INSTITUTE OF BIOORGANIC CHEMISTRY
Polish Academy of Sciences

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ICHB PAN RECRUITMENT NO. 4/2026/SN
FOR POST-DOC POSITION

INSTITUTION:	Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, PAS
ADDRESS:	12/14 Noskowskiego Str., 61-704 Poznan
POSITION:	post-doc
POSITIONS AVAILABLE:	1
SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE:	biological sciences
PUBLICATION DATE:	**10.04.2026**
APPLICATION DEADLINE:	**17.05.2026**
IBCH PAS WEBSITE:	https://portal.ichb.pl/homepage/
KEYWORDS:	baruol synthase, gene duplication, genetic variation, metabolic gene clusters, gene expression, plant microbiome, Arabidopsis, epigenome
Principal Investigator:	assoc. prof. Agnieszka Żmieńko, PhD
Research topic	Biological significance of the baruol biosynthesis gene cluster in *Arabidopsis thaliana* development and shaping the plant microbiome

I. Project description

Specialized metabolites are an extremely diverse group of molecules with a wide range of biological activities. We are still learning the important role they play in the communication between the plants and their environment. These metabolites may impose direct effects, e.g. as repellents, but they can also participate in signaling pathways. Moreover, some specialized metabolite biosynthetic pathways are crucial for plant development. We have recently described a previously unknown gene, *BARS2* in the *Arabidopsis thaliana* genome, which arose by duplication of another poorly characterized gene, *BARS1*. Both genes are probably involved in the metabolism of important compounds named triterpenes, which in turn may be important for plant growth and its interactions with the soil bacteria. Currently, we aim to provide a detailed structural and functional characterization of both genes through molecular and multi-omic studies, including transcriptomic analyses, metabolite profiling, investigating phytohormone signaling pathways and analyzing root/leaves microbiome, both in selected natural ecotypes as well as their mutants with non-functional *BARS1/BARS2* genes.

The research will be carried out at the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry PAS under project 2024/53/B/NZ2/02784, funded by the National Science Centre. ICHB PAN is one of the leading research institutions in Poland, conducting scientific research in the fields of chemistry, molecular biology, and biomedicine. The Institute provides access to the advanced research equipment required to complete the project tasks. We are offering a full-time research position (assistant professor).

II. Requirements for the candidates:

The candidate should have:

1. Ph.D. (or equivalent) in biological sciences or bioinformatics.
2. Laboratory experience in molecular biology/genetics/microbiology
3. Good knowledge of molecular biology, genetics, genomics, and epigenomics.
4. Theoretical or (preferably) practical knowledge of short- and long-read sequencing techniques and the analysis of such data, e.g., RNA-Seq, metagenomic data.

5. Documented scientific achievements in the form of publications in recognized scientific journals.
6. Knowledge of English at a level enabling effective communication, reading professional literature in the field of biological sciences, and preparing publications.
7. High motivation for research work and scientific development.
8. Interest in the project's topic.
9. Good work organization.

*According to NCN requirements, only individuals who obtained their first doctoral degree no earlier than 7 years before the year of employment in the project may be admitted. This period may be extended by the time spent on long-term (over 90 days) documented sickness benefits or rehabilitation benefits due to incapacity for work. Additionally, the period may be extended by the number of months spent on leave for the care and upbringing of children, as specified under the Labor Code. For women, this period may also be increased by 18 months for each born or adopted child if this method of accounting for breaks in the scientific career is more advantageous.
Furthermore, according to NCN requirements, individuals who obtained a doctoral degree at an institution other than the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences, or those who earned the degree at ICHB PAN but completed a continuous, documented postdoctoral internship of at least 10 months at an institution other than the project-implementing entity and in a country different from where the doctoral degree was obtained, may be admitted.

III. Duties in the project:

1. Planning and conducting experimental work (plant breeding, molecular analyses, nucleic acid extraction, preparation of sequencing libraries, etc.).
2. Planning and conducting bioinformatic analyses of selected data types (for example: RNA-Seq, microbiome analysis, metabolome analysis, epigenetic studies).
3. Documenting work and results, collecting metadata.
4. Co-writing scientific publications.
5. Supervising undergraduate and PhD students.
6. Monitoring the relevant literature.
7. Participating in the dissemination of project results.

