# Tender To Award An Encouragement Of Mediterranean Sea Research Scholarship To Students Holding Advanced Degrees (Master’s, Doctorate) And Post Doctorate In Partner Institutions In The Mediterranean Sea Research Center For Israel -

# Year A 5771

# Tender No.: 7/2

# The Tender By-laws

# Definitions

The Center: The Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel;

The Partner Institutions: The Partner Institutions in the Center, as defined above and detailed below, are: University of Haifa, the Technion, the Weizmann Institute of Science, Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv University, Ben Gurion University, the Hebrew University, The Ruppin Academic Center, IDC Herzliya, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research.

Teaching Committee: A Committee operating within the framework of the Center, whereby its primary activity is to encourage advanced degree students in the research and teaching field relating to Mediterranean Sea research, and this by providing scholarships for excellence, for research, focused and interdisciplinary workshops in Israel, enrichment courses overseas, study cruises on the Mediterranean Sea and such like.

The Effective Date: December 31, 2020 at 08:00 or another date to be published by the Center.

The Scholarship: The Mediterranean sea research scholarship will award up to 10 scholarships of amounts to be determined by the Center and which will not exceed NIS 10,000 (in words: Ten Thousand New Shekels).

# Interpretation

1. In any event of a conflict and/or discrepancy between the provisions in these by-laws and other publications pertaining to the tender, including, but not limited to, publications through the media, the provisions in these by-laws will prevail for all senses and purposes.

# Introduction

1. The Center and the Partner Institutions comprising it are interested in awarding scholarships to candidates holding advanced degrees who are interested in executing, during the course of the 5771 (2020-2021) academic year, research associated with Mediterranean sea research or the effects on the Mediterranean sea from technological or environmental science aspects.
2. The scholarship will be given by the parent institution that the student attends, as a direct scholarship and will serve for the purpose of the student’s research (such as - purchasing materials, scientific equipment and/or travel).
3. The purpose of these by-laws is to determine rules to apply to the Tender to receive the scholarship.

# Rules To Participate In The Tender

1. Participating in the Tender is contingent upon fulfilling the following accumulative conditions:
	1. The candidate is an active student for a Master’s/ Doctorate / Post Doctorate degree at one of the Partner Institutions as defined above.
	2. The candidate’s proposed research will be associated with the Mediterranean Sea research or the effects on the Mediterranean Sea from technological or environmental science aspects.
	3. The proposed research is expected to be conducted during the course of the 5771 (2020-2021) academic year.
	4. The candidacy was submitted by the last date to submit candidacy.
2. Receipt of the scholarship is subject to the winning candidate registering as an active student in one of the Partner Institutions in the Center and receipt of signed confirmation from the institution in which the winning candidate studies in the format of Appendix B of these by-laws.
3. Submitting a candidacy to the Tender means consenting to these by-laws conditions unconditionally.

# The Manner To Submit Candidacy

1. Candidacy will be submitted no later than the effective date as defined above, to the Center, via email to: merci@univ.haifa.ac.il
2. The candidacy will contain the following documents:
3. A detailed letter stating how the candidate’s research is associated with Mediterranean Sea research and why the Center should support the funding thereof;
4. The candidate’s Curriculum Vitae;
5. A list of the candidate’s publications, if applicable;
6. Valid approval of studies from one of the Partner Institutions;
7. The candidate’s grades sheet for students of a Master’s Degree 1st year – Bachelor’s Degree grade sheet; for students in 2nd year - current grade sheet up to the current semester; for Doctorate students - grade sheet for Master’s Degree and current grades, if applicable; post-doctorate students - publications;
8. Letter of recommendation from candidate’s direct mentor;
9. Confirmation of the proposed research plan by the academic institution;
10. The scope of the research proposal will not exceed 5 pages (font size 11, line spacing 1.5). The research proposal will include:
	* A synopsis, not to exceed 250 words.
	* Background - purposes of the research and importance thereof.
	* The research plan - the main approaches and methods designated to executing the research.
	* The research status – description, in a paragraph, of the stage the candidate is at and what was done up to the stage where the candidacy was submitted.
11. The candidate must submit the documents above as one document in PDF format and according to the order presented above. Attach, as the first page, a list of documents and mark ☑the documents that are submitted.
12. A candidate whose proposal does not have all the requisite documents attached may have his proposal disqualified by the Center.
13. Without derogating from the above, the Center will be entitled to request from the candidate to supplement documents or clarifications in respect of his/her proposal and any other detail.

