**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN PARTICIPATIN G IN THE TRAINING SCHOOL CALLED "PHENOTYPIC FINGERPRINTING SCHOOL", WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE "PRP@CERIC – PATHOGEN READINESS PLATFORM FOR CERIC-ERIC UPGRADE" PROJECT - *WORK PACKAGE 12* – Project IR0000028 (CUP J97G22000400006) – 2 POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

**PREMISE**

The publication of this notice is part of the project *"PRP@CERIC – Pathogen Readiness Platform for CERIC-ERIC Upgrade",* presented by Area di Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica di Trieste - Area Science Park (hereinafter and for the sake of brevity referred to as " Area Science Park"), as the proposing entity, in partnership with the National Research Council (hereinafter and for the sake of brevity referred to as "CNR"), the University of Salerno (hereinafter and for the sake of brevity referred to as "UNISA"), the University of Salento (hereinafter and for the sake of brevity referred to as "UNISALENTO") and the University of Naples "Federico II" (hereinafter and for the sake of brevity referred to as "UNINA"), as co-proposers, under the 'Notice for the "Strengthening and creation of research infrastructures" (Mission 4 - Component 2 - Investment line 3.1 "Fund for the creation of an integrated system of research and innovation infrastructures") financed under the PNRR (Recovery and Resilience Plan) by the European Union – NextGenerationEU. This fund aims at facilitating the osmosis between scientific knowledge generated in high-quality research infrastructures and the economic sector, supporting the creation of research and innovation infrastructures linking the industrial sector with the academic one.

In this framework, the "Pathogen Readiness Platform for CERIC-ERIC Upgrade" project involves explicitly strengthening the CERIC-ERIC research infrastructure in the study of pathogens. Academic and industrial users will have adequate tools and skills available in the field of basic research and the development of therapies and preventive approaches capable of dealing with the possibility of new outbreaks of emerging human, animal and plant pathogens, with potential repercussions in terms of health, safety and economy, also aiming at improving strategies for the preparation for and response to possible future epidemics. The infrastructure will operate by the DNSH principle (*Do No Significant Harm*, i.e. not causing any significant damage to the environment) for environmental sustainability and the FAIR method of managing the data produced.

The project also includes a training activity which takes place in a series of advanced schools and training activities in the various partner locations, including the "***Phenotypic Fingerprinting***" school in question, promoted by Area Science Park in collaboration with Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste, the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology—ICGEB, and the CNR.

The school is primarily intended for researchers and technologists employed within the PRP@CERIC project and, to a lesser extent, for external students interested in progressing in their careers by becoming members of the scientific staff of a research infrastructure or in improving their basic knowledge as users belonging to the academic or industrial world of research infrastructures. In fact, it is expected that both these scientific profiles (researchers and users of research infrastructures) will grow in terms of both numbers and relevance in the coming decades.

**Article 1 – Purpose and the subject of the notice**

With this notice, we intend to launch a collection of expressions of interest in participating in the training school called "***Phenotypic Fingerprinting School***" to identify two external participants in the PRP@CERIC project partnership.

The aforementioned school aims to shed light on the fingerprints of cellular metabolic pathways disrupted by infections and drug response, exploiting complementary approaches and promoting their integration. During the training activity, indications on techniques for the preparation of biological substrates will also be provided. The theoretical lectures will introduce the practical sessions on *High-Throughput Screening* by cellular *imaging*, IR chemical *imaging*, Raman chemical *imaging* with *Ultraviolet* (UV) resonance, and biomechanical *imaging* by Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) and data analysis, with the goal of building a multidimensional reference space for host-pathogen interaction. Each module will be supervised by personnel involved in the PRP@CERIC project, for which training activities are also planned. In addition, for each module, an internationally recognized expert with sector-specific skills and expertise will intervene.

At the end of the training course, participants will have acquired theoretical-practical skills through in-depth study of the topics addressed in the modules foreseen and detailed below.

The training course referred to in this notice will be held in English and will take place in Trieste at the Basovizza and Padriciano campuses of Area Science Park and the laboratories of Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste, of the ICGEB and the CNR – Istituto Officina dei Materiali (IOM), and will be structured as follows:

- First session of the school (14-25 October 2024), during which each participant will attend approximately seventy-two hours of theoretical lessons alternating with practical sessions in the laboratory, including the following thematic modules: 1. Cellular models of host-pathogen interaction and High-Throughput Screening (HTS) imaging; 2. Genomics – Single-Cell RNA-Seq; 3. Biomechanical imaging using Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM); 4. Data analysis, integration and management;
- Second session of the school (18-29 November 2024), during which each participant will attend approximately seventy-two hours of theoretical lessons alternating with practical sessions in the laboratory, including the following thematic modules: 1. Micro and nano-processing for biology; 2. Infrared (IR) chemical cytology (cell imaging); 3. Ultraviolet (UV)-Raman chemical cytology (cell imaging); 4. Data analysis, integration and management.

