## Coronavirus: statement from MIUR on how to manage the COVID-19 epidemiological emergency

Official statement 26th February 2020

To all students, researchers, teaching staff and technical and administrative staff at Universities, Institutes for Higher Art, Music and Dance

Following the meeting between the government and the Civil Protection Unit held on 25th February 2020, in which the presidents of the regions participated virtually, with regard to the containment and management of the COVID-19 epidemiological emergency the following must be noted:

A) in the Regions of Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy, Veneto, Liguria, Piedmont and Friuli Venezia Giulia, as a result of the Prime Ministerial Decree dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 "Further implementation procedures of the Legislative Decree dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020, no.6, bearing urgent measures with regard to the containment and management of the COVID-19 epidemiological emergency" (GU Serie Generale no. 47 dated 25-02-202), which aligned the length of the measures previously adopted, the suspension of the sole educational activities in Universities and Institutes for Higher Art, Music and Dance has been ordered until the 1<sup>st</sup> March; nothing has been envisaged for the remaining activities, therefore the Universities and Institutes for Higher Art, Music and Dance concerned must ensure their regular functioning;

B) in concordance with the above-mentioned Prime Ministerial Decree dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020, with regard to the Universities and Institutes indicated in paragraph A) of the present communiqué, it has also been decided that: "h) in the Universities and Institutes for Higher Art, Music and Dance in which, due to the requirements linked to the health emergency subject of the present Decree, students are not permitted to participate in educational or curricular activities, these activities may be carried out through distance learning in the manner indicated by the selfsame Universities or Institutes, with particular attention paid to the specific needs of students with disabilities. Once the regular activities are reactivated, the aforementioned Universities and Institutes must subsequently ensure, where deemed necessary, that the educational and curricular actives are made up including any other test or exam, even mid-term, which are necessary in order to complete the educational course."

C) in concordance with the above-mentioned Prime Ministerial Decree dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020, with regard to students enrolled in Universities and Institutes not included among those cited in paragraph A) of the present communiqué, but however resident in areas subject to mobility limitations due to the epidemiological risk, the following has been decided:

"i) for the benefit of students who are unable to participate in educational or curricular activities in Universities and Institutes for Higher Art, Music and Dance due to the health emergency subject of the present Decree, the activities may be carried out, where possible, through distance learning, in the manner indicated by the selfsame Universities or Institutes, with particular attention paid to the specific needs of students with disabilities. Once the regular activities are reactivated, the aforementioned Universities and Institutes must subsequently ensure, where deemed necessary, that the educational and curricular actives are made up including any other test or exam, even mid-term, which are necessary in order to complete the educational course;

absences accrued by the aforementioned students shall not be taken into account for the purpose of potential participation in final exams or relative assessment."

D) in Universities or Institutes not included in paragraph A) of the present communiqué – considering that the activities carried out therein are of public service – the regular functioning of the activities must be ensured, unless otherwise decided by all the competent authorities.

I am certain of your collaboration and request that you ensure the maximum circulation of the present communiqué and adopt all the necessary measures in your Universities and Institutes to guarantee the above-mentioned requirements.

Prof. Gaetano Manfredi Minister of Education