

DECRETO RETTORALE

Decree of the Rector n. 223 of 15/03/2024

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. 223 of 15/03/2024). 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

Call for applications for the award of 1 grant for the performance of research activities at the University of Udine on the topic "Resilient syntax in contact: for a structural assessment of minority languages (RESYNC)" SSD: L-LIN/01 (principal investigator, Francesco Costantini).

Research fellowship funded with resources from 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 proceeding is hereby announced for the award of 1 research grant at the University of Udine for the performance of the research activity identified in Annex A, which forms an integral and substantial part of this call. The research grant is linked to the research project on which it is based and is subject to the corresponding financial coverage.

Specifically, the project is placed within the context of the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan – Mission 4: Education and research, Component 2: From research to business, Investment 1.1: Fund for the National Research Programme and Research Projects of Significant National Interest, 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 grant may be renewed with the winner in accordance with the provisions of Article 22 of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 (in the text prior to Leg. Decree no. 36 of 30 April 2022, converted with amendments by Law no. 79 of 29 June 2022) and the Regulations of the University of Udine for the awarding of research grants issued by Rector's Decree no. 182 of 31 March 2021, in the presence of a positive assessment by the scientific supervisor of the activity carried out by the research fellow, adequate scientific justification and related financial coverage, within the limits set out in Article 3, letters b) and c) below.

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The activities covered by the research grant will respect the National Recovery and Resilience Plan's "Do No Significant Harm" principle, i.e., they should not cause significant harm to the environment.

This call guarantees respect for generational, gender and territorial equal opportunities.

The results of the research conducted within the framework of the research grant and the related data will be published in accordance with the "Open Science" and "FAIR data" principles.

The research grant does not entitle the successful candidate to any rights as regards access to University roles.

Any personal communication to candidates relating to this selection will be sent exclusively to the email address indicated in the application form.

Art. 2

The activities covered by the research grant referred to in this call for competition and the admission requirements are indicated and described in Annex A. Failure to meet the admission requirements at the time of applying shall result in the **exclusion** of the candidate from the selection process.

Possession of a PhD qualification or equivalent qualification obtained abroad or, for the sectors concerned only, of a medical specialisation qualification accompanied by an adequate scientific production, constitutes a preferential requirement for the awarding of the grant envisaged for this selection, if it has not been mentioned as an admission requirement.

The Selection Board shall assess, for the sole purpose of admission to the competition, the suitability of any qualification obtained abroad, without prejudice to the assessment of the medical specialisation qualification to which Article 38, paragraph 3.1 of Legislative Decree 165/2001, as amended, and the relevant Community regulations apply.

The Board assesses the qualification obtained abroad based on the relevant documentation enclosed with the application to take part in the selection and may exclude the candidate if the submitted documentation does not provide sufficient elements for the assessment.

Candidates are therefore invited to enclose all documentation in their possession relating to their qualifications in order to provide the Board with sufficient elements to assess their position.

Candidates are admitted to the selection process subject to a reservation and their exclusion, for failure to meet the requirements, may be ordered at any time by reasoned decision.

Art. 3

The research grant referred to in this call cannot be awarded to the following subjects:

- a) Employees of Universities and the entities referred to in Article 22(1) of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 (in the text prior to Leg. Decree no. 36 of 30 April 2022, converted with amendments by Law no. 79 of 29 June 2022).
- b) Recipients of previous research grants pursuant to Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010, for the maximum period allowed by the regulations, excluding the period in which the grant was received in conjunction with a PhD, up to the legal duration of the relevant course.

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- c) Those who have already been awarded research grants and fixed-term researcher contracts pursuant to Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 for a total of 12 years, even if not consecutive.
- d) Those who have a degree of kinship or relationship, 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 principal investigator or a professor/researcher belonging to the department or structure of interest where the research grant activity takes place.

The research grant referred to in this call cannot be cumulated with the following:

- a) Awarded scholarships of any kind, except those granted by national or foreign institutions useful for supplementing, by means of stays abroad, the fellow's training or research activities.
- b) Other research grants.
- c) Employment relationships, even if part-time, without prejudice to the provisions of the regulations for employees of public administrations.

The grant referred to in this call is also incompatible with simultaneous attendance of degree courses, master's degrees, and PhDs with scholarships and medical specialisation, in Italy and abroad.

Persons who have been convicted of a criminal offence resulting in disqualification from holding public office or inability to contract with the public administration as a secondary penalty are not eligible for selection.

