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Department: Human Resources Department,
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Project Code: 74083

**CORRECTED VERSION
TO BE PUBLISHED ONLINE**

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

(For submission of proposals for the conclusion of a project lease contract)

The Research Committee (Special Account for Research Funds) of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (ELKE AUTH), in the framework of the project "Harmonising and Unifying Blood Metabolomic Analysis Networks" funded under European Union– HORIZON 2021-2027, Marie Skłodowska-Curie, with Academic Head Associate Professor Eleni Gika assistant professor, AUTH, invites candidates to submit proposals for **three (3) positions** as described below, through the award of a project contract, for 36 months (starting from the signing of the contract) with a total anticipated remuneration 435.715,20 € (VAT and taxes included). Contracts can be extended until the end date of the project 31/01/2027 (in case of extension until its completion) and within the approved limits of its budget.

1 position / Early-Stage Researcher (ESR) Chemist or Biochemist or Pharmacist or Biological sciences or related sciences/ total anticipated remuneration up to* 145.238,4€ euro (VAT and taxes included)/ for 36 months.

1. Project Description (A)

- Blood microsampling (B μ S) techniques will be assessed for their application in metabolomics studies.
- Sample preparation and treatment of B μ S will be studied to establish optimum protocols for untargeted and targeted metabolic profiling.
- Development and validation of LC-MS protocols to map the metabolome with focus on the polar fraction for use in blood collected by microsampling.
- Study of the metabolite's stability in the B μ S under different storage conditions and periods
- Correlations of metabolite abundances in B μ S, where capillary blood is collected, to those in plasma and whole blood (venous) will be studied.
- Establishment of QA/ QC workflows in the analysis of these types of samples for metabolomics applications in collaboration with other collaborating labs

The candidate will be enrolled as Doctoral Candidate in the School of Medicine and he/she will collaborate with the other 11 Doctoral Candidates of the Project and the PIs.

The work of the candidate will be carried out in the context of:

WP1 Application of novel sampling technologies & sample preparation standardization

WP2 Understanding limitation and developing tools for data integration of the Project.

WP6 Training, workshops and secondments

WP7 Outreach and Dissemination

Expected outcomes:

- 1) Protocols for B μ S sample preparation for mapping the metabolome
- 2) Data on the effect of various parameters and establishment of workflows for meaningful metabolic profiling of samples from blood microsampling devices
- 3) Correlation of metabolites signals (abundancies) in venous blood with those in B μ S from capillary blood
- 4) Selection of the optimum blood microsampling device for these applications
- 5) Establishment of QA/QC protocols for metabolic profiling of samples from B μ S devices

Mobility requirements:

The project includes maximum ten-month training activities and intersectoral secondments or short national (in Greece) visits to academic and non-academic partners

*Payments

Maximum payment per month 4.034,4€

Living allowance 2.774€

Mobility allowance 600,00€

Family allowance 660,00€ (if applicable)

Requirements:

- **Candidates** should be Early-Stage Researcher (ESR), i.e. in case he/she have already gained prior work experience in academia, you shall be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of your research career at the time of recruitment by the host organization and have not been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when you obtained the degree entitling you to embark on a doctorate, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged. Part-time research experience will be counted pro-rata.
- **Conditional Acceptance:** Students in their final year of Master education may also apply and if qualified, receive a conditional offer. If the applicant has not completed her/his studies, she/he should include a written statement from the degree administration office (or equivalent department), confirming that she is enrolled on the final year of her education and stating the expected completion date. If the applicant receives a conditional offer, the candidate should present the degree certificate upon enrolment.
- **Mobility Criterion:** At the time of recruitment, he/she must not have resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Greece for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the reference date (indicative start of the contract, 1 June 2023).
This criterion is more flexible in case of candidates who are characterized as refugees, according to the Geneva Conventions. Specifically, for these candidates, the period before they are officially given the refugee status is not considered as a residence/work period in the host country. The residence/work period will be calculated from the day they were given the refugee status.

2. Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Chemistry or Biochemistry or Pharmacy or Biological Sciences or relevant sciences
- MSc in chemical, pharmaceutical or biological sciences or relevant sciences
- Good knowledge of the English Language (Level B2)

3. Additional Qualifications

- Proven Knowledge in method development for bioanalytical applications & LC-MS, GC-MS method validation
- Proven Knowledge in the field of metabolomics
Note: The knowledge is documented with a relevant certificate or with a relevant bachelor's / master's dissertation / doctoral thesis or with relevant courses of the study cycle (detailed grade and if the correlation does not immediately result from the title of the course, the detailed course score must be accompanied by description of the course in the Study Guide) or with teaching of relevant courses (certificate of institution and / or contract).
- Additional knowledge of English Language (Level C1 or C2)
- Interview

4. Qualifications Assessment

	Qualifications criteria	Credits (Researchers)
1	Bachelor's degree mark	mark * 40
2	Proven Knowledge in method development for bioanalytical applications & LC-MS, GC-MS method validation	25
3	Proven Knowledge in the field of metabolomics	25
4a	English language (Level C2)	70
4b	English language (Level C1)	50
5	Interview	≤ 100

All the qualifications listed above are in relevance with the project requirements and objectives.

1 position / Early-Stage Researcher (ESR) with a university degree from the Department of Physical Education and Sports Science or the Department of Nutrition and dietary sciences or biochemistry or relevant/ total anticipated remuneration up to* 145238,4 € euro (VAT and taxes included) / for 36 months.

1. Project Description (B)

- Collection of biological specimens for the studies of the project
- Measurement of biochemical parameters
- Analysis and correlation of metabolomics data and biochemical interpretation
- Correlation of metabolic/ biochemical data from venous blood to those from blood microsampling devices
- Investigation of metabolic perturbations cause by endure physical exercise and dietary interventions.

The candidate will be enrolled as Doctoral Candidate in the School of Physical Education and Sport Science and he/she will collaborate with the other 11 Doctoral Candidates of the Project and the PIs.

The work of the candidate will be carried out in the context of:

WP1 Application of novel sampling technologies & sample preparation standardization

WP4 Investigation of exercise & dietary effect on blood and BμS metabolome- a proof of concept study

WP6 Training, workshops and secondments

WP7 Outreach and Dissemination

Expected outcomes.

1) Collection of blood and blood microsamples from a cohort under study

2) Results on the validity and reproducibility of biochemical information obtained

3) Correlation or metabolic perturbations induced by exercise or dietary intervention with metadata 4) Biochemical pathway analysis and biomarkers of physical exercise and nutrition

Mobility requirements:

The project includes maximum ten-month training activities and intersectoral secondments or short national (in Greece) visits to academic and non-academic partners.

*Payments

Maximum payment per month 4.034,4€

Living allowance 2.774€

Mobility allowance 600,00€

Family allowance 660,00€ (if applicable)

Requirements:

- **Candidates** should be Early-Stage Researcher (ESR), i.e. in case he/she have already gained prior work experience in academia, you shall be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of your research career at the time of recruitment by the host organization and have not been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when you obtained the degree entitling you to embark on a doctorate, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged. Part-time research experience will be counted pro-rata.
- **Conditional Acceptance:** Students in their final year of Master education may also apply and if qualified, receive a conditional offer. If the applicant has not completed her/his studies, she/he should include a written statement from the degree administration office (or equivalent department), confirming that she is enrolled on the final year of her education and stating the expected completion date. If the applicant receives a conditional offer, the candidate should present the degree certificate upon enrolment.
- **Mobility Criterion:** At the time of recruitment, he/she must not have resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Greece for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the reference date (indicative start of the contract, 1 June 2023).

This criterion is more flexible in case of candidates who are characterized as refugees, according to the Geneva Conventions. Specifically, for these candidates, the period before they are officially given the refugee status is not considered as a residence/work period in the host country. The residence/work period will be calculated from the day they were given the refugee status.

2. Required Qualifications

- Bachelor Degree in Physical Education and Sport Science or Nutrition or Biochemistry or relevant sciences
- MSc relevant to human performance, metabolism and biochemistry or nutrition
- Good Knowledge of the English Language (Level B2)
- Proven Knowledge of a programme for statistical data analysis

Note: The knowledge is documented with a relevant certificate or with a relevant bachelor's / master's dissertation / doctoral thesis or with relevant courses of the study cycle (detailed grade and if the correlation does not immediately result from the title of the course, the detailed course score must be accompanied by description of the course in the Study Guide) or with teaching of relevant courses (certificate of institution and / or contract).

3. Additional Qualifications

- Additional knowledge of English Language (Level C1 or C2)
- Interview

4. Qualifications Assessment

	Qualifications criteria	Credits (Researchers)
1	Bachelor's degree mark	mark * 40
2a	English language (Level C2)	70
2b	English language (Level C1)	50
3	Interview	≤ 160

All the qualifications listed above are in relevance with the project requirements and objectives.