# Selection of Winner/s

1. The Judging Committee (Hereinafter: “**The Committee**”) will be comprised of 4-5 members of the teaching Committee including the Committee chairman. The candidates’ proposals that satisfy the participation conditions will be remitted to the judging Committee who will review them and select the winning candidate/s. Every member of the Committee will examine all the proposals except for proposals from the Committee member’s academic institution. Every proposal will be reviewed by at least two Committee members.

Grading the proposals, in general, will be in accordance with criteria and weights as appearing in Section 14 below. In the event, and after such grading, that a decision cannot be made in respect of the identity of the winning candidate/s, the Committee will hold an open discussion and the voting in respect of the winning candidates will be pursuant to a majority of votes.

1. The Committee will base its decision *inter alia* on the basis of the following criteria:
	1. Average Grades - 10% (Post Doc - 10% for publications)
	2. The degree the candidate holds - 5% (insofar as the candidate’s degree is more advanced and insofar as his ranking in the more advanced degree is higher, a higher score will be given).
	3. Research excellence - the scorer’s assessment of the candidate and his proposal’s research excellence - will be based on the research proposal as submitted, and the rest of the documents submitted - 35%
	4. The scorers assessment pertaining to the proposal meeting the tender requirements - 25%
	5. The scorers opinion of the direct mentor’s recommendations - 10%
	6. General assessment by the scorers - 15%
2. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee may refrain from selecting a proposal as the winner, in order to allow a variety of candidates from various disciplines/ departments and different institutions to win.
3. The Committee may request clarifications from the candidates insofar as their research is concerned.
4. The Committee may remit, at its discretion, a certain research plan or research plans to be examined by an expert or additional experts who are not members thereof. The provisions in the external expert’s opinion only express his position and will be of his sole responsibility, and will not constitute a basis to any argument against the Committee or the Center. Furthermore, it is clarified that such an opinion will not be binding on the Committee but rather will constitute one of the considerations the Committee considers within the framework of its discretion.
5. The Committee may determine the number of winners of the Tender and the scholarships amounts in accordance with the Center’s discretion and budget, provided that each scholarship does not exceed NIS 10,000.
6. Final approval of the Committee’s decision will be given in accordance with the available budget and subject to receiving the Center’s executive’s approval and budgetary approval and subject to the Center’s procedures.
7. The Center, or whoever, on its behalf, will notify the candidate that his research proposal won in an email message or by telephone, pursuant to the details remitted to it at the time his proposal was submitted. Notices will be remitted by the Center’s staff also to candidates whose research proposal was not selected.
8. The scholarship will be awarded to the winning candidate/s directly from the parent institution that he attends and in accordance with the regulations of that institution and subject to the fact that all the conditions in these by-laws are satisfied and only after he/ they sign the format of the declaration Appendix **A** of these by-laws and **Appendix B** of these by-laws were presented to the Center signed and approved by the parent institution’s authorized signatories which they attend.
9. If a candidate who won cannot, with reasonable diligence, be contacted and/or if a candidate who won did not meet the funding requirements to receive a scholarship listed in these by-laws and/or he was disqualified pursuant to the Committee’s decision due to a special reason, the Committee may decide on another winner.
10. The University’s legal adviser or someone on its behalf will rule at any time that there is a misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the by-laws and will rule on any dispute between the Center and the winners or someone alleging that he won.