Art. 4

Applicants must submit, in the manner described in Article 5 below, the application to take part in the selection, duly signed in handwritten or digital form. An application without a signature will result in the **exclusion** of the candidate, except in the case of access through the use of the Public Digital Identity System (SPID) in which case the signature will not be necessary.

The application must be uploaded in its entirety (i.e., every page), **otherwise** the applicant will be **excluded** from the selection.

Applicants must enclose the following with their application for participation in the selection, **under penalty of exclusion**:

1. The professional scientific *curriculum vitae* in Italian or English or one of the additional languages, if any, indicated in Annex A, highlighting the candidate's aptitude for carrying out and implementing the research programme.
2. Copy of valid identity document or other identification document. Citizens of non-EU countries must enclose a copy of their passport.
3. Limited to citizens of non-EU states residing or authorised to reside in Italy, a copy of their residence permit or authorisation to reside in Italy.
4. For candidates who cannot provide a self-certification under the conditions set out below, documentation proving possession of the academic qualification required for admission to the selection. Possession of a higher academic qualification does not exempt the candidate from producing such documentation, which, if missing, will result in exclusion:
 - **Candidates who are Italian citizens or citizens of a European Union Member State** must submit a declaration in lieu of certification and, if necessary, a notarial deed regarding the academic qualification needed for admission (indicating the academic qualification, the academic institution awarding the

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qualification, the year it was awarded and the mark obtained) and the publications and other qualifications held, indicating for each one all the identification details necessary for the Board's assessment. **The application for participation counts as a declaration in lieu of certification of the declared academic qualification.** If the subject matter of the declaration is not clearly identified in terms of its nature, duration, time setting and institution concerned, the selection board will disregard it. The Administration reserves the right to carry out appropriate checks on the truthfulness of the content of the declarations made; in the event of a false declaration, the provisions of Article 76 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and Articles 483, 485, and 486 of the Italian Criminal Code shall apply. The University will not take into account any certificates attached by candidates who are Italian citizens or citizens of a state belonging to the European Union.

- **Citizens of a non-European Union State** must submit documents and qualifications in Italian or English or one of the additional languages, if any, indicated in Annex A, under penalty of exclusion from the selection or, as the case may be, non-assessment.
Documents and titles, originally in a different language, must be accompanied by a translation, made by the candidate under his or her responsibility, into Italian or English or any other language indicated in Appendix A. With reference to the dissertation only, the translation may be limited to an extended abstract.
- **Citizens of a non-EU State regularly residing in Italy** may use declarations in lieu of certification only in respect of states, personal qualities or facts that can be certified or attested to by Italian public bodies, without prejudice to the special provisions contained in the laws and regulations governing immigration and the status of foreigners.
- **Citizens of non-EU states authorised to reside in Italy** may use the aforementioned declarations in cases where they are produced pursuant to international conventions between Italy and the declarant's country of origin.

Applicants may also enclose with their application for assessment purposes their publications and any other qualification deemed useful to prove their qualification in relation to the research programme described in Annex A and to certify any research activity carried out in public and/or private entities (with the indication of the starting date and duration). The submission modalities are similar to those indicated in point 4 of the previous paragraph.

Only the qualifications possessed by the candidate on the date of submission of the application for selection and presented in accordance with Article 5 will be assessed.

Any exclusion from the selection procedure due to lack of eligibility requirements, absence of mandatory documents, failure to sign the application to take part in the selection or submission of the application in a manner other than that provided for in this call will be communicated to the parties concerned exclusively by email to the email address indicated in the application to take part in the selection.

Art. 5

Registration for this selection will begin on March 29, 2024 at 2:00 pm (Italian time) and will end on April 12, 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 <https://pica.cineca.it/>.

For those who do not already have a user account, the procedure involves a registration phase for the applicant, and a subsequent phase for completing the application online.

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Once completed, the application must be signed in the manner (handwritten signature, with attached identity document, or digital signature) described in the online procedure, under penalty of exclusion from the selection. The application does not have to be signed if the above-mentioned online procedure is accessed using the Sistema Pubblico di Identità Digitale (SPID - Digital ID Public System). In the case of a handwritten signature, the applicant must upload the application to the system in its entirety. The information entered in the application form shall constitute a declaration in lieu of certification and affidavit, pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000.

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

It is not permitted to submit attachments to the application in the form of links to files residing on "online storage/file sharing" services or web pages. Reference may not be made to documents or publications submitted to this or other administrations or documents attached to the application for participation in another selection procedure.

