PUBLIC SELECTION BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS AND INTERVIEW FOR THE AWARDING OF NO. 1 EARLY STAGE GRANT LASTING 12 MONTHS FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH PURSUANT TO ART. 22 OF LAW NO. 240/2010 AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LETTERS, PHILOSOPHY, COMMUNICATION SC 11/A3 - CONTEMPORARY HISTORY, 11/A2 - MODERN HISTORY, 11/A4 - SCIENCE OF BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS, HISTORY OF RELIGIONS, 10/N1 - ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN, MIDDLE EASTERN AND AFRICAN CULTURES, 10/M2 - SLAVIC STUDIES, 14/B2 - HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND OF NON-EUROPEAN SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS - SSD M-STO/03 - HISTORY OF EASTERN EUROPE, M-STO/02 - MODERN HISTORY, M-STO/06, HISTORY OF RELIGIONS, L-OR/10 - HISTORY OF ISLAMIC COUNTRIES, L-LIN/21 - SLAVIC STUDIES, SPS/14 - ASIAN HISTORY AND INSTITUTIONS (CUP: F56C18000720001) TYPE B

announced with decree of the Chancellor Rep. no. 125/2019 of 28.02.2019 and posted on the official registry of the University on 28.02.2019

RESEARCH PROJECT

<u>The radicalisation process and the de-radicalisation and social inclusion policies: a case study</u> <u>on the situation in the Balkan Region</u>

Research structure: Department of Letters, philosophy, communication **Duration of the grant**: 12 months

Scientific Area: 10 - Antiquities, philology, literary studies, art history, 11 - History, philosophy, pedagogy and psychology, 14 - Political and social sciences

Academic recruitment field: 11/A3 – Contemporary history, 11/A2 – Modern history, 11/A4 – Science of books and documents, history of religions, 10/N1 – Ancient near eastern, middle eastern and African cultures, 10/M2 – Slavic studies, 14/B2 – History of international relations and of non-European societies and institutions

Academic discipline: M-STO/03 – History of eastern Europe, M-STO/02 – Modern history, M-STO/06, History of religions, L-OR/10 – History of Islamic countries, L-LIN/21 – Slavic studies, SPS/14 – Asian history and institutions

Scientific Director: Prof. Michele Brunelli

The research project will focus on the radicalization processes and de-radicalization policies, with particular attention to the Balkan area. After having defined the peculiarities of the Balkan Islam, emphasizing its differences with the models of Islam in the other Muslim regions of the world, the research will also take into consideration the religious and social changes in this area, especially during and after the breakup of Yugoslavia and in which ways the ideological representations and the narratives contributed to the elaboration of new methodologies and strategies of radicalisation. A second part of the research will focus on the analysis of the main models of radicalization, in order to provide a series of elements useful to study this phenomenon in the region. The research will also try to study if a peculiar Balkan model of radicalisation exists, through the identification of the driving factors of this phenomenon. In doing so, a case-study will be developed. This case-study will focus on the situation of some rural areas of the Balkan region, with particular reference to those of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This because these area are today considered particularly vulnerable to the ideologicaldoctrinaire influence of itinerant foreign imams or to the infiltration of radical-extremist groups, such as Qā'ida or Da'ish members. This analysis will allow to highlight how the situation in this area has changed, and how the social and cultural substratum is today particularly favourable to jihadist propaganda. A further element of investigation will be the analysis of the narrative and propaganda in Bosnian language, through the study and the scrutiny of videos and of the publications of radical groups expressly elaborated for the Bosnian society. In the third and last part, the study will try to identify some best practices to stem and to fight the radicalization in the area, through the identification of de-radicalization policies, counter-narratives or social inclusion and economic-regional development strategies.