaria (‘minority language’, ML), le comunità locali devono affrontare la questione del progressivo impoverimento del sistema morfosintattico della ML come pure sull’impoverimento delle competenze dei parlanti, questione tanto importante almeno quanto la rinascita delle manifestazioni “esterne” delle lingue (relative, ad esempio, alla documentazione e alla tutela del patrimonio culturale più generale relativo ad un contesto minoritario). Per far sì che la progressiva perdita della lingua rallenti, occorre quindi capire in che misura la competenza linguistica dei parlanti sia andata perduta o conservata nei vari domini di competenza linguistica. L’obiettivo principale del progetto è fornire una misura strutturale della vitalità morfosintattica di un insieme di ML, quelle germaniche di Sappada, Sauris, Timau e alcune varietà friulane da definire parlate nel Friuli occidentale, valutando il numero delle loro strutture resilienti e la frequenza del loro utilizzo. Tre domini morfosintattici, in letteratura evidenziati come dotati di proprietà rilevanti, saranno in particolare oggetto d’indagine, il che ci consente di quantificare la "firma sintattica" tipica solo del ML ossia:

a) la sintassi dei soggetti;
b) il sistema di subordinazione, e
c) la flessione nominale.

Ciascuna delle ML presenta una serie di fenomeni legati a questi tre domini che identificano chiaramente che chi parla sta utilizzando la sintassi propria della ML e non quella delle altre lingue in contatto.
Le attività del progetto includono la raccolta di dati provenienti da diversi tipi di compiti (si veda la sezione “Metodologia” di seguito) e la determinazione della quantità di sintassi conservativa nel discorso dei parlanti intervistati. In questo modo verrà determinato il grado di resilienza della grammatica di una ML e verrà fornito un quadro oggettivo della situazione di decadimento. Ciò completerà gli studi sociolinguistici già esistenti basati sull’opinione soggettiva dei parlanti. Per valutare se sia in corso un cambiamento diacronico, verrà adottata una prospettiva longitudinale attraverso quattro generazioni di parlanti. Il progetto si propone dunque di rispondere alle seguenti domande dettagliate derivanti da quella più generale sopra menzionata:

a) In che misura la grammatica di una lingua minoritaria differisce se confrontiamo la competenza degli adulti più giovani, dei bambini e dei parlanti meno competenti con quella delle generazioni più anziane, o dei parlanti più competenti in generale? E quanto risentono del contatto con l’italiano e con le lingue dei dintorni, veneto (nel caso del ladino e del friulano) e friulano (nel caso delle isole tedesche)?

b) Quali aree della grammatica sono più resistenti, e quali sono più inclini al cambiamento, in situazioni di contatto estreme?

c) In che modo i criteri interni per la valutazione dell’endangerment linguistico sono correlati ai criteri sociolinguistici relativi all’uso della lingua, agli atteggiamenti di chi parla, ecc.?

**Metodologia**

Il progetto prevede l’impiego di varie metodologie di ricerca, tra cui la raccolta di dati sociolinguistici, la raccolta di dati di parlato spontaneo, la raccolta di giudizio di grammaticalità.

Per raccogliere informazioni sul background sociolinguistico degli informatori (sia bambini che adulti) verranno poste domande sullo stato socioeconomico, sulla durata dell'esposizione all’italiano e alla lingua locale, sulla quantità della produzione in entrambe le lingue e sulla quantità di input il partecipante viene esposto in entrambe le lingue.

Per quanto riguarda la produzione e la comprensione delle lingue nel repertorio dei parlanti, i bambini in età prescolare saranno testati sulla produzione e comprensione dell’italiano e della loro lingua minoritaria. L’esperimento includerà attività supportate da immagini e le modalità di racconto e rivisitazione. I test in italiano e dialetto saranno effettuati da sperimentatori diversi e in giorni diversi. La procedura di test per l’elicitation narrativa consiste in tre fasi, le stesse in ciascuna lingua: (1) Fase di familiarizzazione, (2) narrazione e comprensione di un racconto, (3) ripetizione di un racconto. Ogni partecipante verrà testato sia nel dialetto locale che in italiano nel corso di 4 sessioni con un ritardo di almeno due giorni.

