

6-7-8 OCTOBER 2023 | 08.00 - 20.00 | Belgrade

2nd Congress of Molecular Biologists of Serbia



CoMBoS²

MAIN CONGRESS ORGANIZER



Serbian Society for
Molecular Biology
(MolBioS)

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract submission
June 15, 2023

Abstract acceptance
July 15, 2023

Early bird registration
August 1, 2023

<https://indico.bio.bg.ac.rs/e/CoMBoS2>

CONGRESS ORGANIZERS



Serbian Society for Molecular Biology (MolBioS)



University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković", National Institute of the Republic of Serbia



University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology



University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering



University of Belgrade, Institute of Nuclear Sciences "Vinča", National Institute of the Republic of Serbia



University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology and Ecology



University of Kragujevac, Faculty of Science, Department of Biology and Ecology



University of Belgrade, Institute for Medical Research, National Institute of the Republic of Serbia



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University of Belgrade-
Faculty of Philology

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Foundation Stanka Romac (FOSTAR)

Propaganda Film & Video

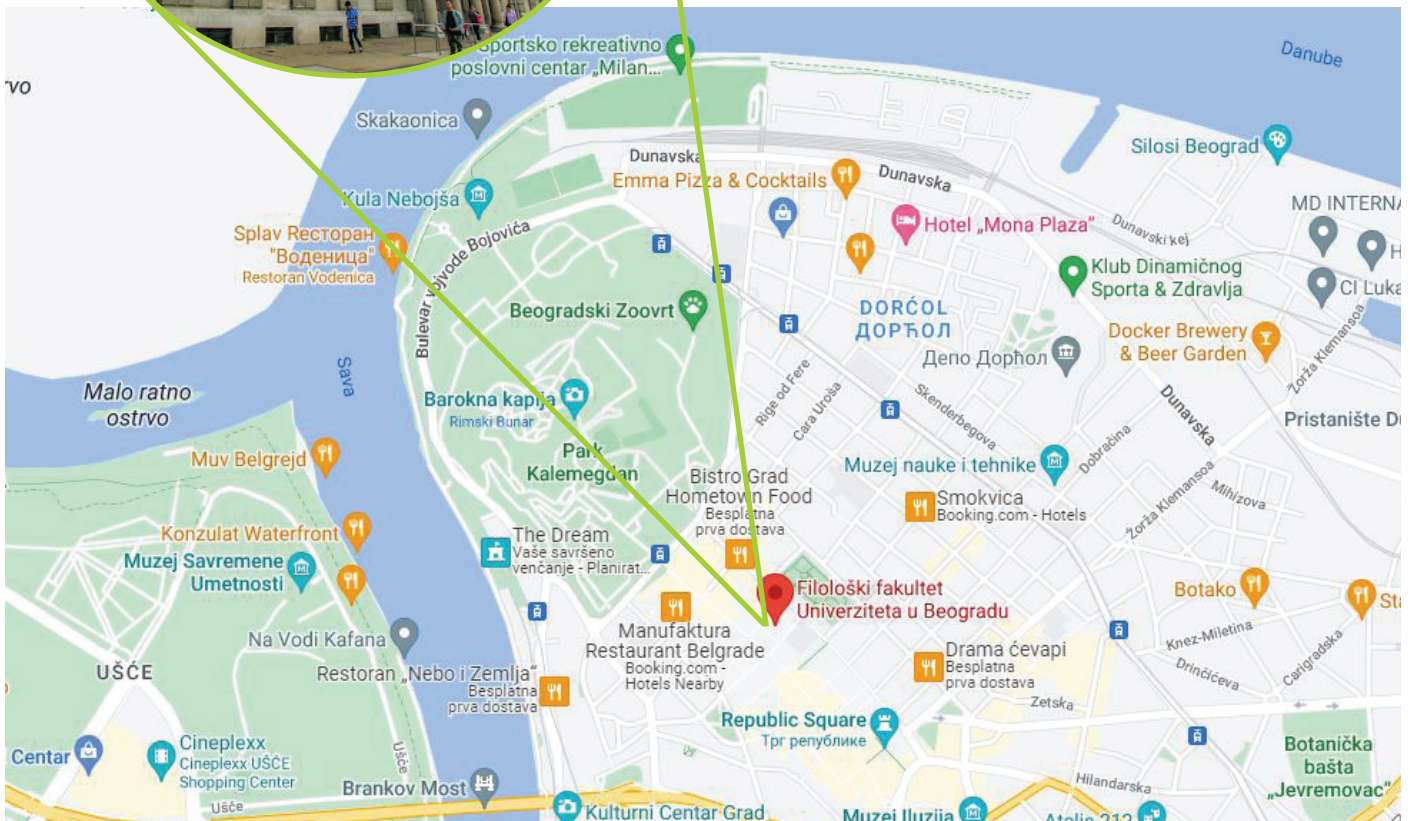
Dušan Radojević



CONGRESS VENUE

**UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE,
FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY,
HALL OF HEROES,**

STUDENTSKI TRG 3,
11000 BELGRADE, SERBIA



OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE CONGRESS

English



WELCOME ADDRESS



Professor Dušanka Savić Pavićević
*President of the Serbian Society
for Molecular Biology*



Dr. Melita Vidaković
*President of the Steering Committee of
the Serbian Society for Molecular Biology*

Dear colleagues and friends,

On behalf of The Serbian Society for Molecular Biology (MoBioS), with great pleasure, we invite you to Belgrade for the Second Congress of Molecular Biologists of Serbia (CoMBoS2). CoMBoS2 will be held from October 6-8, 2023 in the Hall of Heroes at the Faculty of Philology, located in the heart of the city. The program covers many fields of molecular biology, including molecular biomedicine, molecular biotechnology and molecular cell biology. It consists of plenary and invited lectures, workshops, poster sessions and the project corner, with special attention paid to students and young scientists.

