

This document contains the list of UNIRI researchers who have expressed an interest in hosting a postdoctoral fellow and applying to the MSCA PF Call in 2026.

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## 1. Life Sciences

### SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR

Name and surname	<b>Assist. Prof. Ana Filošević Vujnović, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Biotechnology and Drug Development</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	N/A
Research interests	Role of m6A RNA modifications and histone changes in gene regulation, metabolic alterations, in drug addiction using <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> as a model organism.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Epitranscriptomics</li> <li>▪ m6A RNA modifications</li> <li>▪ Epigenetics and histone post-translational modifications</li> <li>▪ Metabolomics</li> <li>▪ Drug addiction – <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> model</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	

  

Scientific panel	Life Sciences
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3431-6153">https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3431-6153</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://sway.cloud.microsoft/Idu2iz3JHOhAQ9Mb?ref=Link&amp;loc=mysways">https://sway.cloud.microsoft/Idu2iz3JHOhAQ9Mb?ref=Link&amp;loc=mysways</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:ana.filosevic@biotech.uniri.hr">ana.filosevic@biotech.uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Kristina Grabušić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Medicine</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Dpt. for Physiology, Immunology and Pathophysiology
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Extracellular vesicles in antioxidant response and neuro-recovery.</li> <li>▪ Development of single-EV measurements using nanotechnologies, including microflow nanocytometry and tunable resistive pulse sensing.</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Extracellular vesicles</li> <li>▪ Oxidative stress</li> <li>▪ Microflow cytometry</li> <li>▪ Trps</li> <li>▪ Liquid biopsy</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	PI of national projects: HRZZ-2019, HRZZ-2025
Scientific panel	Life Sciences
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4165-0291">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4165-0291</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://medri.uniri.hr/en/science/research-groups/">https://medri.uniri.hr/en/science/research-groups/</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:kristina.grabusic@uniri.hr">kristina.grabusic@uniri.hr</a>

## 2. Social Sciences and Humanities

### SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Ana Pošćić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Law</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Chair of European Public Law
Research interests	EU law, EU internal law, competition law, artificial intelligence, new technologies
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	EU law, competition law, AI, new technologies
EU or national-funded project experience	
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7315-0630">https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7315-0630</a>
Personal or Research team's website	
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:ana.poscic@uniri.hr">ana.poscic@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Antonija Primorac, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of English language
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Victorian literature and culture</li> <li>▪ Neo-Victorianism</li> <li>▪ Adaptation studies</li> <li>▪ Periodical press and book history (19th and early 20th century)</li> <li>▪ World literature and digital humanities</li> <li>▪ Crime fiction</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adaptation,</li> <li>▪ (neo-)Victorian,</li> <li>▪ Periodicals,</li> <li>▪ Translation,</li> <li>▪ World literature and DH</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ COST Action Distant Reading for European Literary History (2017-2022),</li> <li>▪ Croatian and Anglophone Crime Fiction: Text, Context, Translation (2025-2029)</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9217-4857">https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9217-4857</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/2786">https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/2786</a> <a href="https://krimic.uniri.hr/?page_id=110">https://krimic.uniri.hr/?page_id=110</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:antonija.primorac@uniri.hr">antonija.primorac@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Ivan Lupić, Ph.D.</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of English language Department of Croatian language
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Early modern literature</li> <li>▪ Transnational theater history</li> <li>▪ Book history/manuscript studies</li> <li>▪ Literature and politics</li> <li>▪ Adriatic humanism/Renaissance</li> <li>▪ Translation studies</li> <li>▪ Multilingualism/multiscripturality</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Anglophone literatures and cultures</li> <li>▪ Croatian literature</li> <li>▪ Book history</li> <li>▪ Manuscript studies</li> <li>▪ Theater history</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	Researcher on the ERC Advanced Grant 2020: Textuality and Diversity: A Literary History of Europe and its Global Connections, 1545-1659.
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4208-6362">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4208-6362</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/details/7452">https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/details/7452</a> <a href="https://uniri.academia.edu/IvanLupic%C4%87">https://uniri.academia.edu/IvanLupic%C4%87</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:ivan.lupic@uniri.hr">ivan.lupic@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Ivana Kunda, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Law</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Institute for European and Comparative Law
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EU law</li> <li>▪ Internet law</li> <li>▪ IP law</li> <li>▪ Private international law</li> <li>▪ Data protection</li> <li>▪ AI regulation</li> <li>▪ Legal technology</li> <li>▪ Online platforms</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EU law</li> <li>▪ Digital law</li> <li>▪ Artificial intelligence</li> <li>▪ Cross-border matters</li> <li>▪ Legal tech</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2025-2027 Data Governance and Intellectual Property Governance in Common European Data Spaces – DGIP-CEDS (101210413 – DGIP-CEDS)</li> <li>▪ 2025-2027 Fair and Innovative Cross-Border Recovery with Out-of-Court Enforcement Titles - Fair-in-Debt (101251495 – Fair-in-Debt – JUST-2025-JCOO)</li> <li>▪ 2022-2024 Digital Communication and Safeguarding the Parties’ Rights: Challenges for European Civil Procedure DIGI-GUARD (EU Justice No. 101046660 – DIGI-GUARD – JUST-2021-JCOO)</li> <li>▪ 2021-2023 E-training on EU Family Property Regimes – EU FamPro (EU Justice No. 101008404 – JUST-AG-2020/JUST JTRA-EJTR-AG-2020)</li> <li>▪ 2019–2021 Train to enforce – Train2 EN4CE (EU Justice No. 854038-JUST-AG-2018/JUST-JTRA-EJTR-AG-2018)</li> <li>▪ 2019–2021 Diversity of Enforcement Titles in Cross-Border Debt Collection in the EU – EU_En4s (EU Justice No. 831628-JUST-AG-2018/JUST-JCOO-AG-2018)</li> <li>▪ 2018-2021 Facilitating Cross-Border Family Life: Towards a Common European Understanding - EUFams II (br. 800780 JUST-AG-2017/JUST-JCOO-AG_2017)</li> </ul>