At the end of the training course, a certificate of participation will be issued, subject to attendance of at least 80% of the scheduled theoretical/practical lessons.

For each participant in the training course, a refund will be provided for lunches during the lesson days (which can be used in the Area Science Park canteens on the Basovizza and Padriciano campuses), while, exclusively for students coming from outside Trieste, a refund will also be provided for the overnight stay and other meals (i.e. all dinners and lunches on Saturdays and Sundays included in the school period). This refund will be paid in two portions, at the conclusion of each school session, by the external service company appointed by Area Science Park for its organisation and management. More information regarding the training course can be found at the following link: https://www.pathogen-ri.eu/advanced_schools/.

**Article 2 – Recipients and admission requirements**

Expressions of interest in participating in the training course referred to in Article 1 of this notice may be submitted by individuals who have a *curriculum studiorum* and/or professional indicating their eligibility to attend the training course itself and the following specific admission requirements:

1) master's or specialist degree or old-school degree in STEM subjects and, preferably, in chemical sciences, medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, biology, physics, materials science and engineering, industrial biotechnology, pharmacy and industrial pharmacy, biomedical engineering, chemical engineering, medicine and surgery, or related or equivalent subjects;

2) knowledge of the English language;

3) possession of civil and political rights in the State of nationality or origin.

The above requirements must be met at the start of the training course[1], otherwise the right to participate in the training course itself will be forfeited.

Concerning the requirement referred to in point 1), it is specified that qualifications obtained both in Italy and abroad will be admitted. Qualifications obtained abroad must be previously recognised in Italy in accordance with current legislation on the matter. However, in the event that the equivalence of qualifications obtained abroad has not already been recognised in Italy as a result of the aforementioned formal procedure, it will be sufficient for such qualifications to be accompanied by an appropriate declaration of value issued by the competent Italian authority in the country (such as, for example, Consulates) where the qualifications were obtained. Area Science Park reserves the right to carry out spot checks on what has been declared by those who have submitted their expression of interest in response to this notice.

No expression of interest may be submitted by those who are married to or have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with the directors of the structures to which the laboratories belong, with the General Manager or with members of the Board of Directors of Area Science Park.

**Article 3 - Submission of the expression of interest and causes of exclusion**

In order to participate in the evaluation procedure referred to in Article 4 of this notice, the following documents must be submitted to Area Science Park:

- Copy of a valid identity document;
- Expression of interest prepared according to the sub 1 form attached to this notice and downloadable from the Area Science Park website at the following address: https://www.areasciencepark.it/piattaforme-tecnologiche/we-are-looking-for-young-and-talented-students/;
- Motivation letter (max 1 page);
- *Curriculum studiorum* and/or professional (max 4 pages).

[1] Therefore, those duly enrolled in degree programmes are also eligible to enter the training course referred to in Article 1 of this notice, provided that on the date of the start of the training course they have obtained the relevant diploma.

The expression of interest and its attachments must be sent to Area Science Park:

1. exclusively from a PEC (certified email) address issued in the name of the person concerned and not of a third party;
2. to the address: protocollo@pec.areasciencepark.it, not to personal or service boxes;
3. **no later than 11:59 p.m. on Friday, 26 July 2024**;
4. with the following wording in the subject line "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE "PHENOTYPIC FINGERPRINTING SCHOOL"";
5. make sure that the total size of the attachments to the PEC (certified email) is at most 10 MB (attachments to the expression of interest must be converted to non-editable PDF format; scanning is not recommended, which results in a larger document).

Failure to comply with the requirements set down in items 1, 2 and 3 above will result in the exclusion of expressions of interest from the evaluation procedure.

Only foreign citizens not residing in Italy and Italian citizens domiciled/resident abroad can send the expression of interest and the related attachments, in non-editable PDF format, digitally signed or signed in original, also by ordinary email to the Organisation's PEC (certified email), to the address: protocollo@pec.areasciencepark.it, with the subject "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE "PHENOTYPIC FINGERPRINTING SCHOOL"". The validity of the presentation of the expression of interest is certified by the date of receipt of the email which, under penalty of exclusion from the selection procedure, must reach the organisation's PEC (certified email) inbox **no later than 11.59 p.m. on Friday, 26 July 2024**. It is advisable to stay within a total size of 10 MB of attached files.

The Organisation reserves the right to carry out checks on the truthfulness of the declarations presented, including random checks.

**Article 4 – Methods of evaluation and formation of the ranking list**

The comparative evaluation procedure takes place based on the documentation attached to the expression of interest. This evaluation is carried out by an evaluating Committee appointed by order of the Director of the Research Institute for Technological Innovation of Area Science Park which is made up of three members, chosen from experts in the subjects covered during the training course and belonging to the PRP@CERIC project team, possibly supported by a minute-taking secretary.

