

## OPEN CALL

COST Action **CA18202 NECTAR** – Network for Equilibria and Chemical  
Thermodynamics Advanced Research

and

**Working group 5** – NECTAR for the future: new trends and exploitation of results  
will organize the

## 1<sup>st</sup> NECTAR Training School

on

## Communication in Science

(NECTAR-SciComm)

**May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Cagliari, Sardegna, Italy**



Funded by  
the European Union

## Open Call

This is an open call aimed at recruiting 20 (twenty) students/trainees for the **1<sup>st</sup> NECTAR Training School on Communication in Science**, called NECTAR-SciComm

**NECTAR-SciComm** will be held in the botanical garden “Hortus Botanicus Karalitanus” of the University of Cagliari, at **Cagliari, Italy**, the May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Deadline for application to the training school is **April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**. Notification of acceptance will be sent not later than **April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

All the 20 (twenty) students/trainees will be recruited and financed by NECTAR COST Action CA18202 ([www.cost-nectar.eu](http://www.cost-nectar.eu), <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA18202/>), in the terms described in this document.

The main procedures regulations concerning TS for COST Actions are governed by the COST Annotated Rules ( <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2022/02/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-2022-02-15.pdf> ).

## Scopes of NECTAR-SciComm

One of the main tasks of the scientist concerns the generation of knowledge. But this is only one part of his/her work, because for this knowledge to be incorporated into science as a whole, it must be disseminated among colleagues and communicated to society.

The aim of this school is, on the one hand, to give participants a broad view of what science communication is, providing a theoretical basis for understanding this important task. On the other hand, we aim to equip students with communication tools and strategies to ensure that their scientific results reach as many colleagues as possible, as well as society as a whole.

**NECTAR-SciComm** is a 1 day training school that will take place in the unparalleled framework of Cagliari (Sardegna, Italy), in the botanical garden of the Università degli Studi di Cagliari, “Hortus Botanicus Karalitanus”. The school will be offered by NECTAR COST action in collaboration with the Department of Life and Environmental Science (DiSVA-UniCa). During the training school, plenary lectures given by the experts will deal with boosting scientific content through social media, storytelling and theoretical bases of transference of knowledge, among others.

## Scopes of NECTAR COST Action

The thermodynamic study of chemical equilibria represents the core of many important branches of chemistry, from coordination and supramolecular chemistry, to chemical speciation, to molecular modelling and drug design. The importance of chemical equilibria, and chemical thermodynamics in general, results from the simple assertion that many properties of elements and compounds depend mainly on their interactions in a given system: the biological activity of an element or molecule, or their environmental impact can be explained by a detailed study of these interactions, whose nature and strength can be evaluated by chemical equilibrium and other thermodynamic studies.

NECTAR combines the expertise of the large community of specialists working in the field of thermodynamic studies of chemical equilibria. The scopes of this Action are to create a network based on the stimulating collaboration between them, to promote knowledge exchange, and to achieve high

technological progress. All this will be accomplished through a fruitful collaboration between young researchers and experienced scientists, taking into consideration gender balance and maximal geographical distribution. Innovative and integrated theoretical and experimental approaches will be established and optimized. Overall, the outstanding quality of obtained results will serve as benchmark for next decades, allowing their application in the above-mentioned fields and substantially impacting on life quality of next generations.

For further details and specific objectives, please read the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of NECTAR COST Action: <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA18202/>.

## Purpose of COST TSs

Training Schools aim to facilitate capacity building on a topic relevant to the theme of the respective COST Action through the delivery of intensive training on a new or emerging subject. They can also offer familiarisation with unique equipment or expertise and are typically, although not exclusively, considered to be for the benefit of ECI and PhD students. They are not intended to provide general training.

## Application Procedure

All applicants must fill, scan and sign the application form (available at: [www.cost-nectar.eu](http://www.cost-nectar.eu)) and send it by email to [wg5@cost-nectar.eu](mailto:wg5@cost-nectar.eu) together with a signed copy of their CV and a motivation letter, indicating their interest in the training school, not later than **April 23<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

Application email must have subject: "NECTAR-SciComm Application Form, SURNAME NAME".

