

April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Athens, Greece

Dear Colleague,

**<u>iNEXT-Discovery</u>** is an EU-funded 4-year project for stimulating the use of structural biology in research in Europe. The consortium consists of more than 25 academic research groups that together offer their facilities and expertise for free peer-reviewed research access to some of the most advanced facilities for structural biology.

We reach out to attract researchers without prior experience in structural biology to our services, from fields such as health, biotechnology, biomaterials and food. For novices in structural biology research, practical trainings are being offered, as well as guided research visits to our facilities. Besides access, we also offer training, workshops and prepare informative webinars and videos. Every scientist from academia and industry, even from outside Europe, can apply for our networking and access opportunities in order to stimulate their own research activities.

We recognized that life science research groups from the wider European Baltic and Balkan regions are not involved vigorously as users for similar previous projects. However, both regions are developing very strong scientific research programs, and we strongly believe they can increasingly benefit by using high-end access services, and be involved in Europe-wide discussions. We would now like to develop an inclusive, shared view on the use of structural biology in life science and chemistry. This can be used to shape the current and future European Research Area.

We therefore want to **invite you** to the first "Regional Structural Biology Meeting for Balkans and South East Mediterranean area" on the afternoon of May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This virtual meeting will ideally have participants from science, but also from policy and administration sectors, to inform everyone about the research opportunities in iNEXT-Discovery and beyond. We want to create an open platform for discussions with many different views.

We would be very grateful if you could spread this opportunity locally, so others that may be interested could also participate. This event will serve to prepare a "stakeholders document", that may be followed up in the future, by physical discussion later on in the project.

Please use this link to register.

Also on behalf of the iNEXT-Discovery Coordinator, Prof. Anastassis Perrakis and the organizing committee

Best regards, Evangelia Chrysina

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