1 position / Early-Stage Researcher (ESR) Chemist or Biochemist or Pharmacist or Biological Sciences or relevant sciences/ total anticipated remuneration up to* 145.238,4 € euro (VAT and taxes included)/ for 36 months.

1. Project Description (C)

- Systematic analysis review using bespoke algorithms to mine the literature for metabolic markers in blood related to physical exercise intervention.
- Organisation of multi analyte panels to provide quantitative analytical results for various key analytes from different pathways and different metabolite groups.
- Development of multianalytes methods covering exercise and nutrition biomarkers for blood microsamples to be applied on samples collected in the intervention studies of this project.

The candidate will be enrolled as Doctoral Candidate in the School of Chemistry and he/she will collaborate with the other 11 Doctoral Candidates of the Project and the PIs.

The work of the candidate will be carried out in the context of:

WP1 Application of novel sampling technologies & sample preparation standardization

WP3 Computational methods for processing, annotation and biochemical interpretation of MS data

WP4 Investigation of exercise & dietary effect on blood and B_uS metabolome- a proof of concept study

WP6 Training, workshops and secondments

WP7 Outreach and Dissemination

Expected outcomes.

- 1) Report and organized Table with data from the systematic analysis review
- 2) Proposed multi analyte panels to cover effectively the pathways that are perturbed as found in the literature
- 3) Development and validation of multi analyte panels and methods for B_uS analysis and application in the analysis of real samples collected within the project

Mobility requirements:

The project includes maximum ten-month training activities and intersectoral secondments or short national (in Greece) visits to academic and non-academic partners.

***Payments**

Maximum payment per month 4.034,4€

Living allowance 2.774€

Mobility allowance 600,00€

Family allowance 660,00€ (if applicable)

Requirements:

- **Candidates** should be Early-Stage Researcher (ESR), i.e. in case he/she have already gained prior work experience in academia, you shall be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of your research career at the time of recruitment by the host organization and have not been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when you obtained the degree entitling you to embark on a doctorate, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged. Part-time research experience will be counted pro-rata.
- **Conditional Acceptance:** Students in their final year of Master education may also apply and if qualified, receive a conditional offer. If the applicant has not completed her/his studies, she/he should include a written statement from the degree administration office (or equivalent department), confirming that she is enrolled on the final year of her education and stating the expected completion date. If the applicant receives a conditional offer, the candidate should present the degree certificate upon enrolment.
- **Mobility Criterion:** At the time of recruitment, he/she must not have resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Greece for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the reference date (indicative start of the contract, 1 June 2023).

This criterion is more flexible in case of candidates who are characterized as refugees, according to the Geneva Conventions. Specifically, for these candidates, the period before they are officially given the

refugee status is not considered as a residence/work period in the host country. The residence/work period will be calculated from the day they were given the refugee status.

2. Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in chemistry or Biochemistry or Pharmacy or Biological Sciences or relevant sciences
- MSc chemical, pharmaceutical or biological sciences or relevant sciences
- Good Knowledge of the English Language (Level B2)

3. Additional Qualifications

- Proven Knowledge in method development for bioanalytical applications & LC-MS, GC-MS method validation

- Proven Knowledge in the field of metabolomics

Note: The knowledge is documented with a relevant certificate or with a relevant bachelor's / master's dissertation / doctoral thesis or with relevant courses of the study cycle (detailed grade and if the correlation does not immediately result from the title of the course, the detailed course score must be accompanied by description of the course in the Study Guide) or with teaching of relevant courses (certificate of institution and / or contract).

- Additional knowledge of English Language (Level C1 or C2)
- Interview

4. Qualifications Assessment

	Qualifications criteria	Credits (Researchers)
1	Bachelor's degree mark	mark * 40
2	Proven Knowledge in method development for bioanalytical applications & LC-MS, GC-MS method validation	25
3	Proven Knowledge in the field of metabolomics	25
4a	English language (Level C2)	70
4b	English language (Level C1)	50
5	Interview	≤ 100

All the qualifications listed above are in relevance with the project requirements and objectives.

