# TURIN HUMANITIES PROGRAMME

# 7th CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - 2026

### 2027-2029 RESEARCH CYCLE

## Arte, *Labour and the Senses: Globally Entangled Histories of Early Modern Making*

## INTRODUCTION

Fondazione 1563 per l'Arte e la Cultura (hereinafter "Fondazione 1563") has since 2013 supported research and advanced training in the field of the humanities.

In a wider effort to pursue this goal, in 2020 Fondazione 1563 launched the **Turin Humanities Programme**, a research initiative that allows junior postdoctoral scholars to work on interrelated research projects under the guidance of specially-appointed Senior Fellows.

THP supports two-year research projects devoted to historical topics of importance for our times.

Under THP, Fondazione 1563 has supported the following calls for applications:

1st cycle, 2020: *The Enlightenment Legacy: The Rights of Man in a Global Perspective*.

2nd cycle, 2021: *Political Thought and the Body: Europe and East Asia, ca. 1100-1650*.

3rd cycle, 2022: *Slavery, Ethnicity and Race in the Mediterranean. Ideas and Attitudes from Homer to Columbus*.

4th cycle, 2023: *Slavery and Serfdom in Europe and the New World: Debates in the Early Modern Period*.

5th cycle, 2024: *Rethinking the Origins of Political Economy in the European World: Needs, Justice, and the Wealth of Nations*.

6th cycle, 2025: *After the Enlightenment: Histories, Debates, and Reinterpretations*.

## SUBJECT OF THE CALL

Fondazione 1563 is now pleased to launch the seventh call for applications for advanced studies on 'Arte, *Labour and the Senses: Globally Entangled Histories of Early Modern Making*'. This will fund up to four two-year postdoctoral fellowships in Turin for scholars from any university (the 'Turin fellowships'), and one two-year postdoctoral fellowship in Edinburgh for holders of Italian PhDs (the 'Outgoing fellowship').

The Director of Studies for this programme (2027-2029) will be Professor Jill Burke FBA, Chair of Renaissance Visual and Material Cultures at the University of Edinburgh's School of History Classics and Archaeology.

For information and questions please email: **info@fondazione1563.it**

**Applicants are invited to submit research proposals that engage with one or more aspect of the research framework '*Arte*, Labour and the Senses: Globally Entangled Histories of Early Modern Making'.**

The application should include:

1. **A summary of the proposed project (max 150 words).**
2. **A description of the applicant's previous research, normally referring to the doctoral thesis and any associated publications (max 500 words).**
3. **A detailed research proposal of max 2.500 words. The applicant's research programme should include:**
   a) **a discussion of primary/secondary sources and methodology and a short bibliography of key texts in the field.**
   b) **a list of desired outputs from the research (e.g., articles, a monograph or non-traditional outputs such as digital resources), or other ideas for dissemination such as conferences, social media plans etc.**
   c) **a 'plan of action' – an indicative timetable outlining the expected development of the research and the planned achievement of the specified outputs.**

Candidates are invited to propose projects examining the labour, materials and knowledge involved in making, both human and non-human, that connect Europe with the wider world in

the period c.1400-1700. This is an interdisciplinary call that uses the multivalent concept of *arte* to connect and challenge modern categorisations and disciplinary boundaries.

Projects may focus on chains of labour behind objects, embodied knowledge, the senses, the environment and unequal conditions of work (amongst other areas). They may pay attention to the entanglement of local, European and global dimensions of making, investigating the interconnections between diverse places and knowledge systems. They are encouraged to investigate how gender, class and ethnicity might affect the status of knowledge, and to consider how knowledge of the illiterate fared – and perhaps is now lost – in this age of print.

Applicants from any discipline in the historical humanities focusing on the period between 1400 and 1700 are invited to apply – for example, social history and history of labour; history of art and material culture; history of science and knowledge; literary and intellectual histories.

Details of the research framework can be found **here**.

Candidates should not use AI to generate any part of their proposal.