We aim to foster curiosity, communication and collaboration, as well as to provide an opportunity for molecular biologists and related scientists to share ideas and experiences and be inspired by the outstanding lectures of renowned scientists and experts.

We celebrated 50 years of the molecular biology school in Serbia last year, and we dedicate this congress to our late professors Ana Savić and Vladimir Glišin.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU
IN BELGRADE AT CoMBoS 2**



CoMBoS2

2nd Congress of Molecular Biologist of Serbia

CONGRESS COMMITTEES

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Minister of Science, Technological Development and Innovations of the Republic of Serbia

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Marija STANIĆ

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Snežana PAJOVIĆ

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Saša RADOVANOVIĆ

Director, University of Belgrade, Institute for Medical Research - National Institute of the Republic of Serbia

Goran ANAČKOV

Head of the Department of Biology and Ecology, University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences

Milan STANKOVIĆ

Head of the Department of Biology and Ecology, University of Kragujevac, Faculty of Science

Gordana MATIĆ

retired Professor

Svetlana RADOVIĆ

retired Professor

Ljubiša TOPISIROVIĆ

retired Professor

Dragutin SAVIĆ

retired Professor

Radomir CRKVENJAKOV

retired Professor

Branka VASILJEVIĆ

retired Principal Research Fellow

Dragica RADOJKOVIĆ

retired Principal Research Fellow

Selma KANAZIR

retired Principal Research Fellow

Goran POZNANOVIĆ

retired Principal Research Fellow

Gordana NIKČEVIĆ

retired Principal Research Fellow

Diana BUGARSKI

retired Principal Research Fellow

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

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Goran Brajušković
Valentina Ćirković
Ana Đorđević
Gordana Matić

Mirjana Mihailović
Sonja Pavlović
Milena Stevanović
Aleksandra Stanković



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Maja Živković	Jovana Rajić
Dušan Keckarević	Jelena Samardžić
Milena Milutinović	

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Anastasija Bujanja	Ana Sarić
Tatjana Čelić	Katarina Šapić
Srđana Đorđević	Marija Sinadinović
Sofija Dunjić Manevski	Marija Vuković
Bojan Ilić	Ivan Životić
Jovana Jovankić	Nemanja Garai
Milivoje Konstantinović	Jovana Stevanovic
Jana Milenković	Stefana Stojanovic

SCIENTIFIC AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (MoBioS STUDENT SECTION)

Natalija Miladinović	Jana Milenković
Natalija Miškov	Milivoje Konstantinović
Milena Stepić	

PLENARY SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order by last name)

Radoje Drmanac

Advanced Genomics Technology Laboratory, Complete Genomics/MGI
San Jose, CA, USA

Adrian Harwood

Cardiff University, Cardiff, United Kingdom

Ulrich Keyser

University of Cambridge, Cavendish Lab,
Cambridge, UK

Milena Stevanović

Serbian Academy of Science and Arts, Belgrade, Serbia
University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering,
University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology



SECTION PLENARY SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order by last name)

Urs Albrecht

University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland

Mariagrazia Di Luca

Pisa University, Department of Biology, Pisa, Italy

Ivica Dimkić

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology, Belgrade, Serbia

Thomasz Jurkowski

Cardiff University, Cardiff, United Kingdom

Tatjana Kostić

University of Novi Sad, Department of Biology and Ecology,
Faculty of Science, Novi Sad, Serbia

Jelena Lozo

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology, Belgrade, Serbia

Snežana Maljević

The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health,
Melbourne, Australia

Nemanja Mirković

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade, Serbia

Dorđe Miljković

University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research
"Siniša Stanković" - National Institute of the Republic of Serbia,
Belgrade, Serbia

Danijela Mišić

University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research
"Siniša Stanković" - National Institute of the Republic of Serbia,
Belgrade, Serbia

Jasmina Nikodinović Runić

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia

Matej Orešič

Örebro University, School of Medical Sciences, Örebro, Sweden

Stojan Perić

University Clinical Centre of Serbia, Neurology Clinic,
University of Belgrade, Faculty of Medicine, Belgrade, Serbia

Biljana Ristić

University of Belgrade, Institute for Medical Research -
National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia

Nataša Skoko

International Centre for Genetic Engineering
and Biotechnology, Trieste, Italy



SECTION PLENARY SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order by last name)

Gabriele Stocco

University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy

Aleksandra Uskoković

University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research
"Siniša Stanković" - National Institute of the Republic of Serbia,
Belgrade, Serbia

Branka Zukić

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia

INVITED SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order by last name)

Miloš Brkušaniin

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology, Belgrade Serbia

Vladan Čokić

University of Belgrade, Institute for Medical Research -
National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia

Ivana Grković

University of Belgrade, Institute of Nuclear Sciences "Vinča" -
National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia

Miroslav Dinić

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia

Zorana Dobrijević

University of Belgrade, Institute for the Application of
Nuclear Energy (INEP), Belgrade, Serbia

Miodrag Dragoj

University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research
"Siniša Stanković" - National Institute of the Republic of Serbia,
Belgrade, Serbia

Aleksandra Jelušić

University of Belgrade, Institute for Multidisciplinary Research,
Belgrade, Serbia

Emilija Jovanović

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

Ivan Jovanović

University of Belgrade, Institute of Nuclear Sciences "Vinča" -
National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia



INVITED SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order by last name)

Sanja Jeremić

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia

Andrijana Lazić

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia

Milica Keckarević-Marković

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology, Belgrade Serbia

Tatjana Mitrović

University of Niš, Faculty of Sciences
and Mathematics, Niš, Serbia

Danijela Nikodijević

University of Kragujevac, Faculty of Sciences
and Mathematics, Kragujevac, Serbia

