INAF
ISTITUTO NAZIONALE
DI ASTROFISICA

OSSERVATORIO
ASTRONOMICO
DI PADOVA

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SELECTION PROCEDURE BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS AND POSSIBLE INTERVIEW FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF ONE FELLOWSHIP, OF THE DURATION OF 12 MONTHS, ENTITLED "DEVELOPMENT OF METHODS FOR 3D RECONSTRUCTION AND RADIOMETRIC PROCESSING OF SIMBIO-SYS AND OTHER SPACE CAMERA DATA".
CUP: F83C24000780001 and F83C24000930001

THE DIRECTOR

HAVING REGARD TO Italian Law n. 138, dated June 4, 2003, for the Reorganization of the Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica (INAF), in particular the article 3;

HAVING REGARD TO the INAF Statute, approved and effective as of September 24, 2018;

HAVING REGARD TO the Resolution of September 13, 2024, number 16, by which the Board of Directors approved both the amendment to Article 14, paragraph 1, second sentence, and the amendment to Article 16, paragraph 2, first sentence, of the current "*Statuto*" of the "*Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica*".

HAVING REGARD TO the note dated October 23, 2024, protocol number 19624, recorded in the General Registry of the Institute on the same date with progressive number 11537, by which the amendments to the "*Statuto*" of the "*Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica"* were definitively approved, as proposed by the Administrative Board of the same "*Istituto*" in Resolution no. 16 of September 13, 2024;

HAVING SEEN that the "Statuto" of the "Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica", with the aforementioned amendments, it comes into force on October 30, 2024;

HAVING REGARD TO the "Regolamento di Organizzazione e Funzionamento" of the "Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica", approved by the Administrative Board with the resolution of June 5, 2020, number 46, and modified by the same Board through Resolution no. 21 of April 29, 2021, published on June 24, 2021, and comes into force on July 9, 2021, and most recently amended and supplemented by Resolution no. 16 of September 13, 2024;

HAVING REGARD TO the note dated October 23, 2024, protocol number 19624, recorded in the General Registry of the Institute on the same date with progressive number 11537, by which the latest amendments to the "Regolamento di Organizzazione e Funzionamento" of the "Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica" were definitively approved;

HAVING REGARD TO the INAF "Disciplinare di Organizzazione e Funzionamento (DOF)", approved with resolution n. 44/2012 by INAF Administrative Board on June 21 , 2012;

HAVING REGARD TO the instructions issued by the Director of the Department of Research Structures on 07/01/2005 and on 02/17/2005;

HAVING REGARD TO the note protocol number 4022 dated 19/06/2008 of the President of INAF;

HAVING REGARD TO the Guidelines concerning the recruitment of non-permanent staff, approved by the Administration Board of INAF at the meeting held on January 30, 2018;

HAVING REGARD TO The request from Dr. RE Cristina, received by this Observatory on July

22, 2026 with protocol number 1864, concerning the activation of a fellowship entitled " Development of methods for 3D reconstruction and radiometric processing of SIMBIO-SYS and other space camera data";

HAVING SEEN the note of July 23, 2026 protocol number 1876 whereby the Director of the "Astronomical Observatory of Padova" has communicated to the "Scientific Directorate" of the "National Institute for Astrophysics" the activation of a selection procedure based on qualifications and possible interview for the assignment of one fellowship, lasting 12 months renewable;

HAVING ASCERTAINED that the fellowship will be funded with the resources allocated in the Budget under Objective Function 1.05.04.29.09 project "Attività scientifiche missione BepiColombo (strumenti SIMBIO-SYS, ISA e PHEBUS) relative alla fine della fase di crociera e alla fase scientifica nominale A.A. n. 2024-18-HH.0" and 1.05.04.33.12 Agreement between ASI and INAF 2024-40-HH.0 "Attività scientifica e gestione avanzata degli archivi dati di CaSSIS TGO e MARSIS MEX" item 1.04.02.03.001 "Borse di studio", of the cost center 1.03 (INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua);

HAVING REGARD TO the Annual Budget Forecast of INAF for the 2026 Fiscal Year, approved by the Administration Board with Resolution no. 101 of December 19, 2025;

HAVING ASCERTAINED the financial coverage;

