



NARNIA: New Archaeological Research Network for Integrating Approaches to ancient material studies

A Marie Curie Initial Training Network – Proposal Number 265010 Call: FP7-PEOPLE-2010-ITN

Short Description of the Project

NARNIA is an **interdisciplinary project**, the main objective of which is to provide young researchers with the means to conduct research on **ancient Eastern Mediterranean material culture** and to develop their **analytical skills** through a series of research and training activities. An awareness of the recent advances in technology and an understanding of the implications for theory and practice in the heritage environment have brought together a consortium of academic institutions (The University of Cyprus, University College London, The University of Sheffield, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Université Paris-Ouest, and The Hashemite University), a Research Institute (National Centre for Scientific Research “Demokritos”) and two private enterprises (G.M EUROCY INNOVATIONS LTD and Thetis Authentics LTD) in this collaborative project to support young researchers in their first steps into the competitive and complementary worlds of academia and private enterprise. This well-structured research network aims to improve the career prospects of employment for young researchers, developing their lab-based skills in the study of ancient materials, while contributing to the history and archaeology of the Eastern Mediterranean basin, a region of great historical, cultural and geopolitical significance.

In particular, through a comprehensive mobility scheme, young researchers will have the opportunity to continue their research careers at high profile universities and well-established private enterprises while working in research projects focused on the study of ancient material culture. Sixteen Early Stage Researchers (Doctoral) and three Experienced Researchers will be trained to integrate theory and archaeological sciences for the study of different material categories, including ceramics, metals, glass and mosaics from primarily Cyprus, Greece and Jordan. The proposed program engages experienced academic and research staff, young entrepreneurs, and young researchers for a broad collaboration network, which will facilitate the exploration of analytical equipment and research data, while concurrently directing and promoting research activities in Eastern Mediterranean countries.

Project Coordinator

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Project Budget:

4,6 million Euros. The funding is provided by the Marie Curie Initial Training Network programs which fall under the call FP7-PEOPLE-2010.

Project Partners

Partner	Short name	Country	Scientist-in-charge	Other Members
University of Cyprus (Coordinator)	UCY	Cyprus	Dr Vasiliki Kassianidou (Project Coordinator)	Prof. Demetrios Michaelides Dr G. Papasavvas
University College London	UCL	UK	Prof Thilo Rehren	Dr M. Martínón-Torres Dr P. Quinn
Vrije Universiteit Brussel	VUB	Belgium	Prof Karin Nys	Prof Ph. Claeys Dr W. Meulebroeck Prof H. Thienpont Prof. H. Terry
G.M EUROCY INNOVATIONS LTD	EUROCY	Cyprus	Mr. George Milis	Mr Demetrios Eliades
University of Sheffield	USFD	UK	Dr Peter Day	Dr R.C.P. Doonan Dr C. M. Jackson
Université Paris-Ouest	Paris-Ouest	France	Prof Anne-Marie Guimier-Sorbets	
National Centre for Scientific Research "Demokritos"	Demokritos	Greece	Dr Yiannis Bassiakos	Dr A. Hein Dr V. Kilikoglou Dr I. Karatasios Dr E. Philippaki Dr Nikos Zacharias
Thetis Authentics LTD	Thetis	Greece	Dr Eleni Aloupi	Dr V. Argyropoulos Dr Kyriaki Polikreti
The Hashemite University	HU	Jordan	Dr Fadi Bala'wi	Dr. M. El-khalili Dr. N. Haddad Dr. Firas Alawneh, Dr. Yahya Al shawabkeh

Associate Partners

Associated Partner (AP) name	AP short name	Country	Scientist in charge
Geological Survey Department	GSD	Cyprus	Dr Eleni Georgiou Morisseau
Department of Antiquities	DoA	Cyprus	Dr Maria Hadjicosti
The Jordan Museum	JM	Jordan	Dr Fatma Marii
Niton UK Limited	Niton	UK	Dr John Hurley
Wessex Archaeology Ltd	Wessex Archaeology	UK	Richard O'Neil

Research

The core research area of NARNIA is focused on the application of scientific techniques and methodologies for the study of **ancient ceramics, glass, metals, architecture and building decoration**, as well as **techniques of dating ancient materials**. The research is divided into six work packages with the following titles (a detailed description of each WP and its objectives is offered in Section B2):

- WP2: The study of ceramic artefacts from the Eastern Mediterranean (WP Leader: Dr Peter Day)
- WP3: Glass production and trade in the Eastern Mediterranean (WP Leader: Prof. Karin Nys)
- WP4: Copper metallurgy in the Eastern Mediterranean (WP Leader: Prof Th. Rehren)
- WP5: The study and conservation of architectural decoration from the Eastern Mediterranean. Issues of material properties and cultural heritage (WP Leader: Prof A.M. Guimier-Sorbets)
- WP6: Dating techniques and palaeo-environment (WP Leader: Dr. I. Bassiakos)
- WP7: pXRF application in Archaeology (WP Leader: Dr R.C.P. Doonan)

The research projects which will be undertaken by the 16 ESR and 3 ER fellows of NARNIA are presented in the following tables

