

# Brief Biographical Notes of the Candidates for the 2022 – 2024 Governing Council and Auditors of the Hellenic Astronomical Society

## I. PRESIDENT

Βασίλης Χαρμανδάρης – <b>Vassilis Charmandaris (incumbent)</b>	
	<p>Vassilis Charmandaris completed his undergraduate studies in Physics at the University of Thessaloniki in 1989 and his PhD in Astrophysics at Iowa State University (USA) in 1995. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher at CEA/Saclay (France) in 1996, followed by a Marie Curie fellowship at Paris Observatory (1997-1999), and a research associate position at the Astronomy Department of Cornell University (1999-2005). In 2005 he joined the faculty of the Dept. of Physics at the Univ. of Crete, where he is currently a Professor of Observational Astrophysics. He served as the Director of IAASARS at the National Observatory of Athens (2013-2018). Since March 2019 he is the Director of the Institute of Astrophysics at FORTH and Director of Skinakas Observatory. During the period of 2006-2010 he was the Secretary of Hel.A.S. He has served in various international committees including ESA's Astronomy Working Group (2019-2021) and the Haute Comité Scientifique of Paris Observatory (2015-2020). He is currently a member of the Scientific Council of INSU/CNRS (since 2019), the national representative and Vice-Chair at the Board of Directors of Astronomy &amp; Astrophysics (since 2013 and 2021 respectively) as well as Vice-Chair of Board of the OPTICON RadioNet Pilot Horizon Europe program (since 2021). His research interests are in observational extragalactic astrophysics focusing on the star formation and AGN properties of luminous infrared galaxies, using space infrared and millimeter observations to probe their gas and dust content. He has published over 230 refereed papers which have received over 16,000 citations (h-index=66, NASA/ADS)</p>
	<p><b>Work Address:</b> Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Crete, GR-71003, Heraklion, Greece</p> <p><b>Phone No.:</b> +30-2810-394216</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:vassilis@physics.uoc.gr">vassilis@physics.uoc.gr</a></p> <p><b>Webpage:</b> <a href="http://www.physics.uoc.gr/~vassilis">http://www.physics.uoc.gr/~vassilis</a></p>

## II. BOARD MEMBERS

### Γεώργιος Μπαλάσης – **George Balassis**



I am a Research Director of the Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) at the National Observatory of Athens (NOA). I received a BSc in Physics from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) in 1995, followed by an MSc by Research with Distinction in Geophysics from the University of Edinburgh (UK) in 1997, an MSc in Condensed Matter Physics in 1998 and a PhD in Applied Electromagnetism in 2001 both from the NKUA. From 2002 to 2006 I was the specialist for global electromagnetic induction in the CHAMP satellite team at GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam (Germany). I returned to Greece in 2006 as an Assistant Researcher of the former Institute for Space Applications and Remote Sensing (ISARS) at NOA, where I have been responsible for the establishment, installation and operation of the Hellenic GeoMagnetic Array (ENIGMA) and for its access to the SuperMAG worldwide collaboration of ground-based magnetometers. ENIGMA is the first magnetometer station array that has ever operated in Greece. My research interests lie mainly in space physics (Sun-Earth connection, dynamics of the magnetosphere, space weather, geomagnetic field), and complex systems. I am also involved in magnetic satellite missions, and in particular I am a member of the Validation Team of the Swarm satellite mission of the European Space Agency (ESA) and Principal Investigator of the Swarm Mission Science Exploration. I have published 1 book, 6 book chapters and 70 refereed papers, which have received 2200+ citations (h-index=27). I serve as an Editor for the following journals: Annales Geophysicae, Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences, Atmosphere and Geosciences. I serve as Co-Chair of the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) Division III - Magnetospheric Phenomena and member of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) Commission on Geophysical Risk and Sustainability (GeoRisk).

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**Κωνσταντίνος Νεκτάριος Γουργουλιάτος – Konstantinos Nektarios Gourgouliatos  
(incumbent)**



Assistant Professor at the Department of Physics of the University of Patras. He received his B.Sc. in Physics from the University of Patras in 2004, he completed Part III of the Mathematical Tripos at the Department of Applied Mathematics of the University of Cambridge in 2005 and he received his PhD from the University of Cambridge in 2009. He has worked as a Post-Doctoral Researcher at Purdue University (2009-2012), McGill University (2012-2014), University of Leeds (2015-2017) and he was an Assistant Professor at Durham University (2017-2019). He joined the University of Patras in October 2019 as an

Assistant Professor. He is an honorary fellow at the Department of Mathematical Sciences of Durham University and a research visitor at the School of Mathematics of the University of Leeds. His research interests are Theoretical and Computational Astrophysics. He focuses on Relativistic Magnetohydrodynamics with main applications on neutron stars and astrophysical jets. He has published 45 refereed papers and his work has received more than 900 citations.