# General

1. The Committee, as stated above, will select the winner. Every participant releases the Center and the Partner Institutions and/or their representatives and/or employees and/or the rest of the participants in the Tender of any claims or claim relating to the Tender.
2. The scholarship cannot, under any circumstances be converted to a money equivalent and/or other prize.
3. The name of the winner/s and the gist of the research may be published, and the Center’s public relations and/or the institution which the winner attends in the various forms of media, and the winner/s hereby waive any claim and/or demand in respect of such a broadcast and/or use of their name and/or details and/or their works and/or the gist of the works within the framework of publications in connection with this Tender and/or other publications of the Center and the Partner Institutions.
4. The Center and the Partner Institutions release themselves of any liability to send submission forms, appendices thereto, via electronic mail.
5. It is clarified that the Center’s records and/or of anyone on its behalf pertaining to receipt of the submission forms via electronic mail, is conclusive proof of receiving the submission forms.
6. The mere participation in the Tender will be considered as consent, approval and a declaration that the participant therein read these by-laws, agrees to its conditions and is bound to act pursuant thereto, and even if he did not read the by-laws, he consents to these by-laws applying to him as if he read them and will be bound by them for all senses and purposes. The Participant is obligated to comply with the proper rules of conduct and not to act contrary to any law.
7. The Center and the Partner Institutions may, at any time, at their sole discretion, and for any reason, act as follows - to stop or cancel the Tender and/or change the conditions in these by-laws and/or change the Tender participation conditions and/or change the Tender period and/or the dates and/or the scholarship amount and each participant waives any claim in respect thereto.
8. Without derogating from the provisions in these by-laws it is clarified that the Center and the Partner Institutions will not bear any liability in the event of an act and/or omission by a third party, including, but not limited to, a dispute with a third party in connection with this Tender and/or these by-laws and/or the scholarship subject matter of the Tender.
9. The Center and the Partner Institutions will not bear any liability for any direct and/or indirect damage, including, but not limited to, shortening the Tender period, and including, but not limited to, direct and/or indirect expenses incurred as a result of and/or in connection with participating in the Tender and/or in connection with a scholarship, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from a force majeure, accidents, diseases, theft, loss of any property, mental anguish etc., and/or any decision and/or action taken and/or to be taken by a participant in reliance upon him participating in this Tender and/or winning the scholarship.
10. In any event the winning participant will not have any claim and/or demand and/or claim against those holding the Tender and any other body affiliated thereto, or on behalf of any of these, in respect of any matter and purpose and anything associated, directly or indirectly, to this Tender, including, but without derogating from the generality of the above, anything associated with the manner in which the Tender is conducted, the manner in which the research proposals are reviewed and the manner in which the scholarship is received and realized.
11. Liability to realize the scholarship lies solely with the winner/s. The Center and the Partner Institutions will not bear any liability for the winning candidate/s not realizing the scholarship in full or in part.
12. It is clarified that any tax, deduction or demand for payment of tax, of any type, will be the winner/s sole responsibility and solely at their expense. The Center and the Partner Institutions may remit to the tax authorities, if required to do so by law, the details of the winner/s and/or deduct tax at source. The Center and the Partner Institutions will not be obligated to pay tax in connection with the winnings.
13. If, in any event, it is proven that, due to the negligence of the Center and the Partner Institutes or anyone on their behalf, a participant was unable to participate in the Tender and/or win the scholarship and/or in the event a participant raises a claim and/or demand in connection with the Tender and this is found to be justified, the maximum compensation amount that the participant will be entitled to receive will be limited to NIS 10,000 only.
14. For further details and questions you may contact Ms. Rotem Dori merci@univ.haifa.ac.il

To the Responsible for the tender:

Dr. Oded Katz, Geological Survey of Israel odedk@gsi.gov.il

Prof. Gitai Yahel, Ruppin Academic Center GitaiYahel@Gmail.com, Yahel@Ruppin.ac.il

1. In these by-laws, use of masculine form is solely for convenience purposes, and the provisions also relate to feminine form impliedly.

