

PhD position in Food Toxicology

Supervisors: Dr. Francesco Crudo and Univ. Prof. Dr. Doris Marko

Research context and objectives:

The emerging mycotoxins produced by the genus *Alternaria* have been reported to exert a wide variety of toxic effects in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies. However, scarce information is currently available about the interactions between these mycotoxins and the human gut microbiota. Emerging evidence suggests a bidirectional relationship, where the toxins may influence the gut microbiota, and the microbiota may in turn modulate the fate and effects of the toxins.

The **FWF-funded project "MycoGut"** aims to investigate the bidirectional interactions between *Alternaria* mycotoxins and the human gut microbiota using state-of-the-art analytical, toxicological, and molecular biology techniques. The offered PhD position will specifically focus on assessing how the gut microbiota influences the toxicokinetics and toxicodynamics of *Alternaria* mycotoxins, with particular emphasis on the underlying molecular mechanisms.

Your profile:

- Master's degree in chemistry, food chemistry, biology, pharmacy, nutritional sciences or related fields
- Strong interest in working with bacteria and human cells in the field of food toxicology
- Prior experience with LC-MS and toxicological methodologies, particularly involving cell culture, will be regarded as advantageous.
- Excellent command of English



Application Instructions

Interested candidates are invited to submit the following documents:

- A detailed **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** and a **letter of intent**
- Copies of **Degree certificates** and **transcripts**
- **Contact information** of two referees

All application materials should be **submitted electronically** to:

- francesco.crudo@univie.ac.at

Please ensure that your email subject line reads:

"PhD application – [Your Name]"

Application Deadline

All applications must be received **no later than 31/11/2025**.