



**One (1) postdoctoral position in the project
“mw-atlas”
The first comprehensive Atlas of the Milky Way
(Call: ERC-2024-SyG, Project Number 101166905)
Funded under HORIZON ERC Grants - European Research Council (ERC)**



**Funded by
the European Union**

**Ref. 220935
Heraklion, 15.05.2026**

The Institute of Astrophysics (IA) of the Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas (FORTH), in the framework of the project mw-atlas, (Call: ERC-SyG-2024, Project number: 101166905) funded under European Union’s Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation is seeking to recruit one (1) postdoctoral position.

Title: Observational and Technical support for the commissioning of WALOP-N and first science observations and data analysis

Job Description:

The mw-atlas project aims to reconstruct the first comprehensive, self-consistent 3D atlas of the Milky Way and use it to study the astrophysics of the Galaxy and the physics of the Cosmos. Part of this effort involves taking novel polarimetric data with the WALOP polarimeters, to be commissioned this year. In this context, the postdoctoral scholar will work on commissioning the WALOPs, including their installation and calibration on the 1.3m telescope at Skinakas and the 1m telescope in the South African Astronomical Observatory, on installing and testing the instrument control software, and on taking first polarimetric observations of stars of our Galaxy that encode its magnetic field.





Required qualifications:

The successful candidate is required to:

- (a) have a PhD in Physics or related fields,
- (b) have past experience with the design of optopolarimeters and optopolarimeter control software.
- (c) be available to start immediately.

The aforementioned required qualifications will be judged as follows:

- 1) **PhD degree or certificate of completion of PhD requirements** (yes/no; disqualification in case of no)
- 2) **Copy of EU passport or, in the case of a non-EU citizen, copy of a valid visa** (yes/no; disqualification in case of no)
- 3) Past experience with optopolarimeter design (1-10, 50% of total score)
- 4) Past experience in optopolarimeter control software development (1-10, 50% of total score)

Location: IA - FORTH, Heraklion Crete GREECE

Start Date: 01 July, 2026

Project Duration: 6 months with possibility of extension according to the needs of the project and availability of funds

Monthly salary: 2250 euros

Application Submission:

Interested candidates who meet the aforementioned requirements are kindly asked to submit their applications, no later than **May 26th, 2026, 23:59pm** local Greece time to the address (info@ia.forth.gr), with cc to Prof. Vasiliki Pavlidou (pavlidou@ia.forth.gr).

In order to be considered, the application must include:

- 1) Application Form (please download file from the job announcement webpage <https://www.ia.forth.gr/employment-opportunities>)
- 2) Brief CV
- 3) Scanned copies of academic titles
- 4) Copy of passport and, in the case of a non-EU passport, copy of valid student visa

Any application received after the deadline will not be considered for the selection.





Contact

For information and questions regarding the application and selection procedure, candidates are asked to contact the secretariat (info@ia.forth.gr), tel. +30 2810-394200.

For information and questions about the advertised position and the research activity of the group or the institute, please contact Prof. Vasiliki Pavlidou (pavlidou@ia.forth.gr).

Evaluation procedure

Applications will be evaluated by a three-member evaluation committee. In case of interview procedure, applicants will be invited to participate in person or teleconference.

In case of titles and qualifications awarded by foreign Higher Education Institutions, the provisions of the Law 55/2023 (article 36) and 4957/2022 (article 304) are implemented.

The results of the selection will be announced on the website of IA-FORTH. Applicants have the right to appeal the selection decision, by addressing their written objection to the IA secretariat within five days since the results announcement on the web. Objections are submitted in one of the following ways: in person, by an authorized person, by post, by courier. They also have the right to access (a) the files of the applicants as well as (b) the table of applicants' scores (ranking of applicants results). All the above information related to the selection procedure will be available at the secretariat of IA-FORTH in line with the Hellenic Data Protection Authority. Access to personal data of co-applicants shall be limited to personal data (and relevant data) and supporting documents which have been the basis of the evaluation of the applicants for the specific post(s). Prior to the announcement of the personal data and/or documents of the co-applicants to the applicant, FORTH will inform the data subjects in an appropriate way.

The selected applicants will be notified personally regarding the success of his/her application and will be requested to submit certified copies of his/her degrees. If the submitted documents do not agree with the original application, the applicant will be dismissed.





GDPR Disclaimer

FORTH is compliant with all legal procedures for the processing of personal data as defined by the Regulation EU/2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data. FORTH processes the personal data and relevant supporting documents that you have submitted to us. Processing of that data is carried out exclusively for the needs and purposes of this specific call. Such data shall not be transmitted to or communicated to any third party unless required by law.

FORTH retains the above data up to the announcement of the final results of the call, unless further process and reservation is required by law or for purposes of exercise, enforcement, prosecution of certain one's legitimate legal rights' as defined in the Regulation EU/2016/679 and/or in national law.

Under the Regulation EU/2016/679 applicants have the rights to be informed about your personal data, access to, rectification and erasure, restrictions of process and objection to as provided by applicable regulation and national laws. We acknowledge also to you, that you have the right to file a complaint to the national Data Protection Authority. For any further information regarding exercise of your personal data protection rights, you may contact the Data Protection Officer at FORTH at dpo@admin.forth.gr.

Applicants have the right to withdraw your application and consent for the processing of your personal data at any time. We inform you that, in this case, FORTH shall destroy such documents and/or supporting documents submitted and shall delete the related personal data.