**Appendix A Of The By-laws - The Winner’s Statement**

The Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel and the Partner Institutions hereby respectfully award you a Mediterranean Sea research scholarship for the 5771 (2020-2021) academic year as a result of you winning a Tender allowing you to dedicate your time to the research.

As a condition precedent to receiving the scholarship you must complete your details below and state as follows:

I, the undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bearer of I.D. No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Institution: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Hereby declare and confirm that:

* + 1. My winning the scholarship was not obtained in violation of the by-laws and/or contrary to its conditions and that in the event it is clarified to the contrary, I undertake to return the scholarship without prejudicing any relief and rights of the Center and the Partner Institutions therein pursuant to the law.
		2. I am aware that I will receive the scholarship from the parent institution that I attend in accordance with the rules practiced thereat, and that neither I, nor anyone on my behalf, does not and will not have any claim and/or claim and/or demand against the Center and the Partner Institutions therein and/or anyone on their behalf insofar as the Tender and/or the scholarship is concerned.
		3. I agree that my name and work that I submitted or the gist thereof may be published by the Center and the Partner Institutions therein and I hereby waive any claim and/or demand in respect of such publication and/or use of my name and my work within the framework of the publications relating to this Tender and/or other publications of the Center and the Partner Institutions therein.
		4. I undertake that any publication deriving from my research will mention the Center’s support in the following format: "Funding (or support) provided to XXX by the Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel”.
		5. I am aware that Section 9(29) of the Income Tax Ordinance states that a scholarship that is awarded to a student to fund tuition fees or to live during the period he attends studies, given to him during the period of his studies at an academic and research institution is exempted from tax so long as no consideration is given by the student in return for the scholarship. In this respect a scholarship includes a grant, prize or exemption from payment. I am aware that a scholarship that does not meet the conditions in Section 9(29) above, such as a scholarship granted not within the period of the student’s studies as defined in the section, or consideration was given by the student for the scholarship, will not be exempted from tax. Therefore, I am aware that I may be required to pay tax in the future, at my expense on the scholarship awarded to me. Payment of tax will be by way of deducting tax at source or any other manner and I hereby agree to this.

This is my name, this is my signature and the content of this statement of mine is true.

 In witness whereof I hereto set my hands: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix B To The By-laws - Confirmation By The Parent Institution**

# Request For An Encouragement Scholarship Within The Framework Of A Tender To Award An Encouragement Of Mediterranean Sea Research Scholarship To Students Holding Advanced Degrees (Master’s, Doctorate) And Post Doctorate In Partner Institutions In The Mediterranean Sea Research Center For Israel - Year A 5771

# Tender No.: 7/2

Candidate’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chief Researcher’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of institution the candidate attends: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Hereinafter “**The Institution**")

**The requested scholarship amount for the candidate within the framework of participating in the aforementioned tender is: NIS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**The Institution undertakes as follows:**

1. The Institution undertakes to pay the candidate directly the scholarship amount he wins, as stipulated above.
2. The institution undertakes that the awarding of the scholarship will be in accordance with the rules practiced by it.
3. The Institution undertakes that the foregoing scholar engaged in Mediterranean Sea research and corresponds with the conditions in Tender No. 7/2 published on behalf of the Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel and pursuant to the Center’s procedures.
4. At the end of each academic year the Institution undertakes to remit to the University of Haifa a financial report pertaining to exploitation of the scholarship funds signed by the Institution’s accountant, in the format required by the Planning and Budget Committee. The institution will ensure that double reports are not sent in respect of these scholarship within the framework of the reporting to the Mediterranean Sea Research Center of Israel. Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signatory’s Signature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_