

## **Short CV and declaration of intent**

Vasileios Gkisakis

Agronomist located in Crete, with expertise in Sustainable Agriculture (MSc) and Agrobiodiversity (PhD). Having worked with several research groups across Europe on organic farming, agrobiodiversity, olive production and food quality. Also employed as inspection & quality manager in the organic farming private sector (Italy and Greece). Currently collaborating as fellow researcher with the Greek National Agricultural Research Foundation (ELGO-Demeter) and the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM-Chania), operating an Agricultural Research & Development SME (agroecologiki.gr), with participation to several research & educational projects on the topics of agrobiodiversity and sustainable rural development (Life+, H2020, Erasmus+). Contracted lecturer of i) Organic Farming and of ii) Food Production Systems in Technological Educational Institute of Crete, Greece, and visiting lecturer of Agroecology in the Agricultural University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Largely involved in national & EU civil society organizations regarding agricultural genetic diversity conservation and founder/moderator of the Agroecological Network of Greece (agroecology.gr). Also, owner of a 20 ha organic olives and cereal farm.

Being a candidate for the board of AE EU I declare my willingness to work on promoting Agroecology at European level, by making available my organizational and networking competences. I am especially interested in ii) achieving the embracement of the Association's objectives by several transdisciplinary stakeholders across EU, with some special focus in the Mediterranean, regarding both farmers groups and NGOs promoting sustainability in agriculture as well the academic & research sector, and ii) promoting the agroecological approach educational, agricultural extension & innovation initiatives, as a main step towards agroecological transition.