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*Curriculum: 5. Agriculture and Forestry*

## **State and regional legislative power on agricultural energy in the perspective of the fight against the climate crisis**

**Reference Person:** Di Salvatore Enzo (edisalvatore@unite.it)

**Host University/Institute:** Università degli Studi di Teramo

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**Research Keywords:** Agroenergy

Agricultural energy

Climate change

**Reference ERCs:** SH2\_1

SH2\_4

SH1\_15

**Reference SDGs:** GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, GOAL 13: Climate Action

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### **Description of the research topic**

As pointed out by FAO, energy, agriculture and the climate crisis are strictly linked. Agricultural food systems currently massively rely on fossil fuels to operate. The increasing use of fossil energy in agriculture leads to increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the agricultural sector, which in turn has an impact on agricultural production. One of the ways to overcome the mentioned problems is to increase the use of renewable energy in agriculture, including sustainable bioenergy from agri-food systems. To achieve this goal, special incentives for agricultural enterprises must be provided at the national level. In Italy, the national production, transport and distribution of energy is a matter of shared competence (see art. 117.3 of the Constitution): this means that the State sets the fundamental principles, while Regions are entitled to adopt detailed legislation only, which must be compliant with the principles laid down at State level. At the same time, agriculture is a matter of regional exclusive competence (see art. 117.4 of the Constitution): this means that the State has no law-making power in this respect, but regional legislation must always be compliant with the rules adopted at the EU level. In fact, when it comes to agriculture, the EU shares the legislative competence with the Member States (see art. 4.2 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union). Moreover, the protection of the environment is a matter fully entrusted to the competence of the central State (see art. 117.2 of the Constitution). The regulation of agroenergy in the perspective of the fight against the climate crisis intersects all the three mentioned fields (agriculture, energy and protection of the environment), which are entrusted to different levels of government; for this reason, the



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objective of this research project is to understand and clarify who (central State, Regions or both) has the right to adopt legislation aimed at promoting the production and use of renewable energy in agriculture, including sustainable bioenergy from agri-food systems.

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### **Research team and environment**

The research team is made up of 3 researchers: 1 Associate professor in Constitutional and Environmental Law, 1 Research Fellow in Constitutional Law with special expertise in Agrifood, 1 PhD candidate in Economic and Social Sciences, with expertise in Constitutional Law and protection of marine environment

For this scholarship a period of internship is planned at *EURAC, Bolzano*

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### **Suggested skills for this research topic**

Ability to work in a team

Strong legal background, with a focus on Constitutional and Environmental Law

Good command of Italian and English. Good command of other languages is a plus.

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### **Type of scholarship and obligations**

*The type of this scholarship is: Transizioni Digitali ed Ambientali (Digital and Environmental Transitions). This scholarship is funded by the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) of the Next Generation EU Fund. The definitive assignment of the scholarship is subject to the positive verification of eligibility and to the final confirmation by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). The acceptance of the scholarship entails additional obligations as set out by art. 9 of the announcement.*