- 2017-2019 Personalized Solution in European Family and Succession Law – PSEFS (EU Justice No. 800821-JUST-AG 2017/JUST-JCOO-AG-2017)
- 2015-2017 Remedies concerning Enforcement of Foreign Judgements according to Brussels I Recast - BIARE (br. JUST/2014/JCOO/AG/CIVI/7749)
- 2015-2017 EU Judiciary Training on Brussels IIa Regulation: From South East (EU Justice to JUST/2014/JTRA/AG/EJTR/6854)
- 2014-2017 Business and Human Rights Challenges for Cross-Border Litigation in the European Union (EU Justice No. JUST/2013/JCIV/AG/4661)

Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9636-9117">https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9636-9117</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://www.croris.hr/osobe/profil/548">https://www.croris.hr/osobe/profil/548</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:ivana.kunda@uniri.hr">ivana.kunda@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Katarina Kušić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Center for Advanced Studies of Southeast Europe</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Center for Advanced Studies of Southeast Europe
Research interests	political ecology; international interventions and development; interpretative political science; fieldwork methods
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Land politics</li> <li>▪ Southeast Europe</li> <li>▪ Postcolonial theory</li> <li>▪ Ethnographic methods</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	MSCA individual postdoctoral fellowship; ESRC post-doctoral fellowship; Bremen post-doc fellowship
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9066-6823">https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9066-6823</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://www.katarinakusic.com">https://www.katarinakusic.com</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:katarina.kusic@uniri.hr">katarina.kusic@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Selma Porobić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Centre for Advanced Studies - South East Europe (CAS)</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	N/A
Research interests	migration studies, social psychology, social policy, religious studies, European higher education
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ War-displacement,</li> <li>▪ Refugee trauma,</li> <li>▪ Return migration,</li> <li>▪ Social trauma/post-war recovery,</li> <li>▪ Peace education.</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	

Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="http://orcid.org/0000-0002-8068-8671">http://orcid.org/0000-0002-8068-8671</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://cas.uniri.hr/">https://cas.uniri.hr/</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:selma.porobic@uniri.hr">selma.porobic@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Manuela Svoboda, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of German Studies Department of Translation Studies
Research interests	Translation studies (theory/methodology); comparative/contrastive linguistics, language contacts/Germanisms; German as Foreign/Second Language; teacher education; AI in language teaching/translation
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Translation</li> <li>▪ DAF/DAZ</li> <li>▪ linguistics</li> <li>▪ germanisms</li> <li>▪ AI</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	DECODE project (ECML-funded), international biliteral research projects, including “Translating and Interpreting for Migrants and Refugees: Experiences of Slovenia and Croatia, national research project focussing on the multilingual creative potential of children
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0823-8446">https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0823-8446</a>
Personal or Research team’s website	<a href="https://portal.uniri.hr/portfelj/108">https://portal.uniri.hr/portfelj/108</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:msvoboda@uniri.hr">msvoboda@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assist. Prof. Zdenka Brzović, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Philosophy
Research interests	My research interests include philosophy of science, philosophy of biology, and philosophy of medicine, with particular focus on issues of scientific and disease classifications.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Natural kinds,</li> <li>▪ Classifications,</li> <li>▪ Biological functions,</li> <li>▪ Scientific explanation.</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9385-0287">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9385-0287</a>
Personal or Research team's website	
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:zdenka@ffri.uniri.hr">zdenka@ffri.uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Martina Bajčić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Law</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Languages
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legal translation</li> <li>▪ Terminology</li> <li>▪ Generative ai</li> <li>▪ Llms</li> <li>▪ Eu multilingualism</li> <li>▪ Legal hermeneutics</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LLMs</li> <li>▪ legal translation (quality)</li> <li>▪ terminological competence</li> <li>▪ AI literacy</li> <li>▪ legal hermeneutics</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EU justice, Croatian Science Foundation, Next Generation EU.</li> <li>▪ Currently leads GenAI in Legal Translation (Croatian Science Foundation) and Legal Terminology Management in the Digital Age (NGEU).</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0654-6779">https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0654-6779</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://portal.uniri.hr/portfelj/1023">https://portal.uniri.hr/portfelj/1023</a> <a href="https://pravri.uniri.hr/en/project/generative-artificial-intelligence-in-legal-translation/">https://pravri.uniri.hr/en/project/generative-artificial-intelligence-in-legal-translation/</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:martina.bajcic@uniri.hr">martina.bajcic@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Sanja Barić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Law</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Constitutional Law Chair
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Comparative constitutional law - constitutional adjudication</li> <li>▪ human rights and poliarchy</li> <li>▪ Non for profit law</li> <li>▪ Antidiscrimination law</li> <li>▪ Animal Rights Law</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constitution</li> <li>▪ Human rights</li> <li>▪ Animal</li> <li>▪ Non for profit</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Researcher on project „Enhancing the process of self-regulated learning with the support of educational technologies“, UNIRI – NPOO (2025-2029)</li> <li>▪ Project leader, "Humans, Animals, and the Bearers of (Subjective) Rights: Transition from an Anthropocentric Legal Paradigm to the Rights of Nature," funded by University of Rijeka (2024–2025)</li> <li>▪ Institutional team leader, ERASMUS+ "The Law Project – Law in Everyday Life" (2021–2024)</li> <li>▪ UNIRI team member, INSPIRE CoP (Community of Practice "The Next Step of Diversity and Gender Equality Efforts in Europe and Beyond" within Horizon Europe project INSPIRE - Europe's Centre of Excellence on inclusive gender equality in research and innovation); (2024 -)</li> <li>▪ Institutional team leader, HORIZON 2020 „SPEAR - Supporting and Implementing Gender Equality Plans in Academia“ (2019–2023)</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6496-9062">https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6496-9062</a>
Personal or Research team’s website	<a href="https://pravri.uniri.hr/en/about-us/organizational-structure/departments/department-of-constitutional-law/">https://pravri.uniri.hr/en/about-us/organizational-structure/departments/department-of-constitutional-law/</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:sbaric@uniri.hr">sbaric@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Sanja Tatalović Vorkapić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Teacher Education</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Social Sciences Department
Research interests	Positive psychology; Personality psychology; Mental health and well-being in education; Teachers' and students' psychological well-being; Childhood transitions and adjustments in kindergartens/schools
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Psychological well-being</li> <li>▪ Mental health</li> <li>▪ Childhood transitions</li> <li>▪ Personality</li> <li>▪ Teachers</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	Erasmus+KA3 & Erasmus+KA2 projects / several UNIRI projects
Scientific panel	Social Sciences and Humanities
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9170-8455">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9170-8455</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://www.croris.hr/osobe/profil/10793?lang=en">https://www.croris.hr/osobe/profil/10793?lang=en</a> <a href="https://adjustwell.uniri.hr/en/home/">https://adjustwell.uniri.hr/en/home/</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:sanjatv@uniri.hr">sanjatv@uniri.hr</a>