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## Θανάσης Παπαϊωάννου – Athanasios Papaioannou



Athanasios Papaioannou is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) of the National Observatory of Athens (NOA). He obtained his B. Sc. in Physics in 2005, a M.Sc. focusing on Nuclear and Particle Physics in 2008 and his Ph.D. in Physics in 2012, from the Department of Physics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). Since then he worked as a Postdoctoral Researcher at IAASARS/NOA and at NKUA. He has been a Visiting Researcher at the Christian-Albrechts-Universitat zu Kiel (Germany), the University of Turku (Finland), the Institute of Terrestrial Magnetism, Ionosphere and Radiowave Propagation by N.V. Pushkov RAS (IZMIRAN) (Russia) and at the Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). In 2018 he was elected as an Associate Researcher and in 2021 he was promoted to a Senior Researcher at IAASARS/NOA. His research interests lie mainly in Space Physics, Heliosphysics and Cosmic rays (CRs) of both galactic (GCRs) and solar (SCRs) origin (Convection, Diffusion and Acceleration of Particles in the Heliosphere; Sun-Earth connection processes; Space Weather; Exoplanetary Radiation Environment; Forbush decreases; Development of data driven models for the prediction of solar energetic particles). He has published 54 peer reviewed papers, which have received 1390+ citations (h-index=22). Currently, he serves as the Vice-chair of COSPAR's sub-Commission D1: The Heliosphere and as the Section Editorial Board Member for the Solar System, of the Universe journal, (2021-today). He was the recipient of a Postdoctoral State Foundation Scholarship (2017-2018), a Liaison Officer, European Geosciences Union (EGU) Solar-Terrestrial Division (2014-2019), the Team Leader of the HEROIC ISSI International Team (2018-2020), an Associate Editor of a Topical Issue for J. Space Weather & Space Climate (2017), an invited NASA Reviewer Panellist (2019) and a reviewer of Research Proposals for the NASA Postdoctoral Program (NPP) (2018 - ). He is a member of the Modelling & Data Analysis Working Group (MADAWG) for the European Space Agency (ESA) Solar Orbiter mission.

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## Ηλίας Κουλουρίδης - Elias Koulouridis



Elias Koulouridis received his Physics Degree in 2003, his MSc in Theoretical, Computational Physics and Astrophysics in 2005 and his PhD in Astrophysics from the University of Patras in 2009. In 2010 he was granted a Postdoctoral State Foundation Scholarship. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher and then a fellow in the National Astronomical Observatory of Athens until 2015. During the period 2015-2019 he worked as a senior postdoctoral researcher in the Astrophysics department of CEA/Saclay in France. In 2019 he joined IAASARS/NOA as an Associate Researcher. He is also the chair of the

Time Allocation Committee of the Aristarchos 2.3m Telescope in Helmos observatory. He is a member of large international collaborations and missions such as the XXL survey, the Athena X-ray mission and Euclid.

His expertise lies mainly in X-ray and Optical Astronomy and his research interests are Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN), the Large Scale Structure of the Universe, clusters of galaxies and cosmology. He has published more than 50 papers in high-impact international peer-reviewed journals that have received more than 1000 citations.

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**Μαρία Πετροπούλου – Maria Petropoulou**



Assistant Professor at the Department of Physics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). She received her B.Sc. in Physics in 2008 and her PhD degree in Physics in 2014, both from the Department of Physics of NKUA. She received the prize for the Best PhD Thesis from the Hellenic Astronomical Society in 2015 and the Fondation MERAC in 2016. She worked as an Einstein Fellow (2013-2016) and a Postdoctoral Research Associate (2016-2017) at the Department of Physics and Astronomy of Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA.

She then moved to the Department of Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University, New Jersey, USA, where she worked as Lyman Jr. Spitzer Postdoctoral Fellow (2017-2020). She joined the Department of Physics of NKUA in 2020 as Assistant Professor. Her research interests lie in the field of high-energy and multi-messenger astrophysics and include radiative processes in astrophysical plasmas, particle acceleration processes, cosmic-ray and neutrino production processes. In 2021 she received the L'Oréal-UNESCO Award for Women in Science for her research. She has published 72 articles in peer-reviewed journals and her work has received ~2100 citations (h-index 27). She has given more than 30 invited talks in international conferences and workshops.

