



## Hosting offer for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 at the University of Cyprus / Artefact and Landscape Studies Laboratory (ArtLandS Lab) / Archaeological Research Unit

[MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) are individual research grants offering excellent postdoctoral researchers the chance to develop their skills by means of international mobility. Through the implementation of an original and personalised research project, MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships aim to foster excellence through training and mobility and to equip researchers with new skills and competences in order to identify solutions to current and future challenges.

University of Cyprus / ArtLandS Lab invites motivated postdoctoral researchers to jointly prepare an application for the [MSCA-PF-2022 call Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) call ([MSCA-PF-2022](#)) with them as host organisation.

### **Description of Hosting organisation/group**

The **Archaeological Research Unit (ARU)**, founded in 1991, forms part of the Faculty of Letters and functions within the Department of History and Archaeology. Over the past 30 years, the members of the ARU have contributed immensely to the study and promotion of Mediterranean cultural heritage through their research, their teaching and the practical training they have been providing to students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The ARU possesses the richest archaeological library on Cyprus and five research laboratories with a set of advanced technical equipment not only for the recording of monuments and artefacts that come to light in the course of systematic excavations (on land and underwater) and surface surveys, but also for the microscopic and chemical analysis of pre-modern material culture. Moreover, the ARU houses highly important reference collections that include ceramics, animal bones, rocks and minerals, seeds and charcoal. The ARU has been particularly successful in securing external-EU funding for several research projects. The ARU has so far won and coordinated four Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action projects, the most important amongst them being the Marie Curie Initial Training Network (PITN-GA-2010-265010) 'New Archaeological Research Network for Integrating Approaches to Ancient Material Studies' (NARNIA). The ARU has also participated in a number of FP7 projects related to Cultural Heritage (e.g. Witness the Past and STACHEM) and several projects funded by the Cyprus Research and Innovation Foundation (RIF).

[Archaeological Research Unit \(ucy.ac.cy\)](http://ucy.ac.cy)

The **Artefact and Landscape Studies Laboratory (ArtLandS Lab)** was established (as an operating platform of the ARU) by its director Athanasios Vionis having secured funding through the UCY Research Committee in 2010. The aim of ArtLandS Lab is (a) the precise documentation, processing and interpretation of landscape archaeology through a complete and advanced set of technical equipment, and (b) the documentation, study and publication of archaeological finds by a team of specialised researchers. ArtLandS Lab hosts a number of ongoing research, analytical and archaeological field projects, including the 'Unlocking the Sacred Landscapes of Cyprus' programme (UnSaLa-CY), funded by the RIF (EXCELLENCE/1216/0362) and several others.

[Artefact and Landscape Studies Laboratory \(ucy.ac.cy\)](http://ucy.ac.cy)

## Topics/expertise

- Identity Formation & Reception Studies
- Gender and Material Culture
- Community Archaeology
- Archaeological Ethnography
- Historical Archaeology
- Medieval & Post-Medieval Archaeology
- Landscape and Spatial Archaeology
- Archaeological Field Survey
- Settlement Archaeology
- Sacred Landscapes
- Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery (Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean)
- Medieval and Post-Medieval Everyday Life