### 3. Information Science and Engineering

#### SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Ana Meštrović, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Informatics and Digital Technologies</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Laboratory for Semantic Technologies
Research interests	AI research: generative AI, AI agents, LLMs and NLP; complex and social network analysis; modeling information evolution and propagation; disinformation detection; media trend analysis.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Artificial Intelligence</li> <li>▪ Large Language Models</li> <li>▪ Natural Language Processing</li> <li>▪ Information Propagation</li> <li>▪ Complex Networks</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Principal Investigator of AINFOMEDIA – Artificial Intelligence Methods for Analyzing Media Texts and Researching Information Dissemination (NPOO, 2025–2029).</li> <li>▪ Researcher in international projects including AI4Gov-X and AI-SECRET (Digital Europe Programme) and COST Action GOBLIN.</li> <li>▪ Collaborator in innovation and digital transformation projects such as EDIH Adria, EDIH Adria 2.0, PEOPLET, INOVArte, INOVAconverTe and HyAI.</li> <li>▪ Previously, PI of InfoCoV – Multilayer Framework for Information Spreading Characterization in Social Media during the COVID-19 Crisis (2020–2022, Croatian Science Foundation).</li> <li>▪ Project lead of university projects AIMtext (2024–2025) and SemText (2019–2024).</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Information Science and Engineering
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9513-9467">https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9513-9467</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/996">https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/996</a> <a href="https://semtech.uniri.hr/">https://semtech.uniri.hr/</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:amestrovic@uniri.hr">amestrovic@uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Jonatan Lerga, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Engineering</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	<a href="#">Center for Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity</a> Department of Computer Engineering
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Digital Signal Processing</li> <li>▪ Artificial Intelligence</li> <li>▪ Machine Learning</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Digital signal processing,</li> <li>▪ Artificial intelligence,</li> <li>▪ Machine learning applications,</li> <li>▪ Image processing,</li> <li>▪ Time-frequency signal analysis</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EU Horizon (Clean Hydrogen Partnership) "North Adriatic Hydrogen Valley" (1.9.2023.-31.8.2029.)</li> <li>▪ European project „INNO2MARE: Strengthening the Capacity for Excellence of Slovenian and Croatian Innovation Ecosystems to Support the Digital and Green Transitions of Maritime Regions“ (no. 101087348), (2023-2026)</li> <li>▪ European project European Digital Innovation Hub „EDIH Adria“, (2023-2026)</li> <li>▪ European project „STEM(AJMO!)“ funded by The European Social Fund, The Operational Programme Efficient Human Resources, call „Strengthening the Capacities of CSOs for popularisation of STEM“ (UP.04.2.1.10), (2021-2023).</li> <li>▪ Principal investigator at the Faculty of Engineering on the EU funded IRI2 project with industry (Increasing the development of new products and services arising from research and development activities – phase II) "ABsistemDCiCloud", (no. KK.01.2.1.02.0179), (2020-2023)</li> <li>▪ European Horizon 2020 project “National Competence Centres in the Framework of EuroHPC (EUROCC)”, (no. 1-6410-2020) H2020-JTI-EuroHPC-2019-2 (2020-2022)</li> <li>▪ Member of committee on the European scientific project CA COST "A network for Gravitational Waves, Geophysics and Machine Learning"(no. COST CA17137), (2018-2022)</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Digital Signal Processing Artificial Intelligence

