

PUBLIC SELECTION BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS AND INTERVIEW FOR THE AWARDING OF NO. 1 EXPERIENCED GRANT LASTING 36 MONTHS FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH PURSUANT TO ART. 22 OF LAW NO. 240/2010 AT THE CENTRE CCSE - "CISALPINO INSTITUTE FOR COMPARATIVE STUDIES IN EUROPE" (A.R.F. 13/A4 - APPLIED ECONOMICS - A.D. SECS-P/06 - APPLIED ECONOMICS) - TYPE B

announced with decree of the Chancellor Rep. no. 679/2019 of 21.10.2019 and posted on the official registry of the University on 21.10.2019

RESEARCH PROJECT

"The impact of worldwide university ranking on the missions of higher education institutions"

Research structure: Centre CCSE – *"CISALPINO Institute for Comparative Studies in Europe"*

Duration of the grant: 36 months

Scientific Area: 13 – Economics and statistics

Academic recruitment field: 13/A4 – Applied economics

Academic discipline: SECS-P/06 – Applied economics

Scientific Director: Prof. Gianmaria Martini

The worldwide university rankings have been for years a global phenomenon, which is receiving increasing attention both from the academic community and from university managers. Since the first of these indicators, the Annual Ranking of World Universities, was introduced by the University of Shanghai in 2003, the rankings have transformed universities, even more than what the profound social changes did in previous centuries (Marginson, 2014). A 2011 report by the European University Association (EUA) reports that the arrival of global university rankings has galvanized the world of university education. Due to the diffusion of these rankings, universities have not been able to avoid confrontation, nationally or internationally, and this has caused profound changes in the way universities work (Rauhvargers, 2011). In fact, the rankings influence the judgments and decisions of professors and university managers; of students, in particular those interested in moving outside the boundaries of the country of origin; policy makers, as well as other stakeholders, including possible industrial partners (Hazelkorn, 2008; 2011).

While the universities have been projected by the rankings in an international competitive arena, they remain, from an organizational point of view, anchored in the territory that hosts them, which expresses their main focus. It is therefore important to consider the problem of how universities serve the relationship with their territory, and how rankings change this relationship.

This research project aims to study how universities model their missions and their identity, interpreting assessments and implications in a regional perspective. The ambition is to be able to provide students, university management and policy makers with a regional interpretation of the global phenomenon described by the rankings.

The research project is divided into the following operational objectives:

- Collection, analysis, dissemination of the results of Italian and European universities in international rankings, with particular attention to the case of Lombard universities;
- Critical analysis of the different rankings available, with the development of guidelines and recommendations aimed at the universities in order to allow universities to better represent their identity in international rankings;
- Dissemination and training activities, aimed specifically at the media, to amplify the critical reading ability of the rankings on the regional and national territory.