

KIOS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Special Scientist for Research – Research Associates (Robotic and Learning Systems)

Title	: Special Scientist for Research (Research Associate)
No. of Positions	: Two (2)
Category	: Employment contract
Location	: University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus

The KIOS Research and Innovation Center of Excellence (www.kios.ucy.ac.cy) at the University of Cyprus announces two (2) Special Scientist for Research (**Research Associate**) positions, focusing on **Robotic and Learning Systems**, for full-time employment. The successful candidates are expected to conduct top-quality research on collaborative drone operations (including cooperative aerial robotic flight planning, task execution and reasoning, as well as cooperative distributed control) with applications in urban air mobility and disaster management.

Who we are:

The **KIOS Research and Innovation Center of Excellence** is the largest research center at the University of Cyprus and in 2017 was upgraded to a European Research Center of Excellence through the KIOS CoE Teaming project. Currently, the Center employs more than 200 people who are supported by externally funded research and innovation projects. The KIOS CoE operates in a diverse environment as an equal opportunity employer.

What we do:

KIOS provides an inspiring environment for carrying out top level research and innovation in the area of Information and Communication Technologies, with emphasis on the Monitoring, Control and Security of Critical Infrastructures. Such infrastructures include power and energy systems, water networks, transportation networks, telecommunication networks and emergency management and response. The Center instigates interdisciplinary interaction and promotes collaboration between industry, academia, and research organizations in high-tech areas of global importance.

Why work at KIOS:

You will have the opportunity to work on various high-profile projects with great impact on society and the environment, not only on a local but also on a global scale.

In KIOS we strive to create a multicultural, diverse and inclusive workplace and we strongly support the continuous personnel evolvement and development, both personally and professionally, to fulfill your long-term goals. We offer internal and external professional training, covering both technical and soft skills.

Job Details

The successful candidates are expected to contribute to one or more of the following tasks:

- Conduct research in the area of multi-robotic systems, within the context of research and/or innovation projects.
- Use machine learning techniques including reinforcement learning, physics-informed neural

networks (PINNs), and transformers for robot tasks and scenarios that are adaptable and reusable to exploit acquired knowledge and tools.

- Develop next-generation autonomous systems for effective, safe, and secure operation during multi-robot system (MRS) missions, enhancing overall operational performance.
- Execute simulation-based scenarios using ROS-Gazebo for dataset generation, training, testing, and evaluation of novel algorithms.
- Implement and field-test state-of-the-art drone fleets using both open-source (Ardupilot/PX4) and proprietary (DJI) flight controller platforms.
- Provide technical expertise for the development and implementation of multi-robotic systems.
- Collaborate with external partners, including industry and first responder organizations, to evaluate newly developed technologies in these areas.
- Engage in the preparation of research and/or innovation proposals.
- Prepare reports and project deliverables.

Profile of the ideal candidate:

- Attention to detail
- Problem solving skills
- Team-player
- Reliable and trustworthy
- Flexible and eager to learn
- Able to adapt in a fast-paced dynamic environment
- Have good communication, organizational and self-management skills
- Excellent knowledge of the English language

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's or/and Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering or Computer Engineering or a related field from an accredited institution.
- Doctorate degree or equivalent in the subject areas directly related to Information and Communication Technologies or Engineering and Technology or Natural and Applied sciences or other relevant degree from an accredited institution.

Employment Terms:

The positions are on a contract basis. Initially, a one-year contract will be offered, with a 6-month probation period, which is renewable based on performance. The gross monthly salary depends on the candidate's qualifications and experience and will be between €2300 - €3500. From this amount, employee contributions to the Cyprus government funds will be deducted. A 13th salary bonus is incorporated in the monthly salary. Maternity leave will be granted based on Maternity Protection Law 1997(N.100(I)/1997), and the existing amendment laws.

Application:

Interested candidates should submit the following items online through the link:

<https://applications.ucy.ac.cy/recruitment>

- Cover letter explaining the interest of the applicant in pursuing a career at the KIOS CoE, along with employment availability date, in English
- Short summary of prior work experiences, activities and accomplishments (can be combined with the cover letter), in English (2 pages maximum)
- A detailed curriculum vitae in English
- Copies of transcripts of BSc/MSc/PhD or other degree(s)

- Copy of an English language certificate
- Identify at least two referees that can provide reference letters

The applications should be submitted as soon as possible, but not later than **Friday, 27th of February 2026, at 5 pm**. The evaluation of the applications will begin immediately. At least the best three candidates per position that satisfy the required qualifications will be interviewed by a 3-member Selection Committee. **Candidates will be informed of the result of their application by the KIOS CoE.**

Applicants need not be citizens of the Republic of Cyprus. Applicants should however ensure, before applying, that in case they are selected they will be residing in Cyprus on a full-time basis during the employment period and submission of application implies acceptance of this condition. The employment of persons who have reached the age of 65 years old, at the commencement date of employment, is prohibited.

The University of Cyprus shall collect and process your personal data according to the provisions of the General Regulation on Personal Data 2016/679 (EU).

The University of Cyprus (UCY) is committed to promoting inclusivity, diversity, and equality, as well as the elimination of all forms of discrimination in order to provide a fair, safe, and pleasant environment for the entire university community, where students and staff members will feel supported both in their professional and personal development, within and beyond their multiple identities. To this end, UCY seeks to create the necessary conditions that will encourage and respect diversity and ensure dignity both in the workplace and society at large. Moreover, UCY has adopted specific policies to promote equal opportunities, as well as respect and understanding of diversity, while it is committed to promoting and maintaining a working, teaching, and learning environment, free from any form of discrimination, whether direct or indirect.

For more information, please contact the KIOS Center of Excellence, by phone at +357 22893460 or via e-mail at kioshiring@ucy.ac.cy.