Ivan Nikolić

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology, Belgrade Serbia

Sanja Stojanović

University of Niš, Faculty of Medicine, Niš, Serbia

Maja Stojiljković

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia

Marija Vidović

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics
and Genetic Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia

REGISTRATION

Online registration is now open. Please register via:

<https://indico.bio.bg.ac.rs/e/CoMBoS2>

CoMBoS2
2nd Congress of Molecular Biologist of Serbia
6-8 Oct 2023
Hall of Heroes, University of Belgrade - Faculty of Philology
Europe/Belgrade timezone

Second Congress of Molecular Biologists of Serbia - CoMBoS2

Enter your search term

Second Congress of Molecular Biologists of Serbia

Overview

Welcome Address

Organizers

Registration

Payment Instructions

Call for Abstracts

Timetable

Starts 6 Oct 2023, 08:00
Ends 8 Oct 2023, 20:00
Europe/Belgrade

Hall of Heroes, University of Belgrade - Faculty of Philology
Studentski trg 3, 11000 Beograd
[Go to map](#)

1- Abstract Template.docx
2- Abstract Instructions.pdf
3- Payment instructions for RSD.pdf

REGISTRATION FEES

Early registration by August 1, 2023

10000 RSD or 85 EUR

PhD students 7000 RSD or 60 EUR
* MolBioS members 8000 RSD or 70 EUR
* PhD students (MolBioS members)
6000 RSD or 50 EUR

* Please note that the membership fee can only be granted if you are a MolBioS member at the time of registration.

There is no registration fee for undergraduate and master students.

Late registration after August 1, 2023

13000 RSD or 110 EUR

PhD students 9000 RSD or 80 EUR
* MolBioS members 10000 RSD or 85 EUR
* PhD Students (MolBioS members)
8000 RSD or 70 EUR

For detailed payment and bank transfer instructions please

[click here!](#)

ABSTRACTS

Abstract submission via online platform:

<https://indico.bio.bg.ac.rs/e/CoMBoS2>

Abstract submission deadline:

June 15, 2023

Abstract acceptance announcement:

July 15, 2023

The guidelines for abstract submission are available on:

<https://indico.bio.bg.ac.rs/e/CoMBoS2>

Abstracts will be published in English in the electronic Book of Abstracts.

Nine abstracts will be selected for Fresh presentations and one e-poster from each session will be awarded.

REGISTRATION DESK

Registration desk working hours:

October 6, 2023: 08.00 – 20.00

October 7, 2023: 08.00 – 20.00

October 8, 2023: 08.00 – 20.00

All congress information will be available at the Registration Desk located in front of the Hall of Heroes

FELLOWSHIPS

A certain number of fellowships covering registration and accommodation are available for PhD students and researchers up to 35 years of age. Please, express your interest when registering for CoMBoS2.

WORKSHOPS

Workshop registration via online platform:

<https://indico.bio.bg.ac.rs/e/CoMBoS2>

Workshop registration deadline:

June 15, 2023

Information about selected participants:

July 1, 2023

PROJECT CORNER

For participants who wish to communicate about their projects to the CoMBoS2 audience. Please, sign up for this activity when registering for CoMBoS2.

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE

Participants will receive their Attendance Certificates at the Registration Desk on the last day of their attendance



October 6, 2023

08.00 - 08.30

Registration



MolBioS STUDENT SECTION

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Phylology,
Hall of Heroes
Studentski trg 3, Belgrade

Chairs: **Svetlana Dinić, Natalija Miladinović**

08.30 - 08.50

Opening Remarks

Natalija Miškov, Natalija Miladinović, Milena Stepić, Todor Cvetanović, Nemanja Kutlešić

08.50 - 09.10

Liver regeneration and the use of organoids in regenerative biology
Emilija Jovanović, alumnus of the MolBioS Student Section (University of Cambridge, UK)

09.10 - 10.30

Oral presentations of student research in the fields of Molecular Biology and Biomedicine
Selected speakers from the Faculties of Chemistry, Pharmacy and Medicine

10.40 - 12.45

Student Poster Session with refreshments

12.45 - 13.00

Closing remarks



October 6, 2023

WORKSHOPS

Registration for all workshops 08.00-09.00
All workshops will be held for up to 20 scientists from 09.00-13.00

Venue:

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology,
Studentski trg 3, Belgrade

*Institute for Physiology and Biochemistry
"Ivan Djaja", Library*

*Institute for Physiology and Biochemistry
"Ivan Djaja", Room 63*

**iPSCs as a tool for modelling disease and
discovering molecular mechanisms of
neurodevelopmental disorders**



Organized by STREAMLINE Project

(Funded by the European Union, programme
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-02-Twinning,
Grant No.101060201)

**Targeted RNA-sequencing using Illumina
platform and upstream analysis**



Organized by FERROREG Project

(Funded by the Science Fund of the Republic of
Serbia, program IDEAS, Grant No. 7753406)

*Institute for Zoology,
Library*

**Nanopore
Sequencing Workshop**



Organized by READ-DM1 Project

(Funded by the Science Fund of the Republic of
Serbia, program IDEAS, Grant No. 7754217)

Venue:

University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular
Genetics and Genetic Engineering (IMGGE)
Vojvode Stepe 444a, Belgrade

Library

Center for Genome Sequencing and Bioinformatics

**Next Generation Sequencing and the
Portable Molecular Biology Laboratory in
Pharmacogenomics**



Organized by PharmGenHUB Project

(Funded by the European Union, programme
HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-02-Twinning,
Grant No. 101059870)

**BGI next generation
sequencing technology**



**Organized by Center for Genome Sequencing
and Bioinformatics, IMGGE**

October 6, 2023

Main program

University of Belgrade-Faculty of Philology,
Hall of Heroes
Studentski trg 3, Belgrade

12.00 - 13.45 **Registration**

OPENING CEREMONY

Program announcer: **Anja Tolić**
Chairs: **Dužanka Savić-Pavićević, Melita Vidaković**

14.00 - 14.30 Welcome Speeches

14.30 - 14.50 Homage to Professor Ana Savić
Snežana Kojić, Gordana Matić

14.50 - 15.10 Homage to Professor Vladimir Glišin
Branka Vasiljević, Ljubiša Topisirović

Session OPENING LECTURES

Chairs: **Gordana Matić, Goran Brajušković**

15.30 - 16.00 miRNA regulation of the neurodevelopment of human iPSC, and what this may mean for neuropsychiatric disorders
Adrian Harwood (UK)

16.00 - 16.15 MolBioS Award Ceremony
Goran Brajušković

16:15 - 16.45 MolBioS Award Lecture:
The story of the SOX genes: for better or for worse...
Milena Stevanović (Serbia)

17.00 - 17.15 Group Photo Session

17.30 - 18.30 *Student Poster Session and Project Corner*

WELCOME COCKTAIL WITH MUSIC PROGRAM

18.30 - 20.30

Hotel "Palas", Topličin venac 23, Belgrade



08.00 - 08.30 Registration

Session 1: MOLECULAR BIOMEDICINE

Chairs: **Milena Stevanović, Aleksandra Stanković, Jovan Pešović**

- 08.30 - 08.50 Antisense therapies for neurogenetic disorders
Snežana Maljević (Australia)
- 08.50 - 09.10 Graphene quantum dots protect SH-SY5Y neuronal cells from SNP-induced apoptotic death
Biljana Ristić (Serbia)
- 09.10 - 09.30 Genetic specificities of muscular dystrophies in Serbia
Stojan Perić (Serbia)
- 09.30 - 09.40 Discussion
- 09.40 - 09.50 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome as a tool for modelling and research of neurodevelopmental disorders
Andrijana Lazić (Serbia)
- 09.50 - 10.00 Long-term three-dimensional glioblastoma cell culture model for drug response studies
Miodrag Dragoj (Serbia)
- 10.00 - 10.10 Neurofilament as a biomarker of response to genetically designed therapies for spinal muscular atrophy
Miloš Brkušanić (Serbia)
- 10.10 - 10.20 Discussion
- 10.20 - 11.30** *Coffee Break with Poster Session 1 and Project corner*

