

## Special Research Funds Account – Technical University of Crete

The Special Research Funds Account (ELKE/TUC) was founded in the Technical University of Crete in February 1988. According to the Law 463/2017 and the provisions and interpretations of Law 4485 / 04-08-2017, and as stated in article 50 "Establishment of Special Account - Purpose", the purpose of ELKE is the management and exploitation of scientific research funds coming from any source, and from own resources intended to cover expenditure of any kind necessary for the execution of the following projects: research, educational, training, development, seminars and conferences, provision of scientific, technological and artistic services, elaboration of special and clinical studies, testing, measurements, laboratory tests and analyzes, providing opinions, drafting specifications for third parties , design and implementation of scientific, research, cultural and development programs as well as other related services, for the benefit of the Technical University of Crete.

ELKE/TUC is directed by the Research and Administration Committee, as specified by Law No 4009/2011, article 80, paragraph 17 which is composed of representatives from TUC's five academic Schools. The responsibilities of this Committee include the inspection of the decisions and functions of **ELKE/TUC**, as well as the progress of the work carried out through the programs. The Committee has also the following responsibility:

- assisting the Senate and the Rector in developing and implementing the University's research policy
- communicating with researchers in order to increase their involvement in the framework of research programs
- ensuring the effectiveness of ELKE/TUC' s operation for the benefit of research and
- overseeing the overall operation of the Institution.

The Committee is assisted by the Unit of Administrative Support and Financial Administration, which implements the Committee's decisions and is liable for the accounting and management of the Special Research Funds Account, according to Law 4485/04-08-2017. The Unit of Administrative Support and Financial Administration is staffed with experienced personnel that specializes in research programme management.

ELKE/TUC is part of the TUC organizational structure, at the division level, and it has financial and administrative autonomy to provide services according to the Financial and Research Management Guide published in [Government Gazette 2518 b/2008](#). The operational structure of ELKE/TUC consists of the following offices:

- Project Planning, Development and Quality Assurance
- Project Management
- Accounting and Financial Services
- Procurement of Products and Services
- Administrative Services
- Legal Support

ELKE/TUC has been in operation for 30 years and has managed over 2500 research and educational development projects. ELKE/TUC has participated in many international and E.U. competitive programs, as well as national co-funded projects and has self-financed projects for the support of research activities of TUC.

ELKE/TUC has the administrative and operational capacity to administer as beneficiary projects financed by E.U. competitive calls, the National Strategic Reference Framework Operational Programmes NSRF 2014-2020 (in accordance with the provisions of article 50 of l. 4314/2014 GG 265a / 12.23.14), the Hellenic Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, the Hellenic General Secretariat of Research and Technology, the Prefecture of Crete, Municipal Organizations, as well as many private enterprises. In these projects, they are employed, as well, undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students of TUC aiming at better familiarization with research procedures and scopes. In a survey

conducted by the European Research Ranking for 2017, the Special Research Funds Account of the Technical University of Crete is among the top 15 higher education institutions in Greece in the number of research projects.

[Source: <http://www.researchranking.org/index.php?action=ranking&country=GR>]

The graph below, “ELKE’s quantitative data on research projects”, shows the number of research projects implemented by the Technical University of Crete in the years 2012-2018. As a result, the Budget of Research Projects shows a steady increase cumulatively from 2012 to 2018 of about 30%:

