



Hosting offer for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 at University of Cyprus / Byzantine and Medieval Studies Research Group

[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 / Byzantine and Medieval Studies Research Group 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 Byzantine and Medieval Studies Research Group (BMSRG) at the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Cyprus constitutes a dynamic community of experienced researchers and teachers, whose scholarly interests range across a broad spectrum of topics, issues, and interpretative methodologies pertaining to Byzantine and Western medieval history, art history, and archaeology. From archival research to landscape archaeology and from Northern France to the Levant, the research activity and output of the BMSRG make significant contributions to several branches of the field of medieval studies on an international level, while helping to maintain and enrich a pool of relevant top-of-the-tier expertise, available to cultural, educational, and other institutions in Cyprus and the wider region of Southeastern Europe.

A particular strength of the BMSRG lies in the intensive and holistic study of the history, archaeology, and art history of Byzantine and Latin-ruled Cyprus, in which most of its members are implicated to a greater or lesser degree. Individually or collectively, the Byzantinists and medievalists of the Department of History and Archaeology have participated in or led field research and digital humanities projects, organised international workshops and conferences, published landmark articles, monographs, and collective volumes, many of which redefined entrenched perceptions of the history and culture of Byzantine, Lusignan, and Venetian Cyprus for both scholars and a broader learned lay audience. More importantly, such research initiatives continue to grow, diversify, and flourish alongside the training of the next generation of experts, both in the field and in the classroom.

Furthermore, the disciplines of medieval/Byzantine archaeology and art history greatly benefit from the research infrastructure provided by the Archaeological Research Unit (ARU). Established in 1992 at a stunning (now century-old) neoclassical residence in the heart of Nicosia, the ARU possesses a rich specialist library, modern fieldwork and laboratory equipment, and other research resources for the study of material culture in Cyprus, the wider Greek world, and beyond. It functions, moreover, as a collegial hub and a forum for the exchange of information and ideas, especially on the occasion of the conferences and workshops held there, but also during the talks of its well-attended lecture series.

BMSRG members are also involved in the Centre for Medieval Arts and Rituals (CeMAR), founded at the University of Cyprus in 2020. CeMAR is, by definition, an interdisciplinary research venture meant to examine the intersection between the medieval visual/performative arts and ritual, broadly

conceived. Although still in the early stages of its development, it has already embarked on a robust programme of research activities and will soon launch its own international Open Access scholarly journal.

Useful links:

-Department of History and Archaeology website: [Home - Department of History and Archeology \(ucy.ac.cy\)](http://ucy.ac.cy)

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

-Centre for Medieval Arts and Rituals website: [Home - CeMAR - Centre for Medieval Arts and Rituals \(ucy.ac.cy\)](http://ucy.ac.cy)

Topics/expertise

The BMSRG will consider postdoctoral candidates in the following research areas*:

-Medieval art and architecture in Western Europe, especially Gothic architecture and sculpture

-Medieval art and architecture in the Latin East

Potential supervisor: Michalis Olympios (Gothic architecture and sculpture in France, Cyprus, and Greece)

-Byzantine monumental painting and iconography, especially of the Middle and Late Byzantine periods

-Aspects of Byzantine material culture and daily life, especially Byzantine dress

-Byzantine court and imperial ceremonies

-Monumental art and architecture of Byzantine Cyprus (4th – 10th c. AD).

Potential supervisor: Maria Parani (Byzantine monumental painting / Byzantine daily life and material culture)

-Byzantine and medieval settled and sacred landscapes in Greece and Cyprus

-Byzantine-modern pottery technology and use in the Eastern Mediterranean

-Historical archaeology of the Euro-Mediterranean region

Potential supervisor: Athanasios Vionis (Byzantine archaeology and art)

-Byzantine and medieval history, especially social and environmental history

History of medicine, disease, and medical practitioners

Reception of antiquity in the postclassical world

Potential supervisor: Dionysios Stathakopoulos (Byzantine history)

-History of the crusades and the Latin East

-History of the Greek world under Latin rule

-History of Cyprus under Lusignan and Venetian rule, especially its social and cultural aspects

Potential supervisor: Angel Nicolaou-Konnari (History of the Latin-ruled Greek world)

*Depending on the successful candidates' research topics, their postdoctoral projects will be hosted under the banner of the Department of History and Archaeology, the Archaeological Research Unit, or the Centre for Medieval Arts and Rituals.

Your profile

- Expected qualifications/expertise of the candidate: PhD in any aspect of Byzantine/medieval studies or related fields.
 - Please specify the required PhD degrees if applicable: history, archaeology, art history (incl. architectural history)
- 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 and guidance for the preparation of your MSCA PF proposal
- A stimulating, interdisciplinary environment for high-level research.

How to apply?

Indicate your interest by contacting the host institution as follows:

Please contact Michalis Olympios (olympios.michalis@ucy.ac.cy) with a short CV and motivation letter to indicate your interest in preparing a MSCA-PF application with a supervisor/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 coordinator of the host institution: rss@ucy.ac.cy