Required Documents:

1. Submission of Proposal - Statement (see appendix)
2. Solemn Declaration of Law 1599/1986 (see appendix), in which it is stated that:
 - At the time of recruitment, the candidate has not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Greece for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the reference date.
(This criterion is more flexible in the case of candidates who have been declared refugees in accordance with the Geneva Convention. In particular, for those people, the period before their official designation as refugees is not counted as a residence / activity period in the beneficiary's country. This period will be calculated from the day of their recognition as refugees).
 - The candidate does not have any research experience or in case he/she have already gained prior work experience in academia, he/she is in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of his/hers research career at the time of recruitment by the host organisation and has not been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when you obtained the degree entitling you to embark on a doctorate, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged. Part-time research experience will be counted pro-rata.
3. Detailed Curriculum Vitae
4. Copies of the Degrees (Note: In case the specialization / direction does not result from the Degree, the Detailed Score should be attached. In cases where the degree is a grading criterion and is not indicated in the copy of the degree then the detailed score is submitted additionally)

5. Copies of certificates and certifications of previous service, as well as any other document that will certify the information mentioned in the CV and which are related to the Required or Additional qualifications-criteria of this call for expression of interest.
6. Copy of certificate of military stats or discharge papers / Copy of deferral of enlistment (for male candidates)

Male candidates must have fulfilled their military obligations or have been legally discharged from them or have been deferred for the entire duration of the project. In case the time for which a deferral of enlistment has been received does not cover in its entirety the duration of the project, ELKE AUTH is obliged to terminate the respective contract at the expiration time of the above deferral. Both the contractor of the Special Account and the Academic Head Officer of the project are obliged to immediately inform ELKE AUTH one (1) month before the end of the deferral.

Qualified candidates might be invited for an interview (after being notified in writing by email). Candidates who do not attend the interview will be rejected.

The topics of the questions and the grading system to be used are shown in the following table:

POSITIONS A and C

	ΠΡΟΣΩΝ – ΚΡΙΤΗΡΙΟ	Επίπεδο γνώσης- μονάδες βαθμολόγησης	Μέγιστη Βαθμολογία
1	Efficiency in programming and use of statistical tools for data analysis	Unacceptable -0 Low level – 5 Medium level -10 Good level– 15 Very good level -20	20
2	Technical competency in the lab and especially with LC-MS and GC-MS instrumentation.	Unacceptable -0 Low level – 5 Medium level -10 Good level– 15 Very good level -20	20
3	Organised thinking and expression	Unacceptable -0 Low level – 5 Medium level -10 Good level– 15 Very good level -20	20
4	High motivation	Unacceptable -0 Low level – 5 Medium level -10 Good level– 15 Very good level -20	20

Position B

	ΠΡΟΣΩΝ – ΚΡΙΤΗΡΙΟ	Επίπεδο γνώσης- μονάδες βαθμολόγησης	Μέγιστη Βαθμολογία
1	Organised thinking and expression	Unacceptable -0 Low level – 5 Medium level -10 Good level– 15 Very good level -20	20
2	High motivation	Unacceptable -0 Low level – 5	20

		Medium level -10 Good level- 15 Very good level -20	
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Proposals and required documents should be submitted either via e-mail to gkikae@auth.gr in person or by post to the following address: Laboratory of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology, School of Medicine, building D (1st Floor), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Postcode 54 124, Thessaloniki, Greece within hours 10am- 1pm, **no later than until 24/04/2023 at 1pm**. Proposals will be attributed a reference number from the Secretariat of the Laboratory of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology.

This Invitation will be published on the website of ELKE AUTH <https://rc.auth.gr/proskliseis-gia-apasholisi-se-erga> and on the website of "Diavgeia".

For more information and questions regarding the position, candidates may refer to (+30) 2310 99 6224 and (+30) 2310 99 0596 (Eleni Gika) For information on the proposal submission process candidates may contact ELKE AUTH at **2310- 994022, 4082, 4052**.

Submitted proposals will be evaluated by a three-member Evaluation Committee based on the requirements/provisions of the call.

The candidate who wishes to submit an objection to the result (Decision for Approval of Results) is entitled to recourse either via e-mail to prosk@rc.auth.gr or in person or by post to the Special Account of Research Authorities of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Research Committee AUTH, 1st floor, Office 101 - 3rd September Str., University Campus 546 36, Thessaloniki, Greece) within five (5) days from the day following the posting of the Decision for Approval of Results on the website of ELKE AUTH and Diavgeia. The candidate has the obligation to be informed about the posting of the results from the website of ELKE <https://rc.auth.gr/proskliseis-gia-apasholisi-se-erga> in the online posting of this call for expression of interest in Diavgeia. Candidates are entitled to access the data of the individual proposal file and the assessment and evaluation papers of their own and of their other co-candidates, upon written request within five (5) days of the day following announcement of the results on the website of Diavgeia and under the conditions of articles 5 of Law 2690/1999, 42 of Law 4624 / 2019 and 6 par. 1 lit. f of the GCC (EU 2016/679).