The "Motivation Letter" should contain the following information (max 1500 words):

1. Aim & Motivation - Please explain the scientific and/or other motivation for the participation to the TS and what scientific and/or other outcomes you aim to accomplish with the TS. Please include in this section a brief description of the scientific context into which TS will be an added value for your activities are to be performed (e.g. specific field of study);
2. Proposed contribution to the scientific objectives of the Action. Please include how your training will contribute to the plan of one or more WG(s) of the Action.

A CV should be submitted, drafted preferably in Europass format (max. 3 pages). A list of academic publications can be added in separate pages.

## General eligibility and evaluation criteria

NECTAR-SciComm is open to PhD students, post-docs, early career researchers and any other stakeholder interested in communication of science both to a specialised audience and to a general public. The grant applicant must be Action participants with a primary affiliation to a legal entity located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country, a COST Near Neighbour Country or a European RTD Organisation. See [Annotated Rules for COST Actions](#) for more information.

Due to the limited number of slots available, preference will be given to **young researchers**. A 20 (twenty) people will be allowed to attend NECTAR-SciComm as NECTAR Trainees.

All applicants must send a filled and signed copy of the application form, the motivation letter and the CV by email to [wg5@cost-nectar.eu](mailto:wg5@cost-nectar.eu) not later than **April 23<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. All applicants will receive a notification of the acceptance of their application not later than **April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

#### **Eligibility criteria:**

Trainees shall be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research, and belongs to a NECTAR COST Action Member Country, or is an approved NECTAR Near Neighbour Country (NNC) Institution or an approved European RTD Organization.

#### **General criteria for evaluation:**

- Priority to active members in the NECTAR COST Action (CA18202);
- Priority to TS applications of PhD students or Early Career Researchers;
- Geographical/Institutions distribution;
- Priority to applicants from ITCs;
- Gender balance;
- Motivation letter;
- Curriculum Vitae.

The selection of applicants will be performed by the Scientific Committee composed by Prof. Demetrio Milea (Action Chair), Prof. Sofia Gama (Action vice-Chair), Dr. Álvaro Martínez Camarena (WG5 Leader), MsC. Emanuele Zanda (WG5 co-Leader) Prof. Enrique García-España (NECTAR Training Schools Coordinator), Prof. Elżbieta Gumienna-Kontecka (Science Communication Manager) and Dr. Rosita Cappai.

#### **Trainee/Students reimbursement**

After the notification of the acceptance, NECTAR trainees will need to formalize their trainee status online on their e-COST account.

Reimbursement will be given according to the [Annotated Rules for COST Actions](#), with a daily allowance fixed by the NECTAR Action Management Committee at a maximum of 140 €/day.

#### **TS Reporting**

Within 30 days from the end date of the TS, all the trainees must submit the dissemination material elaborated during the training school, directly to [wg5@cost-nectar.eu](mailto:wg5@cost-nectar.eu) and to the WG5 leader Dr. Álvaro Martínez Camarena ([alvaro.martinez@uv.es](mailto:alvaro.martinez@uv.es)). **Failure to submit the dissemination materials within 30 days from the end date of the TS will effectively cancel the Grant.**

## Deadlines

Relevant dates are as follows:

- **April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023:** deadline for submission of TS applications
- **April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** notification of selected trainees/students

## Committees

### Scientific Committee

Prof. Demetrio Milea (Action Chair)  
Prof. Sofia Gama (Action vice-Chair)  
Dr. Álvaro Martínez-Camarena (WG5 Leader)  
MSc. Emanuele Zanda (WG5 co-Leader)  
Prof. Enrique García-España (TSM)  
Prof. Elżbieta Gumienna-Kontecka (SCM)  
Dr. Rosita Cappai

### Organisation Committee

Prof. Valeria Nurchi  
Dr. Rosita Cappai  
Dr. Álvaro Martínez-Camarena  
Prof. Guido Crisponi  
MSc. Alessandra Fantasia  
Prof. Demetrio Milea  
Prof. Sofia Gama  
Prof. Elżbieta Gumienna-Kontecka  
MSc. Emanuele Zanda  
MSc. Giuseppina Santonoceta  
Dr. Alicia Domínguez-Martín

## Contacts

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### Dr. Rosita Cappai – Organising Committee

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