DECREES

Art. 1
Object of the selection - Research Project

1. A selection based on titles and qualifications, possibly integrated by an interview, is open to award. The fellowship, "Borsa di studio" entitled: **"Development of methods for 3D reconstruction and radiometric processing of SIMBIO-SYS and other space camera data"** is based on project "BepiColombo" e "CaSSIS TGO e MARSIS MEX"; Research will be carried out at INAF-Observatory of Padua.
2. The successful candidate will work on:
   - Photogrammetry (main focus): enhancement of the 3DPD software with the integration of methods to increase 3D reconstruction accuracy to sub pixel levels, with application to SIMBIO-SYS, CaSSIS data and other stereo cameras;
   - Improvement of the radiometric quality of SIMBIO-SYS data and other stereo camera data;
   - Photometric corrections on data from space cameras;
   - Management and development of synthetic stereo and non stereo datasets.

Art. 2
Admission requirements

1. Participation to the selection is reserved to Italian and foreign citizens meeting the following minimum requirements:
   - **Master's degree** (or 2nd level Laurea degree, if issued by an Italian University) in **Astronomy, Physics, Geology, Engineering, Earth and Environmental Science,** or an equivalent degree, including the Italian university degree obtained under the "vecchio ordinamento", awarded by an Italian or a foreign advanced studies institute or university,

which would formally entitle the applicant to the enrolment in a doctorate awarded by an Italian university or by a foreign university;
- a minimum of 3 years of documented post-graduate professional experience. The duration of a Ph.D. program may be counted towards fulfilling this experience requirement;

2. The following preferential titles will be considered:
   - experience in the analysis of remote sensing data;
   - experience in photometric modelling;
   - experience with planetary surface data;
   - experience in raytracing.

Art. 3
Duration and amount of the fellowship

1. The fellowship will have a duration of **12 months** with the possibility of renewal or extension up to the maximum limit of **4 years of total duration** of the fellowship, following verification by the Scientific Supervisor regarding the activity carried out and following the assessment of the needs of the research programme and financial availability.
2. The fellowship holder is entitled, for the entire duration of the fellowship, to the gross annual all-inclusive economic treatment in the amount of Euro 32.258,06 (thirty-two thousand two hundred and fifty-eight/06).
3. The fellowship will presumably start on September 15, 2026.
4. The fellowship will be paid in postponed monthly installments, unless the Scientific Supervisor Dr. Re Cristina gives an unfavorable opinion on the activities carried out.
5. The Director of INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua is expressly granted the authority to revoke the fellowship in the event that the assessment of the fellow's activity is not satisfactory.
6. The fellowship holder will be required to attend the host institution for the entire duration of the fellowship, in accordance with the needs of the research program as determined by the Scientific Supervisor. The fellowship activities will be carried out at the premises of INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua.
7. Interruptions of the fellowship may only be justified for health reasons or force majeure, duly proven and documented, and must be promptly communicated to the Observatory. Any postponement or continuation of the fellowship beyond the scheduled end date will be subject to further evaluation by the Director and may be constrained by budgetary limitations.
8. The fellowship is not compatible with any other public or private employment, other fellowships, or grants and subsi fellowship dies of a similar nature.
9. The fellowship may be combined with attendance in doctoral programs without scholarships, as well as postgraduate specialization schools without scholarships, subject to authorization from the Scientific Supervisor.

