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## **Cover Letter**

Torino, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Prof. Francesco Lamonaca,

we wish to submit the article entitled *Characterization of the Santa Maria del Fiore Cupola construction tools using X-ray fluorescence* for publication on Acta IMEKO.

The manuscript has been technically extended from the paper *Santa Maria del Fiore Cupola construction tools: a non-invasive characterization using portable XRF* presented during 2020 IMEKO TC4 METROARCHAEO Conference. The new paper is completely changed with respect to one published in the conference proceedings. New measurements have been performed and all sections and figures of the manuscript have been modified. Moreover, a completely new part has been added, where data from X-ray fluorescence measurements have been processed using Principal Components Analysis. This new element improved the data processing and allowed to formulate new hypotheses about the investigated historical tools.

Thank you for your consideration of this manuscript.

Sincerely,

Leonardo Iannucci