## Your profile

Athanasios Vionis is Associate Professor in Byzantine Archaeology and Art at the Department of History and Archaeology, Director of the Archaeological Research Unit of the University of Cyprus, Director of ArtLandS Lab and Head of the Commission for Byzantine Archaeology of the International Association of Byzantine Studies. He is willing and prepared to collaborate with motivated postdoctoral researchers in jointly preparing an application for the MSCA-PF-2022 Call. His research focusses on landscape archaeology and archaeological survey, settled and sacred landscapes, identity formation and reception studies, gender, material and visual culture in the pre-modern eastern Mediterranean, community archaeology and archaeological ethnography, GIS applications in archaeology and the use of space, pottery technology/production-circulation-use, food preferences and everyday life in the medieval and post-medieval eras. He has published a monograph on the medieval and post-medieval insular Aegean (Leiden University Press, 2012), he is the author (or co-author) of more than 70 papers in peer-reviewed scientific Journals and specialised peer-reviewed edited volumes, while he has co-edited 5 peer-reviewed volumes with Åströms Förlag (2019), *Open Archaeology* (De Gruyter, 2019), the *Journal of Archaeological Science* (Elsevier, 2019), *Land* (MDPI, 2018/19) and *Religions* (MDPI, 2022). He is member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Greek Archaeology* since 2016. He has been acting as peer-reviewer of several scientific Journals and Publishing Houses, such as *Hesperia*, *Journal of Material Culture*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, etc. He is an ad-hoc external reviewer of the *European Research Council (ERC)* and has also been acting as 'Appointed Remote Reviewer' for research grant proposals submitted for funding to the *Belgium Fund for Scientific Research (F.R.S.)*, the *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)*, the *Israel Science Foundation (ISF)*, and the *USA National Science Foundation (NSF)*. In November 2010, he established the Artefact and Landscape Studies Laboratory (ArtLandS Lab), functioning as an operating platform of the Archaeological Research Unit of UCY, which he has been directing since then. He has directed a number of field and analytical projects related to his fields of expertise, e.g. *Stirring Pots on Fire* (A.G. Leventis Foundation fund), *UnSaLa-CY* (funded by the RIF, EXCELLENCE/1216/0362), and several post-doctoral research projects, funded by the RIF (*SpaMaP Cy*, POST-DOC/0916/0252), and the University of Cyprus. He is also collaborator of the *PlaCe-ITN Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network* (hosted at the Cyprus Institute and funded by the European Commission) and supervisor of a fully-funded 3-year PhD candidate (to be registered at UCY in September 2021) in the framework of the programme (2021-2024). Finally, he has been directing the *Settled and Sacred Landscapes of Cyprus* (SeSaLaC) field project in the Xeros River valley in Cyprus since 2014, the first intensive surface survey and ethnoarchaeological project of the University of Cyprus, researching systematically human settlement and cultic activity in the area from early prehistory to today.

- Expected qualifications/expertise of the candidate: PhD
  - Please specify the required PhD degrees if applicable: Archaeology, Cultural Heritage, GIS Applications in Archaeology, Cultural Anthropology, Byzantine Studies, History of Art, Medieval History, History (European and/or Mediterranean), Classics.
- You must have a completed PhD at the time of the call deadline (14 September 2022).
- Candidates must have a maximum of 8 years full-time research experience from the PhD award date until September 14, 2022. Periods of inactivity in research (e.g. unemployment, periods of employment outside research, parental or sick leave) do not count towards the time of research experience.
- For European fellowships, candidates can be of any nationality and must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Cyprus for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before September 14, 2022.
- Highly motivated candidate with an excellent research track record appropriate to career stage, as evidenced by academic publications and other scientific output.

### **What we offer**

- Support, guidance and expertise for the preparation of your MSCA PF proposal.
- A stimulating, interdisciplinary environment for high-level research.
- An informed library with relevant publications in the aforementioned areas of interest.
- A set of well-equipped laboratories for field research and analytical studies.
- A strong network of collaborators and experts in related fields at other academic institutions.
- A vibrant research community of academic personnel and researchers at all levels, involved in cutting-edge research and engaged with public outreach and dissemination on a weekly basis.

### **How to apply?**

Indicate your interest by contacting the host institution as follows:

Please contact Athanasios Vionis by email [[vionis@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:vionis@ucy.ac.cy)] with a short CV and motivation to indicate your interest to prepare a MSCA-PF application with himself as a supervisor within the ARU and ArtLandS Lab host group.

After the supervisor agrees to support you as a MSCA-PF candidate, you can start preparation of MSCA PF project proposal and will be supported further by the Research Support Office of the host university.

For more information please contact the MSCA coordinators of the host institution:

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