Nel caso degli adolescenti e degli adulti, la produzione spontanea nelle due lingue si baserà su domande aperte (ad esempio sulla loro infanzia, sul loro villaggio o sui loro hobby). Come nel caso dei bambini in età prescolare, la sessione in lingua locale e quella in italiano si svolgeranno con un ritardo di almeno due giorni.

Sulla base della letteratura e dei corpora precedenti (in particolare degli atlanti linguistici, come AIS, ASLEF, ASIt e ALD) e dei dati semi-spontanei preliminari raccolti (vedi sopra), verrà creato un questionario che includerà un compito di traduzione e un compito di giudizio di grammaticalità. Il primo seguirà la metodologia ASIt. I giudizi sulla grammaticalità hanno lo scopo di bilanciare l’effetto priming tipico di un compito di traduzione. Ciò è particolarmente importante in un contesto linguistico minoritario, in cui ci si aspetta che i parlanti meno competenti abbiano una competenza passiva di determinati fenomeni, ma non un uso attivo degli stessi. Gli item del compito saranno tradotti con l’aiuto di mediatori linguistici e conterranno un insieme equilibrato di item del test contenenti i fenomeni indagati inseriti in contesti diversi, insieme a frasi di riempimento. Per i bambini in età prescolare, verrà utilizzato un adattamento del compito di giudizio di grammaticalità sviluppato per testare partecipanti adulti e adolescenti, mirando agli specifici fenomeni morfosintattici a cui siamo interessati.
Risultati attesi

I risultati attesi sono:
- creazione di una scala oggettiva che misuri il livello di deterioramento della struttura grammaticale di una lingua;
- definire un quadro chiaro dello stato attuale della struttura delle ML, sia nei parlanti più esperti che in quelli meno esperti;
- informazioni sulla quantità di influenza interlinguistica delle lingue più prestigiose nell'intera comunità, basate sull'osservazione di un gruppo rappresentativo di membri della comunità;
- determinare quali domini grammaticali sono più resilienti e quali sono più inclini a essere influenzati dal cambiamento indotto dal contatto;
- sviluppo completo di un nuovo metodo per la valutazione della pericolosità delle ML e della vitalità delle strutture delle ML, che potrà essere applicato ad altri casi di ML a contatto con varietà più prestigiose.

Fasi del progetto e risultati finali

Le tappe fondamentali del progetto sono le seguenti:

T1: Costruzione di un database (mesi 1-4) che contenga le principali proprietà delle lingue minoritarie indagate, nei tre domini selezionati (sintassi dei soggetti, flessione nominale e subordinazione). Tale banca dati sarà costruita attraverso la consultazione della letteratura disponibile, e in particolare degli atlanti linguistici (AIS, ASLEF, ASIt e ALD).

T2: Preparazione di questionari e creazione di una rete di informatori (mesi 1-10). Questi passi saranno compiuti dai membri del team, in stretta collaborazione con gli istituti culturali delle lingue minoritarie, le parti interessate e altri membri delle comunità locali.

T3: Raccolta dati (fieldwork) (mesi 7-14): il fieldwork sarà composto da due parti: la prima è uno studio pilota (mesi 7-10) condotto con un sottogruppo di informatori, attraverso il quale osserveremo se gli informatori comprendono i compiti e se è impossibile suscitare i fenomeni indagati. La seconda parte costituirà lo studio principale, che verrà condotto con la restante parte degli informatori (mesi 9-14).

T4: Analisi dei dati (mesi 13-20): verranno analizzati singoli fenomeni nelle varie lingue, e verrà effettuato il confronto delle prestazioni nei compiti dei diversi gruppi di parlanti; verrà creata una "scala di endangerment".

T5: Diffusione dei risultati (mesi 18-20): al termine dei due anni, una mappa dinamica delle diverse lingue e del loro livello di vitalità. Inoltre, i risultati verranno utilizzati per fornire un orientamento per la politica linguistica nelle isole minoritarie. Verranno inoltre costruite tre unità didattiche, una per ciascun ambito indagato, che potranno essere utilizzate a scuola per migliorare le competenze dei bambini in ambiti specifici, con particolare attenzione a quelli che appaiono meno resilienti.

I risultati finali sono:

R1: Mappe linguistiche dinamiche del territorio, che rappresentano la vitalità interna (strutturale) delle diverse lingue;
R2: consulenza politica su come migliorare la vitalità interna delle lingue indagate;
R3: tre unità didattiche per le scuole, una su ciascun ambito indagato (sintassi della materia, flessione nominale, subordinazione).