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

The University Administration:

- accepts no liability if it is impossible to read the submitted documentation in electronic format due to damaged files;
- does not accept or take into consideration qualifications or documents received in paper form or by any other means than those specified in this article.

The Administration accepts no liability in the event of incorrect indication by the candidate of his/her email address or in the event of failure or delay in communicating a change in the email address indicated in the application, nor for any digital transmission errors attributable to third parties, unforeseeable circumstances or force majeure.

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

Art. 6

The selection test takes place according to the modalities set out in Annex A.

The test will aim to ascertain the candidates' preparation, experience and research aptitude. It will consist of an assessment of the professional scientific curriculum, publications and titles submitted, and an interview, where applicable.

Failure of the candidate to attend the interview will be considered as withdrawal from the selection, whatever the cause.

Candidates who intend to avail themselves of the benefits provided for by Article 20 of Law no. 104 of 1992 (need for assistance, possible use of additional time for the performance of examination tests) in relation to their disability

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situation, must declare this and accompany the application with appropriate medical certification in order to allow the Administration to prepare in time the means and tools to guarantee the statutory benefits; failure to submit the medical certification exempts the Administration from any obligation in this regard.

Art. 7

The Competition Selection Board is identified in Annex A to this call, of which it forms an integral part. At its first meeting, the Board appoints the Chairperson and the Secretary taking the minutes, and establishes the criteria and procedures for assessing the qualifications and the interview, where applicable.

The results of the assessment must be made known to the parties concerned at the interview, where provided for.

The Board can attribute to the selection a total number of 100 points (one hundred hundredths). At the end of its work, the Board formulates the overall merit list based on the total marks obtained by each candidate and draws up the minutes of the competition operations.

The grant may be awarded, subject to the ranking list, to candidates who have obtained a minimum overall mark of 70/100 (seventy hundredths).

The Board's judgement is final on the merits.

The ranking list will be made public exclusively by publication on the University's official notice board; the outcome of the assessment will not be the subject of personal communication to candidates.

Those who do not declare their acceptance of the research grant and do not present themselves at the structure where the research activities are to be carried out to sign the contract by the deadline communicated by the same to the email address indicated by the candidate in the application shall forfeit their right to the research grant, except for health reasons or reasons of force majeure duly documented and promptly notified.

Candidates holding qualifications obtained abroad, if successful, must submit the following, if not already attached to the application:

- **For degrees issued by a country that is a party to the Lisbon Convention (<https://www.enic-naric.net/>), the following documentation:**
 - *Supplement* Diploma or similar certificate in English issued by the competent University.
 - "Certificate of Verification of Foreign Qualification - CIMEA" issued by CIMEA (Centre for Information on Academic Mobility and Equivalences) via the "*diplome*" service at <https://cimea.diplome.eu/udine/#/auth/login>
- **For degrees issued by a country not party to the Lisbon Convention (<https://www.enic-naric.net/>), one of the following options:**
 - Declaration of the on-site value of the qualification held and the certificate relating to the qualification with examinations and grades. The certificate in a language other than Italian or English must be accompanied by an official translation into one of those languages (certified by the competent diplomatic-consular authority or sworn at a court in Italy).
 - "Certificate of Comparability and Verification of Foreign Qualifications - CIMEA" issued by CIMEA (Centre for Information on Academic Mobility and Equivalences) via the "*diplome*" service at <https://cimea.diplome.eu/udine/#/auth/login>

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If the aforementioned documentation is not available at the time of the conclusion of the contract, the candidate must prove that he or she has requested it and submit it as soon as possible; if it is not submitted within six months of the start of the contract, the candidate will forfeit the contract and will be required to repay any related sums received to date.

Art. 8

The research activity cannot be started before the contract defining the terms of the collaboration is signed.

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

- a) Be carried out in the context of the research programme covered by the grant and not be a purely technical support to the same.
- b) Close connection with the implementation of the research programme that is the subject of the relationship with the winner.
- c) Having a continuous and in any case temporally defined character, not merely occasional, and in coordination with the overall activity of the University.
- d) Performance in a condition of autonomy, within the sole limits of the programme prepared by the Head of the same, without predetermined working hours.

The research fellow is obliged to submit a detailed written report on the work carried out and the results achieved, together with the opinion of the scientific supervisor, to the reference structure within the deadlines laid down in the contract. The research fellow will also have to submit interim reports and time sheets if requested by the reference structure and/or the scientific supervisor.

The research fellow is bound to strict confidentiality regarding the data and information to which he/she becomes privy in the course of his/her research activity. At the request of the scientific coordinator, he/she will be required to sign an appropriate confidentiality agreement.