	Machine Learning
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4058-8449">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4058-8449</a>
Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/jonatan-lerga-4007a285?originalSubdomain=hr">https://www.linkedin.com/in/jonatan-lerga-4007a285?originalSubdomain=hr</a>
Contact e-mail	<a href="mailto:jonatan.lerga@riteh.uniri.hr">jonatan.lerga@riteh.uniri.hr</a>

**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Saša Zelenika, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Engineering (RITEH)</a> and <a href="#">Centre for Micro- and Nanosciences and Technologies</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Precision Engineering Laboratory
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Precision engineering;</li> <li>▪ Microsystems technologies;</li> <li>▪ Mems and nems;</li> <li>▪ Energy harvesting devices;</li> <li>▪ Measurement systems; machine elements;</li> <li>▪ Mechatronics</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Energy harvesting</li> <li>▪ Optimisation</li> <li>▪ Autonomous sensor networks</li> <li>▪ Environmental protection</li> <li>▪ Green and digital transition</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<p>Actively participates to the EU FP projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ „Reconnecting Science with the Blue Society - Blue-connect 2.0“ (Researchers tackle environmental challenges in coastal Croatia - European Researchers’ Night events in Croatia)“ (2024-2025),</li> <li>▪ „Strengthening the capacity for excellence of Slovenian and Croatian innovation ecosystems to support the digital and green transitions of maritime regions (INNO2MARE)” (2023-2026),</li> <li>▪ “Sustainable Careers for Researcher Empowerment (SECURE)” (2023-2025),</li> <li>▪ „Open and Universal Science (OPUS)“ (2022-2025),</li> <li>▪ „YUFERING - YUFE Transforming R&amp;I Through Europe-Wide Knowledge Transfer“ (2021-2024),</li> <li>▪ „Developing and Implementing hands-on training on Open Science and Open Innovation for Early Career Researchers - DIOSI“ (2021-2022),</li> <li>▪ „The role of cultural heritage in socio-economic development and preservation of democratic values - HERItage“ (2019-2020),</li> </ul>

- „GoldFish - Detection of Watercourse Contamination in Developing countries using Sensor Networks - Enlarged“ (2013-2015),
- „BioXhit - Biocrystallography on a Highly Integrated Technology Platform for European Structural Genomics“ (2004-2005),
- „Handling and Assembly of Functionally Adapted Microparts“ (2000-2001),
- „Frontier“ (1997-1998) and „Microfabrication with Synchrotron Radiation“ (1993-1995).

Leads the EU Digital Europe Programme (DEP) project „European Digital Innovation Hub Adriatic Croatia (EDIH Adria)“ (2023-2025) and participates to an EIT-HEI project „Inno4YUFE“ (2021-2023), an EU structural funds (ERDF) project „Research Infrastructure for Campus-based Laboratories and Centres at the University of Rijeka“ (2014-2015), the Erasmus+ projects YUFE (2019-2022) and YUFE 2030 (2022-2026) and the ESF projects „Be ready and competent“ (2023) and „STEM fairy-tale“ (2021-2022).

Principal investigator on two and investigator on one scientific project of the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports (2005-2014). Main researcher on one and participated on another project of the Croatian Science Foundation (2007-2008). Active participation and Croatian Management Committee member in the EU COST Actions „Sustainable Thermoelectrics European Network (SUSTENET)“ (2025-2029), „European Network for the Mechanics of Matter at the Nano-Scale (MecaNano)“ (2022-2026) and „Optimising Design for Inspection (ODIN)“ (2019-2024) and participation in the Action „BEEkeeping products valorization and biomonitoring for the SAFETY of BEEs and HONEY (BeSafeBeeHoney)“ (2024-2027).