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**Κωνσταντίνος Τάσσης – Konstantinos Tassis (incumbent)**

Konstantinos Tassis is an associate professor with the Physics department of the University of Crete since 2015. He obtained his B.Sc. in Physics, with honours from the University of Thessaloniki in 1999, his M. Sc. (2001) and PhD (2005) in Astronomy, at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. During 2005-2008, 2008-2011, he worked as a post-doctoral scholar at NASA, JPL, and as a visiting Scientist at the Max Plank Institute for Radio Astronomy (Bonn, Germany) respectively. From 2012 he is at the University of Crete, first as a Marie Curie Fellow (2011-2012) then as an Assistant professor since 2015. His research interest includes the physics of the Interstellar medium; Magnetic Star Formation; Interstellar Chemistry; Polarimetry; Cosmology;

(Structure Formation, Galaxy Formation and Evolution; Dynamics of the Intra-cluster Medium); and Observations (Tests of Star Formation and ISM Theories; Dusty Plasmas). He has 62 publications in peer review papers and more than 2000 citations (h-index: 28). Selected funding: ERC Consolidator Grant (2018-2023), Marie Curie fellowship, (2017-2019), Stavros Niarchos foundation (2016-2019). Selected awards: 2019 FORTH Researcher Award; 2008 NASA Postdoctoral Program Fellowship (declined); 2004-2005 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, U. Illinois; 2001 Award for Excellence in Teaching, U. Illinois; 1999-2000, Graduate College Fellowship, U. Illinois; 1999-2002 Graduate Studies in Astronomy Fellowship, Greek State, Scholarships Foundation; 1994-1999.

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### III. AUDITORS

#### Ιωάννης Αντωνιάδης – John Antoniadis



Associate researcher at the Institute of Astrophysics - FORTH. He obtained his BSc in Physics in 2009 from the University of Thessaloniki and his PhD from the University of Bonn in 2013. After completing his thesis he was a postdoc at the Max-Planck-Institute for Radioastronomy (MPIfR) during 2013-14 before moving to the Univ. of Toronto (Canada) as a Dunlap Fellow. He returned to Bonn as a postdoc at MPIfR until 2018 and then he became a Research Fellow at MPIfR and a lecturer at the Argelander Institute for Astronomy, University of Bonn. He joined IA-FORTH in 2021. Formation and evolution of compact stars, supernovae, binary neutron stars, radio pulsars, tests of fundamental physics, equation-of-state of nuclear matter.

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## Όμιλος Γιαννακίς – Omiros Giannakis



Omiros Giannakis is a Senior Research Scientist at the Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) of the National Observatory of Athens. He obtained his B. Sc. in 1998, a M.Sc. in 2001 and his Ph.D. in 2008, from the University of Athens. He is working at IAAARS of the NOA first as a Research Assistant (2000-2005), then as a Research Support Specialist (2006-2017) and now as a Senior Research Scientist (2017-present). His areas of expertise include the processing and analysis of space-borne datasets from space missions, the effects on space

electronics and science instruments, the shielding simulations and optimization; Software interfacing Geant4 with space environment and/or effects tools (e.g., SPENVIS); Single Event Effects (SEE) simulation; AI/ML techniques. He has 13 refereed publications with more than 200 citations (h-index: 7). He is PI and PC Deputy of several projects founded by ESA and the European Commission (H2020), such as *“Linking data and publications in ESA’s Science Archives Publications System (LPUB-SAPS)”* (2017-2021), *“arTificial intelligenCe To lInk publiCations wIth observAtions (TACTICIAN)”* (2017-2023), *“Geant4-based Particle Simulation Facility in Greece for Future Science Mission Support (G4G)”* (2018-2022) and *“Radiation Belt Environmental Indicators for the Safety of Space Assets (SafeSpace)”* (2020-2023). He is a Certified Evaluator of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of Greece (GSRT); Certified Evaluator of the Research Promotion Foundation of Cyprus (RPF). He has teaching experience as Lecturer at the “Space Science Technologies and Applications” Master of Science of the department of Informatics and Telecommunications of the University of the Peloponnese (2017-2019).

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**Μιρέλλα Χαρσούλα – Mirella Harsoula**



Senior Researcher at the Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics (RCAAM) of the Academy of Athens. She was born in Athens. She received her Diploma in Physics from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 1989, her M.Sc in Astrophysics from University Paul Sabatier in Toulouse (France) in 1990 and her Ph.D. in Astronomy from the Department of Astronomy, Astrophysics and Mechanics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 1999. Her research interests are Dynamical Astronomy, Galactic Dynamics and Nonlinear Phenomena. She has

published more than 50 papers in referred journals and conference proceedings. She has participated in more than 20 conferences with oral presentation of her work. She has participated in many funded and non-funded projects of the Academy of Athens as well as in International projects. She is a member of two doctoral dissertation committees. She is an ordinary member of Hel.A.S (Hellenic Astronomical Society) and member of the IAU (International Astronomical Union) . She often gives talks in schools, universities and institutes for supporting the public outreach of astronomy. She is married and have two daughters.

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