Chairs: **Sonja Pavlović, Dušan Keckarević, Gabriele Stocco**

- 11.30 - 11.50 Pharmacogenomic and pharmacokinetic approaches for precision therapy in pediatric patients
Gabriele Stocco (Italy)
- 11.50 - 12.10 Precision medicine and COVID-19: importance of host genome profiling
Branka Zukić (Serbia)
- 12.10 - 12.20 Discussion



- 12.20 - 12.30 Non-coding RNAs as potential biomarkers for gestational diabetes
Zorana Dobrijević (Serbia)
- 12.30 - 12.40 Integrative and functional multi-omics approach for untangling the genetic background of congenital anomalies of the kidney and urinary tract
Ivan Jovanović (Serbia)
- 12.40 - 12.50 Rare metabolic diseases in the genomics era
Maja Stojiljković (Serbia)
- 12.50 - 13.00 Molecular diagnosis and treatment of diffuse gliomas in Serbia
Tatjana Mitrović (Serbia)
- 13.00 - 13.10 Discussion
- 13.10 - 13.25 Flash presentations (3 x 5 min)

LUNCH

13.00 - 14.30

Hotel "Palas", Topličin venac 23, Belgrade

Session 2: MOLECULAR BIOTECHNOLOGY

Session dedicated to the memory of Professor Đorđe Fira

(Full Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Belgrade-Faculty of Biology)

Chairs: **Branko Jovčić, Jelena Lozo, Nemanja Mirković**

- 14.30 - 14.50 Bacteriophage-based technology: back to the past to move forward into the future
Mariagrazia Di Luca (Italy)
- 14.50 - 15.10 Development of biosimilars and transfer of know-how to industry: opportunities and challenges
Nataša Skoko (Italy)
- 15.10 - 15.30 Microbial trends in sustainable biotechnology
Ivica Dimkić (Serbia)
- 15.30 - 15.40 Discussion
- 15.40 - 15.50 Bacterial nanocellulose - new beginning for end-of-life plastics
Sanja Jeremić (Serbia)
- 15.50 - 16.00 The role of the gut bacteria during host aging
Miroslav Dinić (Serbia)



- 16.00 - 16.10 Repertoire and abundance of type III secretion system effectors shape the virulence capacity of *Pseudomonas syringae* pathogenic on sugar beet
Ivan Nikolić (Serbia)
- 16.10 - 16.20 Discussion
- 16.20 - 17.30** **Coffee Break with Poster Session 2 and Project corner**
- Chairs: **Goran Vukotić, Ivica Dimkić, Sanja Jeremić**
- 17.30 - 17.50 Antimicrobial peptides as promising alternative for treatment of pathogens
Nemanja Mirković (Serbia)
- 17.50 - 18.10 Bacteria - plant interplay enables different responses to complex environmental conditions
Jelena Lozo (Serbia)
- 18.10 - 18.30 Microbes and microbial enzymes for degradation of (bio)plastics
Jasmina Nikodinović Runić (Serbia)
- 18.30 - 18.40 Discussion
- 18.40 - 18.50 Drying without dying: Revealing the role of late embryogenesis abundant proteins during desiccation in *Ramonda serbica*
Marija Vidović (Serbia)
- 18.50 - 19.00 BIOCTA: Novel approach to biocontrol of recently described plant tumorigenic *Rhizobium* spp. using autochthonous microbial solutions
Aleksandra Jelušić (Serbia)
- 19.00 - 19.10 Discussion
- 19.10 - 19.25 Flash presentations (3 x 5 min)
- 19.25 - 20.30** **Poster Sessions 1 and 2, Project Corner**



