The Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas, the foremost research organization in Greece, invites applications for 3 postdoctoral positions for the ERC-funded project PASIPHAE (Polar-Areas Stellar-Imaging in Polarization High-Accuracy Experiment, see http://pasiphae.science)

PASIPHAE is a highly interdisciplinary project, aimed to map high-Galactic latitude areas in optical stellar polarization and, in combination with Gaia stellar distances, construct a tomographic map of the Galactic magnetic field, with applications in CMB B-mode foreground subtraction, high-energy astrophysics, interstellar medium dynamics, and stellar astrophysics. PASIPHAE is an international collaboration between FORTH and the University of Crete in Greece, Caltech in the US, the Inter-University Center for Astronomy and Astrophysics in India, the South African Astronomical Observatory, and the University of Oslo in Norway.

We are building a team with diverse expertise (both observational and theoretical), including the Galactic magnetic field, optopolarimetry, numerical and statistical analysis (including the numerical solutions of complex boundary-value problems and/or machine learning algorithms), interstellar medium astrophysics, high-energy astrophysics including gamma-ray and cosmic-ray astrophysics, and stellar astrophysics (with emphasis on intrinsic stellar polarizations). Applicants with a strong background in any of these fields are encouraged to apply.

The duration of the positions will be up to 3 years. The successful candidates are expected to be highly motivated and independent, and will be encouraged to follow their own initiatives to exploit the rich PASIPHAE dataset. A starting date in September 2018 is anticipated. The salary is competitive, depending on experience, and a generous travel allowance will be provided. The successful candidates will also have the opportunity to spend time at and interact with other PASIPHAE Collaboration Institutions.

The successful candidates will join the vibrant, friendly, closely interacting Astrophysics Group in Crete, the joint Astrophysics effort of FORTH, the Physics Department of the University of Crete, the Institute of Theoretical and Computational Physics, and the Skinakas Observatory. Our group features extensive expertise in optopolarimetry, being the host of the RoboPol project (http://robopol.org), and using state-of-the-art innovative-technology instruments such as RoboPol and WALOP. The group’s activities also include the Astrophysics of X-ray binaries, extragalactic star formation, black holes and active galactic nuclei, structure formation and Cosmology, and ultra-high-energy cosmic rays. More information can be found at http://astro.physics.uoc.gr

Consideration of applications will begin February 15th and will continue until positions are filled. Candidates are requested to send a CV, a discussion of their past research, and three letters of recommendation to Prof. Kostas Tassis (tassis@physics.uoc.gr).