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Name: *Dr. Markus G. Weinbauer*

Positions in the International Association for Danube Research (IAD):

4/2025 – Expert Group Leader “Coastal Ecology”

Affiliation: Laboratoire d’Océanographie de Villefranche, Sorbonne University
and the French National Research Institute (France)

Main research field: Viruses & Microbiology

Interests: My background is a master in the ecology and biology on gorgonian corals, i.e. population dynamics and skeletal based biomarkers. Then I moved for my PhD to the ecology of viruses (still my main topic) and microorganisms.

Current research activities: Coastal (and Deep Sea) ecology, mainly on microorganisms, not only in the planktonic realm but also associated to corals (and sponges). I have been also been working on the impact of aerosols (black carbon in Incomplete combustion of organic matter, desert dust, volcano ash) on the microbial food web); virus-predator interactions in the interaction in the microbial food web; biodiversity-ecosystem function interactions.

Relevant activities, proposed for EG IAD: With my background in coastal ecology and microbial ecology, I propose to see the coastal Black Sea system as an ecotone between the Delta and the marine system involving all marine organisms including free-living microorganisms and microorganisms associated to animals and plants.

Additional information: • more than 130 peer-review papers published. • co-editor of the first L&O online book on methods (Manual of Aquatic Viral Ecology. ASLO) • currently editing a Springer book on Deep Sea Microorganisms • review article: Weinbauer, M.G. 2004. Ecology of prokaryotic viruses. *FEMS microbiology reviews*. 28: 127-181

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