The Evaluating Committee has the right to decide to use electronic methods for conducting the sessions. In any case, the meetings must be held in collegial session, and the related documents must be definitively signed with handwritten or digital signatures.

The details of the evaluation criteria and the related scores will be adopted by the Evaluating Committee at their first meeting before examining the expressions of interest received; subsequently, the Evaluating Committee will proceed to evaluate the motivation letter and the *curriculum studiorum* and/or professional attached to the admitted expressions of interest, assigning the relevant scores.

At the end of the evaluation procedure, the Evaluating Committee will draw up the ranking list in decreasing order of the scores achieved by the interested parties in evaluating the relative expressions of interest.

**Article 5 – Approval of the ranking list and its publication**

Within the day following its formation, the ranking list will be published on the institutional website and on the Area Science Park online noticeboard.

This publication will have the value of official communication to all interested parties. In the event of a tie in score, the right to participate in the training course will be attributed to the person belonging to the less represented gender and, in the event of a further tie, to the youngest.

This ranking will be approved by the Director of the Research Institute for Technological Innovation. In compliance with the provisions of Art. 2 of this notice, the names of the first two subjects usefully classified in the ranking will be communicated to the external service company appointed by Area Science Park for the organisation and management of the school, which will contact them to proceed with the implementation of all the activities necessary for the organisation and management of the training course referred to in this notice itself.

In the event of one or more of the aforementioned subjects not accepting, Area Science Park may proceed by scrolling down the ranking list and by communicating the names of the incoming subjects to the external service company.

It is specified that if applications by subjects external to the PRP@CERIC project partnership are fewer than two, access to the two available positions will be open to representatives of the project team. Conversely, if the applications by representatives of the PRP@CERIC project partnership are fewer than eight (number of positions reserved for partners), the ranking will be scrolled and, therefore, additional participants external to the project team will be admitted until the available positions are filled. Also in this case, Area Science Park will communicate those names to the external service company.

The external service company appointed by Area Science Park for the organisation and management of the school will cover the costs of board and lodging for students coming from outside Trieste. It will cover the costs of lunches for all the students during the days on which the courses take place, except lunches for students belonging to Area Science Park, for whom the canteen service at the Basovizza and Padriciano campuses is already guaranteed. Any reimbursements linked to the advance of the costs of meals incurred by students coming from outside Trieste for all dinners and lunches on Saturdays and Sundays included in the school period will take place in two portions, at the end of each session referred to in art. 1 of this notice, upon presentation of adequate expense receipts and with a spending limit of €25.00 for each single meal. The interested party will bear any expenses exceeding this maximum.

**Article 6 – Conditions for attending the training course**

Individuals enrolled in the training course must commit to attending at least 80% of the theoretical/practical lessons scheduled.

Failure to comply with the commitment above will result in the revocation of the reimbursement of expenses, with the consequent obligation to return the amounts already paid in the name of and on behalf of the student, unless the failure to attend was prevented by adequately proven health reasons or force majeure.

**Article 7 – Processing of personal data**

Pursuant to art. 13 of EU Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation – GDPR) and in relation to the personal data provided by interested parties during the procedure for evaluating expressions of interest, or in any case acquired by Area Science Park, the latter provides the information below.

1) IDENTITY AND CONTACT DETAILS OF THE DATA CONTROLLER - The data controller of personal data is the Area di Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica di Trieste - Area Science Park, with headquarters in Trieste, Padriciano, 99.

Candidates, as interested parties, may contact the data controller by writing to the address above or by sending an email to the following email addresses: urp@areasciencepark.it – PEC (certified email): protocollo@pec.areasciencepark.it.

2) CONTACT DETAILS OF THE DATA PROTECTION OFFICER - At Area Science Park, the Data Protection Officer, appointed pursuant to art. 37 of the GDPR, can be contacted at the following email address: rpd@areasciencepark.it.

3) ORIGIN OF PERSONAL DATA AND CATEGORIES OF DATA PROCESSED - The personal data processed by Area Science Park for the purposes expressed in this notice are provided by the interested parties when submitting the expression of interest in response to this notice or otherwise acquired by Area Science Park itself during the evaluation process. These data consist of standard personal data (name and surname, place and date of birth, address of residence, citizenship, telephone number, ordinary email address and Certified Electronic Mail address, information relating to qualifications obtained, previous work experiences reported in the expression of interest and in the *curriculum studiorum* and/or professional in particular, as well as data relating to the requirements regarding competence and experience).

4) PURPOSE OF AND LEGAL BASIS FOR THE PROCESSING - The processing of personal data provided during participation in the evaluation procedure referred to in this notice is aimed at carrying out the procedure referred to in this notice or procedures consequent or connected therewith.