The industrial property rights to the results obtained by the research fellow in the performance of the research activity belong exclusively to the University, without prejudice to the moral right of the research fellow to be recognised as an author or inventor.

The University reserves the right to revoke this call for competition for reasons of public interest, should the research project and/or the financial backing on which the research grant is based cease to exist. Should these causes arise after the contract has been signed, the University may terminate the contract without notice.

Art. 9

The following apply to the grant under this call:

- On tax matters, the provisions of Article 4 of Law no. 476 of 13 August 1984, as amended.
- On social security matters, the provisions of Article 2(26) et seq. of Law no. 335 of 8 August 1995, as amended.
- On compulsory maternity leave, the provisions of the Ministerial Decree of 12 July 2007.
- On sick leave, the provisions of Article 1(788) of Law No 296 of 27 December 2006, as amended.

During the period of compulsory maternity leave, the allowance paid by INPS pursuant to Article 5 of the Ministerial Decree of 12 July 2007 is supplemented by the University up to the full amount of the research grant.

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The grant will be paid in monthly instalments in arrears.

Art. 10

The data collected as part of the procedure referred to in Article 5 is necessary for the proper management of the selection procedure, for the possible subsequent management of the research grant and purposes related to the management of the services provided by the University. The University of Udine is the Data Controller. At any time, the data subject may request access, rectification and, compatibly with the institutional purposes of the University, cancellation and restriction of processing or may object to the processing of his/her data. He/she can always lodge a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority. The full information 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/it/pagine-speciali/guida/privacy>

Art. 11

For any matters not expressly mentioned in this call, reference is made to the relevant regulations in force cited in the introduction and to the "Internal regulations for the award of research grants pursuant to 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 official in charge of the proceeding is Dr. Sandra Salvador, Head of the Research Services Area of the University of Udine.

The reference office at the University of Udine is the "Area Servizi per la Ricerca - Ufficio Formazione per la Ricerca", Via Mantica 31 - 33100 Udine.

To request information on the call, 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

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Annex 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 "assegnista 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:

Obiettivi 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

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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 di ricerca 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'elicitazione narrativa consisterà 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;

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- 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 conterrà 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/Zahre, Timau/Tischlbong, 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.

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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;

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- 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:

€ 30.643,68

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

18 mesi / months

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Finanziamento / Financed by:

La copertura finanziaria graverà sul progetto PRIN 2022 PNRR - "Resilient syntax in contact: assessing minority languages (RESYNC)"; Prot. n. P2022T8LJH. Avviso pubblico n. 1409 del 14/09/2022. Decreto di finanziamento n. 1371 del 01/09/2023 - Settore SH4. Codice CUP G53D23007290001. Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca (Finanziato dall'Unione Europea, NextGenerationEU).

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;
- University degree obtained before Decree n. 509 of 3 November 1999 or specialistic/Master's degree (post decree n. 509 of 3 November 1999 and decree n. 270 of 22 October 2004) or equivalent degree obtained abroad.

Modalità di presentazione della documentazione oggetto di valutazione / Arrangements for the submission of documents:

La modalità di presentazione della documentazione oggetto di valutazione è specificata all'art. 4 del bando. / The way of presenting the documentation under evaluation is specified in art. 4 of the present notice.

Ai fini valutativi, i candidati potranno presentare le pubblicazioni e ogni altro titolo ritenuto utile a comprovare la propria qualificazione in relazione al programma di ricerca descritto nell'Allegato A, nelle seguenti lingue: / For evaluation purposes, candidates may present publications and any other qualifications deemed useful to demonstrate their qualification in relation to the research program described in Attachment A, in the following languages:

- Italiano / Italian
- Inglese / English

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 | Modalità / Modality | In presenza / On site |
| | Data / Date | 17 aprile / April 2024 |
| | Ora / Time | 9:30 / 9:30 am (Italian time) |
| | Luogo / Place | 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 |

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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

Commissione giudicatrice / Examining Board:

| Nome e Cognome | Qualifica | SSD | Università |
|---|-----------|----------|---------------------------------|
| Membri Effettivi / Permanent members | | | |
| Francesco Costantini | PA | L-LIN/01 | Università degli Studi di Udine |
| Raffaella Bombi | PO | L-LIN/01 | Università degli Studi di Udine |
| Francesco Zuin | RTD | L-LIN/01 | Università degli Studi di Udine |
| Membro Supplente / Temporary member | | | |
| Simone Furlani | PA | M-FIL/01 | Università degli Studi di Udine |