National leader of a Croatia-Slovenia bilateral scientific project (2020-2022). Researcher on one project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and one project funded by the Italian Science Ministry (2005-2009). Participated in the Interreg project „Nano-region“ (2019-2022).

Main researcher on one Croatian Business Agency's technological project (2011) and leader of several technological projects with the industrial sector (2016-2021). Leads three (2019-2029) and researcher on two (2013-2019) scientific projects supported by the University of Rijeka. Leads two projects of cooperation with industry (2016-2021) and one My ZABA Start development project (2017-2018).

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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Josip Peranić, Ph.D.</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Civil Engineering</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Water and Geotechnical Engineering / Chair of Geotechnics
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research on hydro-mechanical behaviour of unsaturated soils</li> <li>▪ Integrating numerical and physical modelling</li> <li>▪ Field monitoring</li> <li>▪ SVA interaction and slope stability in hard soils and soft rocks</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Unsaturated soils</li> <li>▪ Hydro-mechanical coupling</li> <li>▪ Porous media modelling</li> <li>▪ Slope stability</li> <li>▪ Soil-vegetation-atmosphere interaction</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National funding of competitive scientific projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PI and leader of Installation Reserach Project ALAMO, 2026 - 2031</li> <li>○ Researcher on the Research project ModLandRemSS, 2018 – 2022</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Interreg project ITHR0200175 RESONANCE: impRoving landslidE riSk preventiOn aNd mAnagement iN Coastal arEas (co-funded by the EU)</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Information Science and Engineering
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Leo Škec, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Civil Engineering</a> (GRADRI)
Organisational unit / Research group	Chair of Applied Mechanics
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computational mechanics</li> <li>▪ Fracture and damage mechanics</li> <li>▪ Adhesive joints</li> <li>▪ Structural analysis</li> <li>▪ Metamaterials</li> <li>▪ Combined numerical–experimental methods for modelling and design of advanced structures</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Composite structures</li> <li>▪ Adhesive joints</li> <li>▪ Architected metamaterials</li> <li>▪ Fracture mechanics</li> <li>▪ Numerical modelling</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	Information available on the personal website (see links below)
Scientific panel	Information Science and Engineering
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Personal or Research team's website	<a href="https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/Details/846">https://portal.uniri.hr/Portfolio/Details/846</a> <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Leo-Skec">https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Leo-Skec</a>
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Marina Ivasic-Kos, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Informatics and Digital Technologies</a> <a href="#">Centre for Artificial Intelligence</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Laboratory for Pattern Recognition and Soft Computing, Laboratory for Computer Vision, Virtual and Augmented Reality
Research interests	My research interests focus on the development of AI algorithms and computer vision models in various application domains such as sports, search and rescue operations, maritime.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer vision</li> <li>▪ Deep learning</li> <li>▪ Machine learning</li> <li>▪ Object detection</li> <li>▪ Object tracking</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Horizon INNO2MARE, HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04, 2022.-2026., leader for FIDIT, WP3, T3.3,</li> <li>▪ DIGITAL4Security – European Masters Programme in Cybersecurity Management &amp; Data Sovereignty, DIGITAL EU Horizon, 2023.-2027., leader for FIDIT</li> <li>▪ Image-based AI-assisted diagnostics of canine ocular disease - AICODD, Animal Eye Consultants of Iowa, Iowa, USA, project leader;</li> <li>▪ EDIH Adria, European Digital Innovation Hub Adriatic Croatia, DIGITAL-2021-EDIH-01, 2023.-2024., WP3 leader;</li> <li>▪ HRZZ research project IP-2016-06-8345, Automatic recognition of actions and activities in the multimedia content of the sport domain - RAASS (2017-2020) - leader and principal scientist</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Information Science and Engineering
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Miroslav Joler, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Engineering</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	High-Frequency Applications Laboratory
Research interests	antenna design; antenna arrays; microwave devices; wearable electronics; wireless power transfer; bioelectromagnetics; electromagnetic modeling
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Antenna</li> <li>▪ Wave propagation</li> <li>▪ RF</li> <li>▪ Microwaves</li> <li>▪ Wireless</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	Network of Excellence for Electromagnetic Communications (CRO) // Compact, Portable, Pulsed Power (USA)
Scientific panel	Information Science and Engineering
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Paolo Blecich, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Engineering</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Thermodynamics and Energy Engineering
Research interests	AI-Energy-Climate Nexus, Renewable Energy, Energy Conversion and Management, Heat and Mass Transfer
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Energy Collection</li> <li>▪ Conversion and Storage</li> <li>▪ Renewable Energy</li> <li>▪ Artificial Intelligence</li> <li>▪ Sustainable Development and Nature Protection</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	Collaborator on Fuel Cell Integration into Ship Power Systems (UNIRI) and Enhancement of the heat exchanger energy efficiency (Croatian Science Foundation)
Scientific panel	Information Science and Engineering
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#### 4. Economic Sciences

##### SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Borna Debelić, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Maritime Studies</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Maritime Logistics and Management
Research interests	Research focused on commons governance and participatory allocation institutional analysis in the context of sustainability and coastal zone management related to transport and port systems.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commons Governance</li> <li>▪ Coastal Zone Management</li> <li>▪ Transport Economics, Port Management</li> <li>▪ Participatory Allocation</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Horizon 2020</li> <li>▪ Horizon Europe</li> <li>▪ CEF</li> <li>▪ CEF 2</li> <li>▪ Interreg</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Economic Sciences
ORCID (link)	<a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2390-8666">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2390-8666</a>
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## 5. Environmental Sciences

### SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Goran Volf, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Civil Engineering</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Water and Geotechnical Engineering
Research interests	Modelling of wastewater drainage systems, WWTPs and aquatic ecosystems; development of water quality models for drinking water and wastewater treatment, and water quality assessment.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wastewater treatment plants</li> <li>▪ Water quality models</li> <li>▪ Machine learning</li> <li>▪ Aquatic ecosystems</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	
Scientific panel	Environmental and Geosciences
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Nino Krvavica, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Civil Engineering</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Water and Geotechnical Engineering
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Compound flooding in coastal regions,</li> <li>▪ combining hydrodynamic modeling,</li> <li>▪ extreme value statistics, and</li> <li>▪ machine learning to improve prediction, risk assessment, and climate adaptation.</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hydrology</li> <li>▪ Coastal engineering</li> <li>▪ Flood risk</li> <li>▪ Compound flooding</li> <li>▪ Climate change adaptation</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bridging science and society for climate solutions - GAIA COFUND (Horizon Europe)</li> <li>▪ Compound Flooding in Coastal Croatia under Present and Future Climate - 4SeaFlood (Croatian Science Foundation)</li> <li>▪ Applied Methodology for Integrated Multi-Hazard Assessment for Climate Change Adaptation - PRIMIS (EFRD)</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Environmental and Geosciences
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## 6. Chemistry

### SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Danijela Kalafatović, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Engineering</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Department of Materials Engineering
Research interests	My research focuses on peptide chemistry and supramolecular self-assembly, developing functional peptide materials by combining experimental with computational and AI approaches.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Peptide</li> <li>▪ Self-assembly</li> <li>▪ Supramolecular</li> <li>▪ Generativeai</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	PI on the national Croatian Science Foundation projects (UIP and IP); Chair and Grant Holder Scientific Representative of the CA23111 COST action; PI on several institutional projects
Scientific panel	Chemistry
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Duško Čakara, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Biotechnology and Drug Development</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Centre for Micro- and Nanosciences and Technologies (NANORI) Centre for Micro- and Nanosciences and Technologies / Laboratory for Colloids, Polyelectrolytes and Interfaces (LCPI)
Research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ion binding to polyelectrolytes and surfaces</li> <li>▪ Optical and electronic properties of composite thin films</li> </ul>
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spectroscopic ellipsometry</li> <li>▪ Spectroscopy</li> <li>▪ Surface charge</li> <li>▪ Polyelectrolyte</li> <li>▪ Ion binding</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2024-2028: In-situ and operando organic electrochemical transistors monitored by non-destructive spectroscopies for organic CMOS-like neuromorphic circuits - ICONIC (principal investigator, : HORIZON-EIC-2023-PATHFINDEROPEN-01, GA 101129638) •</li> <li>▪ 2013-2017: Organic bioelectronics - OrgBio, FP7 Marie Curie ITN project (No. 607896), PI and work package leader</li> <li>▪ 2004: Charge-induced conformational changes of ionic polymers at charged surfaces, Swiss National Science Foundation, research project leader and winner of the postdoctoral fellowship for prospective researchers, project No. PBGE2-106924</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Chemistry
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Nela Malatesti, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Biotechnology and Drug Development</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Medicinal chemistry / PDT group
Research interests	Synthesis, characterisation and biological activity evaluation of new amphiphilic porphyrin-based photosensitisers (PSs) for anticancer and antimicrobial photodynamic therapy.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Porphyrin synthesis</li> <li>▪ Photodynamic therapy</li> <li>▪ Anticancer activity</li> <li>▪ Antimicrobial activity</li> <li>▪ Singlet oxygen</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2025-2029: NPOO UNIRI, antimicrobial and anticancer PDT, nextgenerationeu</li> <li>▪ HRZZ, anticancer PDT on melanoma</li> <li>▪ COST paneucopt Action</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Chemistry
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## 7. Mathematics

### SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Marija Maksimović, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Mathematics</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Division of Discrete Mathematics
Research interests	My research focuses on graph theory and discrete mathematics, with emphasis on the construction of new structures and study of their properties.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strongly regular graphs</li> <li>▪ Orbit matrices</li> <li>▪ Combinatorial designs</li> <li>▪ Distance-biregular graphs</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	
Scientific panel	Mathematics
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Assoc. Prof. Marijana Butorac, PhD</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Mathematics</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Division of Algebra and Number Theory
Research interests	Representation theory of affine Kac-Moody algebras: construction of Rogers-Ramanujan type combinatorial bases of highest weight modules by using the theory of vertex operator algebras.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Principal subspaces,</li> <li>▪ Affine Lie algebras,</li> <li>▪ Rogers-Ramanujan identities,</li> <li>▪ Combinatorial bases</li> </ul>
EU or national-funded project experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Croatian Science Foundation IP-2025-02-4720 - Affine Lie algebras and quantum groups, (2025-2028) project leader;</li> <li>▪ Collaborator: - 2020-2024 Quantum Current Algebras and Their Representation Theory,</li> <li>▪ Croatian Science Foundation installation research project UIP-2019-04-8488; Principal Investigator: Associate professor Slaven Kožić;</li> <li>▪ 2014-2018 Croatian Science Foundation grant 2634: Algebraic and combinatorial methods in vertex algebra theory, Principal investigator: Professor Dražen Adamović</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Mathematics
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**SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR**

Name and surname	<b>Prof. Sanja Rukavina, Ph.D.</b>
UNIRI Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Mathematics</a>
Organisational unit / Research group	Division of Discrete Mathematics
Research interests	Research interests include design theory, graph theory, and coding theory, including their interplay and their connections to other areas of mathematics, as well as mathematics education.
Keywords (max. 5) connected to research interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Combinatorial design</li> <li>▪ Graph</li> <li>▪ Automorphism group</li> <li>▪ Linear code</li> <li>▪ Mathematics education</li> </ul>
EU-funded project experience	<p>Last 5 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ESF project: Strategic Internationalisation of Graduate Studies in Mathematics and Biotechnology – OPTILIFE, 2018 – 2021, project manager at the institution;</li> <li>▪ Erasmus+ project, Enactive Learning in Mathematics at Home, 2021 – 2023, project manager at the institution;</li> <li>▪ Erasmus+ project, DiToM – Diagnostic Tools in Mathematics, 2023 – 2025, associate;</li> <li>▪ Erasmus+ project, European Classroom for Mathematics Teachers Training, 2025 – 2027, project manager at the institution</li> </ul>
Scientific panel	Mathematics
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