Art. 4
Application for admission and submission deadlines

1. The application for admission to the selection procedure, drawn up on plain paper, according to the template set out in Annex 1 to this Call and signed by the candidates, can be submitted directly at the headquarters of the INAF-Astronomical Observatory of Padua (Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 13.00) or by authorised courier or by registered mail AR (the departure postmark is authentic), or by **certified electronic mail**, with attachments in non-editable **"PDF"** format, to the following address: inafoapadova@pcert.postecert.it, **no later than 11:59 PM (Italian time) of August 14, 2026**, **under penalty of exclusion**. This deadline is peremptory and no account will be taken of applications received beyond this deadline. Please note that the capacity of the certified email inbox is 1 Gbyte; therefore, it is recommended to verify the delivery receipt, attesting the correct receipt of the application. Otherwise, it is recommended to forward the documentation several times.
2. Only for foreign citizens and Italian citizens who do not hold a certified electronic mailbox, the sending of the application and the related declarations and/or communications provided for in this selection, may be carried out by ordinary email at inafoapadova@pcert.postecert.it or at bandi@oapd.inaf.it.
3. Emails from non-pec to pec boxes may not be received; the certainty of receipt of applications received from non-pec boxes to the institutional PEC is confirmed only if the protocol confirmation message reaches the sender.
4. Applications for admission to the selection procedure will not be accepted if sent from an email account, whether ordinary or certified, that is not registered in the name of the applicant.
5. The application for admission to the selection, if submitted via certified email, must be signed with a digital signature or, alternatively, signed and sent as a non-editable PDF reproduction and accompanied by a copy of a legally valid identity document.
   The signature of the applicant at the bottom of the application is not subject to authentication, pursuant to Article 39 of the Presidential Decree of December 28, 2000, No. 445, and subsequent amendments and additions.
6. All documentation must be sent in a sealed envelope clearly indicating the candidate's name and surname and the reference to this call (Ref. Director's Decree No. [*insert number by taking it from the file title or the Official Notice Board*]/2026); if sent via PEC or email, these references must appear in the subject line, indicating: "**Fellowship – Development of methods for 3D reconstruction and radiometric processing of SIMBIO-SYS and other space camera data – Astronomical Observatory of Padua**," as well as the name and surname of the applicant.
   The date and time of submission will be certified by the IT system.
7. Applications for admission to the selection procedure submitted in violation of the above provisions will therefore be considered **inadmissible**.
8. In the application, the candidate must declare, under his/her own responsibility and **under penalty of exclusion**:
   a) surname, first name;

b) place and date of birth;
c) residence and tax code;
d) possession of citizenship;
e) enjoyment of civil and political rights, indicating the Municipality in whose electoral rolls he/she is registered or the reasons for non-registration or cancellation from the aforementioned rolls;
f) possession of the educational qualification required by Article 2 of this call for applications, including the date and place of attainment and the final grade. Candidates holding a degree obtained abroad must also specify that, under current legislation, it has been declared equivalent to the qualification required by this call. If such declaration is not available, the candidate must attach a copy of the degree certificate including the list of exams taken and the final grade, for proper assessment by the Selection Committee;
g) that he/she has not received any criminal convictions and is not involved in any ongoing criminal proceedings; if otherwise, the candidate must specify the convictions or proceedings;
h) whether he/she has previously benefited from or is currently benefiting from any other fellowships from public or private institutions and for what duration;
i) the address to which all communications regarding the selection process should be sent, including a telephone number and an email address.

9. The following documents must also be attached for evaluation:
   1) a self-certification regarding the possession of a Master's degree, indicating the final grade obtained;
   2) a brief, duly signed curriculum vitae covering studies and scientific activities, including any previous fellowships and/or research grants received, specifying the periods;
   3) documentation related to any relevant professional experience;
   4) a list of publications: copies of those relevant to the research program of the fellowship may be attached;
   5) any other works the candidate considers useful to present in order to better qualify their professional curriculum, description of research interests, and any letters of reference;
   6) a list of submitted qualifications;
   7) a declaration according to the template in Annex 2 (serving as a cumulative self-certification for Italian and European Union citizens).
10. The aforementioned qualifications may be submitted in copy, accompanied by a declaration from the applicant (Annex 2, point 1) certifying their conformity to the original, along with a photocopy of an identity document.
11. When using self-certification, the candidate must provide all necessary data to allow any verification of the qualifications by the Administration of the Observatory.
12. Applications, qualifications, and documents submitted to INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua after the application deadline, or found to be lacking the required documentation at the deadline, will not be considered; after the deadline, it will not be permitted to replace the qualifications and documents already submitted.

