



Position description

RESARCHER IN HISTORY AND EPIGRAPHY OF THE ANCIENT GREEK WORLD

GYMNASIA PROJECT

Gymnases et culture athlétique en Asie Mineure occidentale et méridionale
aux époques hellénistique et impériale

Gymnasien und athletische Kultur im Westen und Süden Kleinasiens
in Hellenismus und Kaiserzeit

— The Position

Resarcher in History and Epigraphy of the Ancient Greek World

The person recruited will participate in the work of the project « *GymnAsia. Gymnases et culture athlétique en Asie Mineure occidentale et méridionale aux époques hellénistique et impériale* » [Gymnasiums and athletic culture in Western and Southern Asia Minor in the Hellenistic and Imperial periods], directed by Pierre FRÖHLICH (Institut Ausonius – Université Bordeaux Montaigne) and Christof SCHULER (Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik, DAI, Munich), funded by the ANR and the DFG (2021-2023).

— **Deadline** : February 25, 2021

— **Beginning of the contract** : April 01, 2021

— Description of the position

■ Scientific Background

The project is devoted to the study of the material and institutional forms of agonistic and gymnasial culture in the Greek cities of Asia Minor from the 4th century BC to the 3rd century AD.

The Hellenistic and imperial periods saw athletic contests thrive: they increased in number from the middle of the third century BC, particularly in Asia Minor, and reached their peak in the imperial period. The precondition for this phenomenon was the generalization of athletic training, so that the gymnasium as an institution and a building became a symbol of civic life in Greek cities. As places for athletic and military training, education, sociability, and the transmission of civic practices and values, gymnasiums were a major preoccupation of Greek cities as well as a financial burden. During six centuries of history, they also underwent many transformations and mutations, in their use, their meaning and their form, but many of these are not well understood, such as for example the place that the baths and thermal culture took in these buildings. As institutional, architectural and cultural phenomena, gymnasias and contests constitute a privileged observatory to examine the evolutions of the civic societies in the long term. The objective is to conduct a systematic study of these phenomena in Western and Southern Asia Minor during the Hellenistic and Roman Imperial

Periods. This area offers an unparalleled record of sources and a variety of cultural and historical situations: regions of ancient Greek colonization, indigenous communities that adopted the city way of life, with very different rhythms and modalities, as well as Hellenistic and Roman foundations. The chosen area therefore enables us to study the above-mentioned phenomena in a nuanced way and to make a representative contribution to the general history of gymnasia in the Greek world.

Both the collection of documentation and the problems of the project were tested by the two teams in Bordeaux and Munich in an experimental phase, dedicated to Caria and Lycia. Joint funding from the National Research Agency (ANR) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) enables its extension to the western and southern parts of Asia Minor (from Troy to Cilicia). The project brings together twenty-five researchers, epigraphic and numismatic historians, archaeologists and digital humanities specialists, mainly in Bordeaux and Munich.

The data collected will be published in a database currently being developed in Bordeaux, which will serve as the basis for the publication of a monograph. A presentation of the project in its current state can be found on the website: <https://gymnasia.huma-num.fr/>

■ Missions

The person recruited will participate in the collection of written data, mainly epigraphic, and their input into the VRE (Virtual Research Environment) piloted by Ausonius' digital humanities department, AusoHNum. She will also be involved in their scientific analysis and in the publication of the results.

She will be based in Bordeaux, in close liaison with AusoHNum, but will work closely with Pierre Fröhlich, Christof Schuler and the other collaborators of the project.

■ Expected Profile

- The person must hold a doctorate in ancient history, specialising in Greek history. A very solid knowledge of Greek epigraphy is expected.
- Expertise in the themes of the project and/or on the Hellenistic and Imperial periods would be appreciated.
- A technical knowledge of databases and digital humanities would be expected, at least at an elementary level.
- As the position is located in Bordeaux, a good knowledge of French (minimum level B2) is required.
- A minimum knowledge of German would be appreciated.

— Practical conditions

■ Type of contract

- 36-month fixed-term contract
- Salary: **2324€** gross monthly

■ Application Procedures

Applications (CV + covering letter) should be sent to **Pierre FRÖHLICH** (pierre.frohlich@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr) **before February 25, 2021.**