08.00 - 08.30 Registration

Session 3: MOLECULAR MECHANISMS OF CELL FUNCTIONS

Chairs: **Silvana Andrić, Melita Vidaković, Ana Đorđević**

- 08.30 - 08.50 Pronounced sequence preference of mammalian TET enzymes directs DNA demethylation
Thomasz Jurkowski (UK)
- 08.50 - 09.10 The circadian system - Coordinating physiology and behavior
Urs Albrecht (Switzerland)
- 09.10 - 09.30 Gut microbiome as mediator of chemical exposome - host metabolism crosstalk
Matej Orešič (Sweden)
- 09.30 - 09.40 Discussion
- 09.40 - 09.50 Activation of coagulation factors and prothrombotic properties of endothelium in hematological malignancies
Vladan Čokić (Serbia)
- 09.50 - 10.00 DNA methylation in age prediction: a forensic perspective of epigenetic clock
Milica Keckarević-Marković (Serbia)
- 10.00 - 10.10 Understanding molecular pathways of adipocyte differentiation: closer insight into lipoma story
Sanja Stojanović (Serbia)
- 10.10 - 10.20 Discussion
- 10.20 - 11.30** *Coffee Break with Poster Session 3 and Project corner*

Chairs: **Gordana Matić, Milena Milutinović, Maja Milošević**

- 11.30 - 11.45 The cost of circadian clock disorder on testicular function
Tatjana Kostić (Serbia)
- 11.45 - 12.00 Molecular mechanisms of free fatty acid receptor 2-mediated effects on gut innate lymphoid cells
Đorđe Miljković (Serbia)



- 12.00 - 12.10 Venoms - the source of drugs with anticancer potential
Danijela Nikodijević (Serbia)
- 12.10 - 12.20 Discussion
- 12.20 - 12.35 Epigenetic editing as a potential therapeutic tool for the treatment of noncommunicable diseases
Aleksandra Uskoković (Serbia)
- 12.35 - 12.50 Integration of Metabolomics and Transcriptomics Data Reveal the Molecular Background of the Iridoid Diversity within the Genus *Nepeta* (fam. *Lamiaceae*)
Danijela Mišić (Serbia)
- 12.50 - 13.00 Purinergic signaling in the central nervous system in health and disease: focus on ectonucleotidases
Ivana Grković (Serbia)
- 13.00 - 13.10 Discussion
- 13.10 - 13.25 Flash presentations (3 x 5 min)

LUNCH

13.00 - 14.30

Hotel "Palas", Topličin venac 23, Belgrade

SPONSOR'S HOUR

(15.00 - 16.00)

Session 4: CLOSING LECTURES

Chairs: **Milena Stevanović, Tatjana Kostić**

- 16.00 - 16.30 Studying molecular biology of cells and monitoring cell health with unlimited DNA sequencing
Radoje Drmanac (USA)
- 16.30 - 17.00 RNA detection using nanopores: From isoform analysis to disease diagnostics
Ulrich Keyser (UK)
- 17.00 - 18.00 **Coffee Break with Poster Session 3 and Project corner**



ROUND TABLE

How to spin research into societally effective innovations?

18.00 - 19.00

Moderator **Ivana Strahinić** (Serbia)

CLOSING CEREMONY

Program announcer: **Anja Tolić**
Chairs: **Ana Đorđević, Svetlana Dinić**

19.00 - 19.15

Best poster Awards

19.15 - 19.30

Awarding of appreciation certificates

19.30 - 20.00

Closing Remarks



<https://indico.bio.bg.ac.rs/e/CoMBoS2>

molbios.bio.bg.ac.rs

combos-2023

molbios@bio.bg.ac.rs