Art. 5
Selection Committee and selection procedure

1. The selection of eligible candidates will be carried out by a Selection Committee appointed by the Director of INAF- Astronomical Observatory of Padua.
2. The Selection Committee has a total of **100 points available: 70 for titles and qualifications and 30 for the possible interview**. The selection is based on qualifications, possibly integrated with an interview and shall take into account the candidate's experience of the activity covered by the exchange.
3. The Commission may preliminarily establish the minimum score that candidates must achieve in the evaluation of qualifications, both for inclusion in the ranking in case it decides not to hold an interview, and for subsequent admission to the possible supplementary evaluation interview.
4. At the first meeting, the Commission will define the criteria for the valuation of titles.
5. If deemed necessary, the Commission may call the selected candidates for a follow-up interview. Admission to any interview will be notified to interested parties well in advance. Such notification shall be made by PEC or regular e-mail with acknowledgement of receipt. To be admitted to the possible interview, candidates must be provided with an appropriate identity document.
6. The Commission will predetermine and record the criteria for evaluating the interview.
7. At the conclusion of its work, the Commission will deliver the competition documents and the minutes containing the assessment of each candidate and the related merit ranking to the Director.
8. The final merit ranking and the winner will be approved by a decree of the Director of the Astronomical Observatory of Padua. The results will be made public by posting on the Official Notice Board “Albo” of INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua.

Art.6
Awarding of the fellowship and signing of the related contract

1. Subject to verification of the actual availability of funds in the budget, the Administration of INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua will formally notify the winner of the award of the fellowship. Within a strict deadline of five days from the date of receipt of the notification, the recipient must send to the Observatory a declaration of unconditional acceptance of the fellowship under the conditions specified, as well as any requested documents.
2. The fellowship holder also agrees to promptly provide the Administration of the Structure with the bank/postal account details of a valid account held at an Italian banking or postal institution, registered personally and exclusively in the name of the fellowship winner, and intended for payment of the fellowship in monthly deferred instalments. Without this information, the Administration cannot technically guarantee simultaneous payment along with other fellowships disbursed by the Structure. This operation is not in any way supported by the granting entity.
3. In the declaration, the fellowship holder must also explicitly assure, under their own personal responsibility, that during the entire duration of the fellowship they will not benefit from other fellowships, grants, or similar awards, and will not receive any salaries or remuneration of any

kind derived from public or private employment relationships, nor from coordinated and continuous collaboration contracts.

4. Receiving this fellowship does not entail, under any circumstances, an obligation of employment at INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua.
5. The fellowship does not constitute an employment relationship and does not entitle the recipient to social security or welfare benefits. The fellowship holder is responsible for obtaining their own health insurance as well as insurance against risks from accidents at work, without any charge for the INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua.
6. In case of withdrawal or forfeiture by the winner, the fellowship may be awarded to the next candidates in the ranking.

Art. 7
Responsible for the procedure

1. Pursuant to Art. 5 of Law no. 241 of August 7, 1990 and subsequent amendments and additions, the person in charge of the selection procedure for this call is Dr. Busato Andrea, staff member at INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua.

Art. 8
Publicity

1. This selection call for applications is published electronically by transmission to the astronomical and astrophysical observatories and relevant scientific institutions in general, posted on the INAF website (www.inaf.it) and on the website of the Astronomical Observatory of Padua (www.oapd.inaf.it), and displayed on the Official Notice Board of the Observatory.

Art. 9
Reference rules and final provisions

1. As far as applicable to the fellowship awarding procedure, the Observatory ensures compliance with current regulations regarding equal opportunities between men and women, and the protection of privacy in the processing of personal data.
2. Pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 1, of Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 and subsequent amendments, the personal data provided by candidates will be collected at INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Padua for the purposes of managing this public selection and the related relationships. The provision of such data is essential for the evaluation of eligibility requirements for admission to the selection, under penalty of exclusion.
3. The same information may be communicated to Public Administrations directly concerned with the legal, economic, and social security status of the contract holder.
4. Candidates enjoy the rights referred to in Article 7 of Legislative Decree no. 196/2003, which include the right to access their personal data, as well as certain complementary rights, such as the right to rectify, update, complete, or delete data that are incorrect, incomplete, or collected unlawfully, as well as the right to object to their processing for legitimate reasons.

5. Any information relating to this Call may be requested by sending an electronic mail message to the following addresses: **bandi@oapd.inaf.it.**
6. For further scientific information, interested parties may contact Dr. Re Cristina at the following address: **cristina.re@inaf.it**.

Padua

THE DIRECTOR
(Dr. Bianca Maria Poggianti)

Bianca
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