

Symeres is the leading mid-sized transatlantic contract research organization for drug discovery and development needs. With over 700 highly educated scientists and professionals in six locations in Europe and two in the USA, we offer best-in-class solutions for drug discovery and drug development, from small- to medium-sized molecule hits. We are large enough to matter, and small enough to care. Our services span across early stage hit finding all the way to the delivery of your early clinical drug substance API. Making molecules matter. Together.

Our location in Groningen is offering a PhD position for a project on “Deracemization of  $\alpha$ -acyl amino acids catalyzed by racemases under flow conditions in deep eutectic solvents” in collaboration with Graz University of Technology, Austria.

## PhD Fellow/Candidate

### Full-time

The main part of your doctoral research (25 months) will take place in Groningen under the supervision of Dr. Ton Vries (Head of Innovation and Technology at Symeres). However, the first 11 months of the research will be carried out at Graz University of Technology (Austria, with Prof. Robert Kourist).

Your PhD degree will be awarded by Graz University of Technology, Austria, based on the successful completion of research work. You will also be required to participate in training and workshops organized by the DECADES doctoral network. As a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions fellow, you are also expected to contribute your time to disseminating your project’s results through public engagement and other scientific platforms.

The PhD research will focus on the production and characterization of *N*-acyl amino acid racemases (NAAARs), immobilization for flow-chemistry purposes, and the design of the deracemization of  $\alpha$ -acyl amino acids in deep eutectic solvents.

### Qualifications

- The applicant should have completed a master’s degree (before the start of recruitment around September 2023) in chemistry or a related discipline.
- The applicant should show interest in conducting a research project independently and should enjoy working in an international, interdisciplinary environment.
- The applicant should be creative, enthusiastic, and a team player.
- Knowledge of biochemistry and/or biocatalysis is highly rated.
- Interest in flow chemistry is desirable.
- At the time of recruitment, the applicant must not have a doctoral degree, and must not have resided (or carried out their main activity, e.g., work, studies, etc.) in the Netherlands for more than 12 months in the last 3 years immediately prior to the reference recruitment date.
- The applicant should have an excellent command of the English language (spoken and written).

### **Job offer**

An exciting position in a dynamic organization. The salary consists of a monthly living allowance; in addition, researchers recruited within the MSCA-DN program are entitled to receive a monthly mobility allowance and, if applicable, a family allowance, depending on marital status. The family status of a researcher will be determined at the date of (first) recruitment in the action but can be changed during the action lifetime.

### **Application**

If you are interested in doing a PhD and gaining knowledge in the fields of biocatalysis and flow chemistry, you can apply before June 1, 2023. Please send an email with your CV and short motivation letter to Recruitment, Marga Vos-Ensing by email: [marga.vosensing@Symeres.com](mailto:marga.vosensing@Symeres.com).

***Acquisition based on this advertisement is not appreciated***