

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE POSITION OF EASN NATIONAL CONTACT POINT FOR GREECE

Personal details and motivation

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I am a 35-year-old tenured Assistant Professor conducting fundamental and applied research in aircraft and UAV layout design, aerodynamic analysis, and flight testing, with particular emphasis on disruptive Blended-Wing-Body (BWB) configurations and AI-aided design and optimization methods. I am the author of 25 journal publications and 41 conference papers (h-index/citations: Scopus 16/882, Scholar 16/1307) and have participated in the clean-sheet design, development and flight testing of 10 fixed-wing UAV prototypes, with wingspans between 2m to 11m and a GTOW between 10kg to 650kg. These achievements have been made possible through my participation in several competitive research projects funded through national and EU programmes, as well as in direct collaborations with international industry, securing €410k in direct funding as Principal Investigator. These activities have enabled me to establish collaborations with academic and research institutions across Greece, Europe, and the United States. My engagement with EASN began ten years ago, when I participated as a presenter at the 6th EASN International Conference in Porto. Since then, my involvement has steadily grown, and I have had the honor of chairing the UAV sessions at the EASN conferences in 2022, 2024, 2025, and 2026. Through this long-standing engagement, and as a proud EASN member, I have become familiar with the people, the vision, the activities and the broader objectives of the Association and I strongly identify with EASN's commitment to strengthening collaboration and knowledge exchange within the European aeronautics research community.

Current position

Assistant Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH), Thessaloniki, Greece (2022 – today, tenured in 2025)

Projects/grants

As PI	Three grants awarded, after submitting research proposals in competitive calls co-funded by European and National funds and one project in direct collaboration with Prius Intelli LLC, USA
As partner	Participation in 18 projects since 2014, co-funded by European and National funds, as well as in direct collaboration with industrial partners from Greece, Europe, and the United States.

Partnerships

Universities/Research institutes	Bauhaus Luftfahrt, ISAE Supaero, ONERA, DLR, NLR, CIRA, University of New Mexico Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Systems Design Laboratory Georgia Tech
Industrial partners	ORENDA Canada, MTU Aero Engines, Rolls-Royce Deutschland, Collins Aerospace, Safran S.A., Embention, Hirth engines, Hellenic Aviation Industry (HAI), Cadence BETA CAE

Other notable activities (selected)

International recognition and distinctions	Nominated and attended the 2026 International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) on Research Security and International Science Collaboration, funded by the Department of State, USA
Research groups supervision	Supervising the Aristotle Space and Aeronautics Team that develops activities and excels in the design and testing of small-scale UAV design and high-power Rockets
PhD students supervision	Supervising four PhD students and co-supervising one PhD student as member of a three-person committee