ELKE AUTH takes all appropriate measures for the protection of personal data during the evaluation process and it is strongly recommended that you read about the data protection policy and your rights on the AUTH website <https://www.auth.gr/gdpr>.

EVALUATION PROCEDURE – OTHER CONDITIONS

1. From all the proposals submitted according to the above specifications, the one that best meets the project's requirements will be selected and awarded a work contract on the basis of contractual freedom.
2. Only proposals / objections that will be received by the set date and time will be considered. In the case of postal submission, the deadline is judged on the basis of the date mentioned in the shipping file, provided that it will be received by ELKE AUTH no later than the announcement of the results. ELKE AUTH bears no responsibility for the content of the candidacy files that will be sent.
3. Changes to the proposals (replacements, corrections or submission of additional documents) are not allowed after the expiration of the deadline.
4. In case the diplomas of higher education have been awarded by institutions in Greece and the call requires a grading /points scale of the degree, it is required that the grade is indicated in the presented degree. If the grade is not indicated in the degree, then the detailed course score is presented. In case the degree does not indicate the grade and a detailed course score has not been submitted, the proposal of the interested person is not rejected, but the specific required qualification is not graded.
5. It is pointed out that the procedure for submitting proposals for the conclusion of a project lease contract is not competitive, while the selection of a contractor has the character of accepting the proposal and not "recruitment". The evaluation process will be completed by compiling a ranking list and / or a list of excluded, while those selected will be notified individually. In case of a tie, the proposal of the interested person is selected in order a) with the longest experience, b) with the highest bachelor's degree mark, c) with the highest master's degree mark.
6. The proposal that is first in the ranking table and has the highest score in all the scoring criteria will be the one that will be selected. In case of obstruction of the person who submitted it, the next proposal is selected until the ranking order is exhausted.
7. Any submitted proposal that does not meet the criteria of the call of the expression of interest will not be examined any further and will be automatically rejected.
8. Throughout the duration of the project, it is possible that the selected candidate(s) may be replaced, if necessary, by other candidate(s) of the present call and in accordance with the ranking list.
9. The contract may be extended without restriction, following a decision of the competent body of ELKE AUTH and if the required budget of the project allows it, without a new invitation, until the end date of the project (and in case of extension of the project until its new end date).
10. ELKE AUTH does not undertake any commitment to conclude a contract, as it is left to its full discretion to conclude or not contracts, as well as their number, excluding any claim of the interested parties.
11. The project assignment will take place in accordance with the provisions of the Program Implementation Guide.
12. The knowledge of foreign languages is certified in accordance with the provisions of the Presidential Decree 85/2022 "Determining the qualifications for appointment to positions of public sector" (A' 232/17.12.2022), especially according to the articles 10, 14 par. 3 and 15 par. 7.
13. Foreign documents, other than those in English, must be accompanied by photocopies of their official translation into the Greek or English language, except for English, French, German, Italian and Spanish language certificates which, if they meet the conditions of the P.D. 85/2022, are accepted without requiring their translation.
14. For candidates, computer skills shall be certified according to the Presidential Decree 85/2022 "Determining the qualifications for appointment to positions of public sector" (A' 232/17.12.2022), especially according to the article 9.
15. It should be noted that the project assignment to candidates employed in the Public Sector, in Public and Private Bodies, etc. is subject to the provisions of paragraph 14 of Article 12 of YAKED 110427/EYTHY1020/01.11.2016

The President of the Research Committee

Professor Efstratios Stylianidis
Vice Rector Research and Lifelong Learning

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL - STATEMENT*
(with consequences of law on false/inaccurate statement)

Mobile phone: E-mail: VAT number:

Please note in this proposal - statement and outside of the postal file the following

(To be completed by the candidate):

1. The protocol number of this call

2. The code of project object you would like to participate (A, B, C)

I affirm that the information given in
this proposal - statement is accurate and true

SIGNATURE

Date: ___/___/_____

Find attached: 1.
2.

**Incomplete filling of the proposal – statement constitutes a criterion for exclusion*