

JOB 1: Early Stage Researcher ESR B3 Biogeography Institute/ Supervisor Giessen Title *Drivers*
Christian Albrecht

of Pontocaspian biodiversity Rise and Demise: satellite regions

as source/sinks of Pontocaspian biota

Summary The Justus Liebig University Giessen is looking for prospective candidates with a background in phylogenetics and biogeography and an interest in interdisciplinary palaeoenvironmental and biodiversity research in the Pontocaspian region (Black Sea, Caspian Sea and Anatolia and surroundings). **Description** The successful candidate will be employed as researcher without a PhD and enrolled as PhD student to complete a PhD thesis within the contract period of 3 years to assess the role of satellite regions (Anatolian and possibly Balkan lake systems) in the evolution of Pontocaspian biota over the past 3 Ma. Lakes and Quaternary lake deposits in Anatolia and the Balkans contain various groups of Pontocaspian taxa. However, it remains largely unknown whether these satellite areas served as sink or source (cf. refuges) for Pontocaspian biota. Combined molecular phylogenetic analyses of extant Pontocaspian species from Anatolian and Balkan lakes with a rigorous updated study of fossil occurrences and their depositional/geochemical context in these lake basins will allow testing their role as sinks and/or sources. The environmental context of biotic change in selected lake successions will be determined through sedimentological and geochemical analyses and compared with ostracod data through parallel projects. The successful applicant will test the role of selected satellite regions as sources/sinks of Pontocaspian biota using fossil-calibrates molecular clock approaches and phylogeographical analyses (gene flow analyses and ancestral area reconstructions). This project will include a combined secondment at Naturalis Biodiversity Center and GiMaRIS in Leiden (NL) to study fossil molluscs and to train for conservation biodiversity assessment techniques. The candidate will enroll in an extensive Network Training Program. **Research Fields** Comparative biogeography, phylogeography, biodiversity, paleontology, Biostratigraphy **Career Stage** Early stage researcher or 04 yrs (Post graduate) **Research Profiles** First Stage Researcher (R1) **Type of contract** Temporary employment with the Federal State of Hesse. Full time 40 hrs/wk **Salary** a month/year

A salary that matches the MSCAITN and local rules, a monthly mobility allowance of 600, gross and a possible monthly family allowance of 500, gross. **Benefits** In accordance with Marie Skłodowska Curie Regulations **Information about the Marie Skłodowska Curie actions** is available at <http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/> http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/aboutmsca/quickguide/index_en.htm

Financial and other technical information is available at http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/aboutmsca/actions/itn/index_en.htm

www.pontocaspian.eu

Address details of workplace Department of Animal Ecology and Systematics Systematics and Biodiversity Group Justus Liebig University Giessen H.-Buff-Ring 26-32 (IFZ) D-35392 Giessen, Germany **Specific demands from your country/ institute** Ability to work in an internationally oriented environment, including fluency in English **M.Sc. in relevant field** Applicants are invited to submit the following documents: Letter of application (max 2 pages); Resume (Curriculum vitae); The names, position and e-mail addresses of at least two persons that can be contacted for reference; List of publications, including submitted

manuscripts or papers in press, if any; Transcript of BSc and MSc diploma. The required documents should be submitted by email to sollicitaties@naturalis.nl before 16 April 2015.