The NARNIA Early Stage Researcher (Doctoral) fellowships

	Research project	WP	Host Institution	Start month	Fellow months
ESR01	The production and trade of Cypriot copper in the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age	WP4	UCY	Sep 2011	36
ESR02	A study of materials used in the production of Cypriot mosaics, with a special emphasis on artificial materials	WP5	UCY	Sep 2011	36
ESR03	Glass supply and consumption in the Byzantine Empire	WP3	UCL	Jan 2011	36
ESR04	Ancient urban metallurgy in the Eastern Mediterranean	WP4	UCL	Oct 2011	36
ESR05	A study of the use of copper alloys through time in the Eastern Mediterranean	WP4	UCL	Oct 2011	36
ESR06	Provenance research on Cypriot pottery classes circulating in the Eastern Mediterranean during the Bronze and early Iron Age	WP2	VUB	Sep 2011	36
ESR07	Glass production in Antiquity	WP3	VUB	Jun 2011	36
ESR08	The application and development of computational intelligence methodologies in analyzing archaeological data	WP5	EUROCY	Jan 2012	36
ESR09	Reconstructing a technological tradition – ceramic production at Final Neolithic to MMII Phaistos, Crete	WP2	USFD	Jan 2011	36
ESR10	Refractory ceramics in craft contexts: mechanical and thermal properties in action	WP2	USFD	Sep 2011	36
ESR11	Techniques and materials used in mosaics from Egypt	WP5	Paris-Ouest	Oct 2011	36
ESR12	Techniques and materials used in wall paintings from the Classical to the Roman period	WP5	Paris-Ouest	Oct 2011	36
ESR13	Luminescence dating and the palaeo-environment in SW Peloponnesus	WP6	Demokritos	Jun 2011	36
ESR14	Luminescence dating and the palaeo-environment in SE Cyprus	WP6	Demokritos	Sep 2011	36
ESR15	Historic pottery in the Aegean. Style analysis-quantification, materials and techniques, documentation of full-scale reproduction	WP2	THETIS	Jan 2011	36
ESR16	Assessment and quantification of damage on the building materials from three desert castles in Jordan	WP5	HU	Dec 2011	36

The Narnia Experienced Researcher Fellowships

	Research project	WP	Host Institution	Start month	Fellow months
ER01	A diachronic study of ancient Cypriot metalwork	WP4	UCY	Feb 2011	24
ER02	Mechanical and thermal behaviour of functional ceramics in the Aegean and Cyprus	WP5	Demokritos	Feb 2011	24
ER03	pXRF application in Archaeology	WP3	USFD	Apr 2011	24

Early Stage Researchers

Applicants for the Early Stage Researcher (the doctoral) fellowships are those who are, at the time of selection by the host institution, in **the first four years** (full-time equivalent) of their research careers. This is measured from the date when they obtained the degree which formally entitles them to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the research training is provided, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate was envisaged.

Experienced Researchers

Applicants for the Experienced Researcher fellowships must, at the time of selection by the host organisation: - **either** be in possession of a doctoral degree, irrespective of the time taken to acquire it, - **or** have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience. In both cases, they should have less than 5 years of full-time equivalent research experience. This is measured from the date when they obtained the degree which formally entitles them to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the research training is provided, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate was envisaged.

Mobility Requirement applicable to all fellows

At the time of selection by the host organisation, researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of their host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their recruitment.

The fellowships will be advertised by the individual partners a few months prior to the beginning of the fellowship.

NARNIA fellows field of expertise in order of preference

FELLOW	Recruiting participant	Researcher Specialised in
ER 01	UCY	archaeometallurgy, or archaeological science, or archaeology, or materials science, or chemistry
ER 02	Demokritos	Materials science, ceramic technology, archaeological science, chemistry
ER 03	USFD	archaeological science, chemistry, materials science, field practice
ESR01	UCY	archaeometallurgy, or archaeology, or materials science, or chemistry, or geology
ESR 02	UCY	archaeology, or materials science, or chemistry, or conservation
ESR 03	UCL	Archaeological glass, Byzantine archaeology and history, glass analysis
ESR 04	UCL	archaeometallurgy of the LBA to Late Antiquity, optical microscopy, or metallography, electron beam analysis
ESR 05	UCL	archaeometallurgy, statistical analysis, metallurgical analysis
ESR 06	VUB	archaeology or geology, or Archaeological science or Earth science, or Material science, or chemistry or physics
ESR 07	VUB	archaeology, or archaeological science or materials science, or chemistry, or physics
ESR 08	EUROCY	information technology, intelligent systems, knowledge extraction and management
ESR 09	USFD	archaeological science pyrotechnology ceramics
ESR 010	USFD	archaeological science, geology ceramics
ESR 011	Paris-Ouest	archaeology, or materials science, or chemistry, or conservation
ESR 012	Paris-Ouest	archaeology, or materials science, or chemistry, or conservation
ESR 013	NCSR Demokritos	Materials science, geology, geography, chemistry
ESR 014	NCSR Demokritos	Materials science, geology, geography, chemistry
ESR 015	Thetis	archaeology, or archaeological science or materials science, or chemistry, or physics
ESR 016	HU	archaeology, or materials science, or chemistry, or conservation

THE NARNIA CONSORTIUM