In addition to the research proposal, applicants must submit their Curriculum vitae et studiorum and:

- **an article-length piece of writing, published or unpublished, which demonstrates innovative thinking (written in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish) and**
- **the contact information of two scholars familiar with the applicant's work and willing to act as their referees (one of whom can be their PhD supervisor); only the referees of shortlisted candidates will be contacted by the Fondazione 1563.**

Successful candidates will carry out their individual research projects under the supervision of the Director of Studies. They will also collaborate to the organization of activities such as seminars, conferences, exhibitions and summer schools, during which they will be invited to share their research projects with a wider community of academics as well as students and the general public.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS

The call is open to applicants holding a PhD in any disciplines of the Humanities.

Applicants who will be awarded their doctoral title before 30 September, 2027 are also eligible to apply. Applicants should normally be within 7 years of the award of their PhD (this excludes time for parental leave and other approved career breaks such as extended sick leave).

They must be fluent in English, both spoken and written. English is the working language of the THP.

There are no nationality requirements, but the **outgoing fellow** must hold a PhD from an Italian university.

Fondazione 1563 encourages applications from scholars of all backgrounds. We welcome diversity and we are committed to creating an inclusive working environment.

## FELLOWSHIP GRANTS

Each of the four fellowships in Turin consists of an overall grant of € 60.000 (before taxes) to be paid according to the terms and conditions available **here**.

The fifth fellowship is an outgoing fellowship reserved for applicants with an Italian PhD to conduct research at the institution of the Director of Studies (in this case, the University of Edinburgh). The grant consists of an overall grant of € 60.000 (before taxes) to be paid according to the terms and conditions available **here**, plus an additional cost of living grant up to € 10.000 per year.

The grant covers a period of two years, from November 1, 2027 to October 31, 2029.

These grants may not be held in conjunction with any other award.

Turin fellows will be required to reside in Turin for at least seven months per calendar year. Most of the activities of the programme will take place in person, and the presence of the fellows is expected.

The outgoing fellow will be required to reside in Edinburgh for at least seven months per calendar year, and is expected to play a full role in the research activities of the university, plus to join any online activities of the programme. The fellow is also strongly encouraged to attend the programme's core events in person in Turin, including summer schools and programme conferences. Travel and accommodation expenses incurred in connection with participation in these events will be covered by the programme.

If a fellow is awarded any other grant during the THP fellowship, Fondazione 1563 reserves the right to withdraw and cancel the remaining part of the grant to be disbursed.

For any further information on the grants please refer to the *THP Terms and Conditions of Grant*, that can be found **here**.

## HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

Applications must be submitted online by filling in the form available on the website of Fondazione 1563 under **THP/Call for applications/THP-2026.**

Applications submitted by other means will not be considered.

For the application instructions please visit the following **page.**

Applications must be submitted by **February 10, 2027 (12.00 PM CET)**.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Scientific Committee of the THP and the Director of Studies of the seventh research cycle of the THP will evaluate eligible applications according to the applicant's qualifications and the quality and feasibility of the research project proposed.

The committee will make its decisions on the basis of a comprehensive evaluation of the dossiers.

The research proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria (in no particular order):

1) coherence with the call and the research framework;
2) originality, quality, and scientific relevance of the research proposal;

3) clarity of the research questions, methods, and expected outcomes;
4) contribution to the geographical and chronological remit of the project;
5) appropriate planning in terms of research and implementation.

Applicants shortlisted after the first selection will be contacted by email in order to arrange on-line interviews that will focus on the research proposal and the applicant's curriculum.

The interviews will be held in English and will take place remotely in March 2027.

Once the interview has been scheduled, it will not be possible to reschedule it.

Candidates who do not attend the interview will be deemed to have withdrawn.

## HOW THE FELLOWSHIPS ARE AWARDED

The fellowships will be awarded by the Scientific Committee of the THP, by the Director of Studies of the seventh research cycle and with the approval of the Board of Directors of Fondazione 1563.

Successful applicants will be notified in writing via email and will be required to fill out and return the fellowship acceptance form, accepting the terms contained therein, within 7 working days from the notification. Candidates who do not return this form will be deemed to have withdrawn.