Text in English:

Research objectives

To safeguard a minority language (ML), the local communities need to focus on the progressive impoverishment of the morphosyntactic system of the ML and on the speakers' fading competence, which is at least as important as the revival of external manifestations of the languages (e.g., the documentation and safeguard of the more general cultural heritage related to a minority setting). To
ensure that the progressive language loss slows down, we therefore need to understand to what extent the internal language of speakers has been lost or retained in various domains of linguistic competence. The main objective of the project is to deliver a structural measure of the morphosyntactic vitality of a set of MLs including the German varieties spoken in Sappada/Plodn, Sauris/Zähr, Timau/Tischbong, as well as Friulian varieties spoken in western Friuli villages to be singled out, by assessing the number of their resilient structures and the frequency of their usage. Three morphosyntactic domains will be specifically addressed that have been reported in the literature to have special properties in these ML, which enables us to quantify the “syntactic signature” typical of the ML only. The three domains are:

a) the syntax of subjects;
b) the subordination system, and
c) nominal inflection.

Each of the ML has a number of phenomena related to these three domains that clearly identify that the speaker is using the ML syntax and not the one of the other languages in contact. Project activities include gathering data coming from different types of tasks (see methodology below) and determining the amount of ML syntax in the speech of the speakers. In this way, the degree of resilience of the ML grammar will be determined and an objective picture of the actual situation will be provided. This will complement the already existing sociolinguistic studies based on the subjective opinion of the speaker. In order to assess whether there is a diachronic change in progress, a longitudinal perspective across four generations of speakers will be adopted. Therefore, the project aims at answering the following detailed research questions stemming from the more general one mentioned above:

a) To what extent does the grammar of a minority language differ if we compare the competence of younger adults, children and less proficient speakers with that of the older generations, or more proficient speakers in general? And to what extent are they affected by contact with Italian and with the languages of the surroundings, Venetan (in the case of Ladin and Friulian) and Friulian (in the case of the German islands)?
b) What areas of the grammar are more resilient, and which ones are more prone to change, in extreme contact situations?
c) How do internal criteria for the assessment of language endangerment correlate with sociolinguistic criteria relating to language use, speaker’s attitudes, etc.?

Methodology

The project will include a variety of investigation methodologies: sociolinguistic data collection, collection of spontaneous data, grammaticality judgement tasks. To gather information about the sociolinguistic background of the informants (both children and adults) questions will be asked about the socioeconomic status, length of exposure to Italian and the local language, the quantity of the production in both languages, and the quantity of input the participant is exposed to in both languages. Preschool children will be tested on the production and comprehension of Italian as well as their minority language. Experiment will include picture-supported tasks and the telling and the retelling modes. The testing in Italian and dialect will be carried out by different experimenters and on different days. The testing procedure for narrative elicitation will consist of three stages, the same in each language: (1) Familiarization phase, (2) narrative telling and comprehension questions, (3) narrative retelling. Each participant will be tested in both the local dialect and Italian throughout 4 sessions with a delay of at least two days. In the case of adolescents and adults, the spontaneous production in the two languages will be based on open questions (e.g. about their childhood, their village or their hobbies). As in the case of preschool children, the session in the local language and that in Italian will take place with a delay of at least two days.
On the basis of the previous literature and corpora (in particular linguistic atlases, such as the AIS, ASLEF, ASIt and ALD) and the preliminary semi-spontaneous data collected (see above), a questionnaire will be created that will include a translation task and a grammaticality judgements task. The first will follow the ASIt methodology. Grammaticality judgments are meant to balance the priming effect typical of a translation task. This is particularly important in a minority language setting, in which we expect less proficient speakers to have a passive competence of certain phenomena, but no active use of them. The task items will be translated with the help of linguistic mediators and will contain a balanced set of test items containing the investigated phenomena embedded in different contexts, together with filler sentences. For pre-school children, a child-adaptation of the grammaticality judgement task developed to test adult and adolescent participants will be used, targeting the specific morpho-syntactic phenomena we are interested in.