IV. Required documents:

1. Application for admission to the Director IBCH PAN.
2. Cover letter.
3. Two letters of recommendation or email contacts for at least two scientific employees/previous research supervisors who can provide feedback on the candidate.
4. Copy of the diploma confirming the achievement of the doctoral degree.
5. CV with information on scientific, teaching, and organizational achievements, including:
   • list of scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science (WoS) database,
   • information on leadership or participation in research projects;
   • information on completed research internships;
   • information on awards and distinctions received.

V. Applications should be submitted via the eRecruiter portal at

https://system.erecruiter.pl/FormTemplates/RecruitmentForm.aspx?WebID=9f57157c55224046a2c679e88b0ab205

VI. Submission deadline is **17.05.2026**

VII. After an initial verification based on the submitted documents, selected candidates will be invited to a job interview, following which the recommendation decisions will be made. The main criteria considered in the selection process will include: (i) scientific achievements and research experience (e.g. publications and research internships), and (ii) competence to carry out the planned research tasks in the project.

VIII. The recruitment procedure shall be concluded no later than **15.06.2026**

IX. Additional Information:
The position is available immediately (following successful section), with the expected start date no later than September 1, 2026. We offer employment for an initial period of 6 months with the possibility of extending the employment to 36 months. Full-time employment will be in accordance with the Labor Code. The expected salary is approximately PLN 9,450 gross.

For additional information please contact the Principal Investigator:
Agnieszka Żmieńko
e-mail: akisiel@ibch.poznan.pl.
phone +48 618528503, ext. 1212

Information clause:

Pursuant to the stipulations of the regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation), further referred to as GDPR, we hereby inform that:

1. *The Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, seated in Noskowskiego St. 12/14, 61-704 Poznan; REGON 000849327, NIP 777-00-02-062 is the administrator of the collected personal data (further referred to as the Institute).*
2. *The Administrator appointed a Data Protection Officer, who can be contacted in writing, via traditional mail, by sending a letter to the following address: Z. Noskowskiego St. 12/14, 61-704 Poznan, or by sending an e-mail to: dpo@ibch.poznan.pl.*
3. *The personal data of the candidates is processed for the purposes of fulfilling the tasks of the administrator, associated with conducting the recruitment procedure for a vacant position.*
4. *The legal basis for processing personal data is the Act of 26 June 1974 – The Labor Code, Act of 30 April 2010 on the Polish Academy of Sciences or the consent of the person whose data shall be subjected to processing.*
5. *Your personal data shall be subjected to processing for period of 3 months upon the date of decision of the recruitment committee. Following this period, the data will be irretrievably and effectively destroyed.*
6. *The personal data of the candidates shall not be transferred to any third country.*
7. *The person whose data shall be subjected to processing has the right to:*
    - *request access to his/her personal data, and to amend it or delete it, pursuant to articles 15-17 of GDPR;*
    - *limit data processing, in the events stipulated in article 18 of GDPR;*
    - *data transferring, pursuant to article 20 of GDPR;*
    - *withdraw consent at any moment, without influencing compliance with the law of the processing that was executed prior to consent withdrawal;*
    - *file a complaint to the Inspector General for Personal Data Protection.*

Providing personal data in the scope stipulated in article 22 (1) of the Act of 26 June 1974 – The Labor Code is mandatory, whereas providing data in a broader scope is voluntary and requires consent for its processing.

Protection for whistleblowers

In the case of reporting violations using a dedicated system for whistleblowers, the reporting person's data will be processed in accordance with applicable provisions on the protection of personal data, including the above-mentioned Regulation (EU 2016/679 of 27 April 2016). We ensure confidentiality and protection of the identity of reporting persons, and that their data will not be disclosed without their consent, unless the law provides otherwise.
Detailed rules regarding the protection of personal data and procedures for reporting violations of the law can be found in our Regulations on internal reporting at the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, available at the link: https://portal.ichb.pl/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/INTERNALREPORTINGREGULATIONS.pdf