The legal basis for processing the interested party's personal data is found in art. 6, par. 1, letter e) of the GDPR (execution of a task of public interest or connected to the exercise of public powers vested in the Data Controller).

Any processing of particular categories of personal data and personal data relating to criminal convictions and crimes will take place in compliance with articles 9 and 10 of the GDPR and with the rights and freedoms of the interested party.

5) RECIPIENTS AND CATEGORIES OF RECIPIENTS OF PERSONAL DATA - Without prejudice to the operations regarding communication and circulation of data in compliance with legal obligations and orders of the authorities, including the publication of the rankings on the Area Science Park's institutional website and on the online notice board, the data will be communicated to the members of the Evaluating Committee and, limited to the data of the subjects usefully classified in the ranking and of the subjects who may take over in the event of a change in the ranking, to the external company entrusted with the organisation and management service of the school which, with a specific act of assignment by Area Science Park, will be designated as Data Processor limited to the relevant activities, but the data may also be communicated to public and private entities who, according to the regulations, are required or may come to know the data, as well as to entities holding the right of access. The personal data of the interested parties will also be known

by the Area Science Park staff involved in the procedure referred to in this notice and in the procedures consequent or connected to it.

6) TRANSFER OF DATA TO NON-EU COUNTRIES—If Area Science Park were to transfer the personal data of interested parties to non-EU countries, it would do so in such a way as to provide appropriate guarantees pursuant to articles 45, 46, 47, or 49 of the GDPR.

7) DATA RETENTION PERIOD - The data being processed will be stored in archives for the necessary period based on current legislation, applicable to public bodies, without prejudice to the authorisation for reject.

8) RIGHTS OF THE INTERESTED PARTY - With reference to his/her personal data, the interested party has the following rights:

- access in accordance with the provisions of art. 15 of the GDPR;
- rectification in accordance with the provisions of art. 16 of the GDPR;
- cancellation (so-called "right to be forgotten") in accordance with the provisions of art. 17 of the GDPR;
- limitation of processing in accordance with the provisions of art. 18 of the GDPR;
- portability of personal data, in accordance with the provisions of art. 20 of the GDPR, if the processing is based on the execution of a contract or on the consent of the interested party and is carried out using IT tools.

To exercise these rights, interested parties can send an email to the following address: rpd@areasciencepark.it. Area Science Park is required to provide a response within one month of the request, which can be extended up to three months in the event of a particularly complex request.
Interested parties may object to the processing of data at any time, pursuant to Art. 21 of the GDPR, for legitimate reasons related to their particular situation.
In the cases above, where necessary, the Data Controller will inform the third parties to whom the personal data have been communicated of any exercise of rights by the interested party, with the exception of specific cases (for example, when such fulfilment proves impossible or involves the use of means that are manifestly disproportionate to the protected right).
9) COMPLAINT TO THE SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY—Pursuant to art. 77 of the GDPR, interested parties have the right to lodge a complaint with the Supervisory Authority (Guarantor for the protection of personal data) if they believe that the processing concerning them violates the provisions of the GDPR.
10) MANDATORY OR OPTIONAL NATURE OF THE PROVISION OF DATA AND CONSEQUENCES OF ANY FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE THE DATA - The provision of personal data is optional, but necessary for the completion of the evaluation activities and the possible achievement of the right to participate in the training process and to receive the related reimbursement. Failure to provide data precludes the aforementioned activities.
11) NON-EXISTENCE OF AN AUTOMATED DECISION-MAKING PROCESS—Area Science Park does not adopt any automated decision-making process for processing the interested party's personal data pursuant to art. 22 of the GDPR.

**Article 8 – Access to documents and person in charge of the proceedings**

The subjects participating in the evaluation procedure are guaranteed access to the documentation of the procedure referred to in this notice, pursuant to current legislation (Law no. 241/90 and Presidential Decree no. 184/2006).

The person responsible for the administrative procedure referred to in this notice is Stefano Cozzini – Director of the Research Institute for Technological Innovation.

**Article 9 – Publication of the notice**

This notice is published on the online noticeboard and on Area Science Park's website in the "Training opportunities, collaborations, theses and internships" section for 30 natural and consecutive days.

**Article 10 – Acceptance of the rules expressed in the notice**

Submission of the application entails acceptance by the interested party of all the rules expressed in this notice.

**Article 11 – Final provisions**

This notice does not constitute any obligation on the part of Area Science Park towards the interested parties, nor, for the latter, any right to any benefit, for any reason whatsoever.

Area Science Park reserves the right to suspend, cancel or revoke, in whole or in part, the procedure referred to in this notice, to extend its terms, or not to proceed with the implementation of the activities illustrated therein, without the interested parties being able to advance any claim in terms of compensation.

This notice and the rankings are published at the following link: https://www.areasciencepark.it/piattaforme-tecnologiche/we-are-looking-for-young-and-talented-students/.