Expected results
The expected results are:
- the creation of an objective scale that measures the level of endangerment of a language's grammatical structure;
- a clear picture of the actual state of the MLs' structure, both in more and in less proficient speakers;
- information about the quantity of cross-linguistic influence from the more prestigious languages in the community as a whole, based on the observation of a representative group of community members;
- the determination of what domains of grammar are more resilient, and which ones are more prone to be affected by contact-induced change;
- the final result is to fully develop this new method for the assessment of the endangerment of MLs and of the vitality of the MLs structures, which can be applied to other cases of MLs in contact with more prestigious varieties.

Milestones and deliverables
The milestones of this project are:
M1: Construction of a small database (months 1-4). It will contain the main properties of the investigated minority languages, in the three domains that we selected (syntax of subjects, nominal inflection and subordination). This database will be constructed through the consultation of the available literature, and in particular of the linguistic atlases (AIS, ASLEF, ASIt and ALD).
M2: Preparation of Questionnaires, and creation of a network of informants (months 1-10). These steps will be taken by the team members, in close collaboration with the cultural institutes of the minority languages, the stakeholders and other members of the local communities.
M3: Data collection (fieldwork) (months 7-14): the fieldwork will consist of two parts: the first is a pilot study (months 7-10) run with a subgroup of informants, through which we will observe if the informants understand the tasks and if it is impossible to elicit the investigated phenomena. The second part will be the main study, which will be run with the remaining part of informants (months 9-14).
M4: Data analysis (months 13-24): single phenomena in the various languages will be analyzed, and comparison of the performances in the tasks of the different groups of speakers will be carried out; a ‘scale of endangerment’ will be created.
M5: Dissemination of the results (months 21-24): at the end of the two years, a dynamic map of the different languages and of their level of vitality will be built. In addition, the results will be used to inform the policy concerning minority languages. Three teaching units will be also built, one for each investigated domain, which can be used at school to improve the children's proficiency in specific domains, with particular attention to the domains that appear to be less resilient.

The Deliverables are:
D1: A dynamic linguistic maps of the area, which represent the internal (structural) vitality of the different languages;
D2: Policy advice on how to improve the internal vitality of the investigated languages;
D3: three teaching units for the schools, one on each investigated domain (syntax of subject, nominal inflection, subordination).

Struttura dell'Università di Udine presso la quale verrà sviluppata l'attività di ricerca / Department or other structure of the University of Udine where research activities will be carried out:

Dipartimento di studi umanistici e del patrimonio culturale (DIUM) / Department of humanities and cultural heritage

Importo dell'assegno di ricerca (al lordo oneri carico assegnista) / Total grant gross for the research fellowship:

€ 36,480,57

Durata dell'assegno di ricerca / Duration of the research fellowship “assegno di ricerca”:

20 mesi / months

Finanziamento / Financed by:


Requisiti di ammissione / Minimum qualifications necessary:

- Possesso di un diploma di laurea vecchio ordinamento (ante decreto 3 novembre 1999 n. 509) o di laurea specialistica/magistrale (ex decreto 3 novembre 1999 n. 509 e decreto 22 ottobre 2004 n. 270) o titolo equivalente conseguito all’estero;
- possesso di un curriculum scientifico professionale idoneo allo svolgimento dell’attività di ricerca contemplata.
- University degree obtained before Decree n. 509 of 3 November 1999 or specialist/Master’s degree (post decree n. 509 of 3 November 1999 and decree n. 270 of 22 October 2004) or equivalent degree obtained abroad;
- professional scientific curriculum suitable for the research activity above mentioned.

Procedura selettiva / Competition procedure:

Valutazione per titoli e colloquio / Evaluation of titles and oral exam

I risultati della valutazione dei titoli saranno resi noti agli interessati nel corso del colloquio / The evaluation of the qualifications will be disclosed to candidates during the interview
Calendario del colloquio / Calendar of the oral exam

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<td>Ora / Time</td>
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<td>Studio del professor Costantini presso il Dipartimento di studi umanistici e del patrimonio culturale (DIUM) / Office of professor Costantini at the Department of humanities and cultural heritage</td>
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Per sostenere il colloquio i candidati devono esibire un valido documento di riconoscimento. / Candidates must come to the interview with a valid identity document.

Eventuali variazioni saranno rese note esclusivamente mediante pubblicazione all’albo ufficiale on line dell’Ateneo / Any change will be made public solely through publication on the University web site [http://web.uniud.it/ateneo/normativa/albo_ufficiale](http://web.uniud.it/ateneo/normativa/albo_ufficiale)

Commissione giudicatrice / Examining Board:

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