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Subject: Application to the ManagiDiTH Master's Degree

Dear Evaluation Committee,

I would like to express my keen interest in applying for ManagiDiTH.

Since early 2016, I have been working as a psychologist with various international organizations such as Médecins du Monde, the International Organization for Migration, and the International Rescue Committee, focusing primarily on refugee mental health. Having assisted many of the most vulnerable people and repeatedly encountered their difficulties in accessing healthcare and mental health services, I am interested in how digital transformation could help overcome these barriers and benefit them holistically.

In my daily work as a psychologist with refugees, I have often faced challenges in retrieving patients' medical records, particularly for those with psychiatric needs. This had been consistently stressed out also during my close cooperation with medical staff.

Currently, I work in the General Secretariat for Vulnerable People and Institutional Protection at the Ministry of Migration and Asylum of Greece, with the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA). My main responsibilities include contributing to the mapping of existing legislation, protocols, and procedures, identifying institutional gaps concerning the protection of vulnerable people, designing and establishing mechanisms, tools, and procedures for identifying and managing vulnerability, and developing monitoring tools to assess the implementation of procedures and protocols for vulnerable individuals.

Recently, I was asked to propose ways to reduce healthcare costs for refugees with a certain legal status. I believe this Master's program would be highly beneficial in providing alternatives to achieve this goal without compromising the quality and efficiency of care. This Master's program would be a valuable asset in my current position, where I focus on designing or adapting a fair, sustainable, and beneficial system for protecting vulnerable populations, covering aspects such as asylum procedures, health insurance, and access to services.

Many asylum seekers and refugees live in facilities in rural areas, where access to basic services such as schools, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities is scarce. They often face additional barriers, such as the inability to commute or language difficulties when communicating with hospital personnel. Similarly, Greek citizens living on islands or in remote areas experience comparable challenges in accessing healthcare and mental health services.

I am highly motivated to contribute to meaningful transformations in the lives of those who need it most, tackling issues of isolation, stigmatization, and further marginalization. I am confident that the knowledge and skills I will gain through ManagiDiTH will serve as a strong foundation for this.

I consider this Master's program to be of great value in making healthcare more accessible, reducing costs in the health sector, and achieving a more efficient and specialized healthcare system. I hope Managidith to provide me with the opportunity to evolve both personally and professionally. I am excited about the new possibilities it may open and the creative opportunities that knowledge in this field can offer. Finally, I consider of high importance the multidisciplinary and multicultural nature of the program. Having worked in such environments, I greatly appreciate the efficiency and the multiple stimuli they offer.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Martha Arnaoutoglou