

PRESS RELEASE

Scientists to set up in the Czech Republic, Poland and Portugal

EMBO Installation Grants provide funding & support

Heidelberg, GERMANY, 9 December 2009 – The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) has identified five young life scientists to receive EMBO Installation Grants, a scheme that aims to strengthen science in selected European states investing in their research infrastructures. The grants will help five scientists to relocate and set up their laboratories in the Czech Republic, Poland and Portugal.

Each scientist will receive 50,000 euro annually for three to five years, giving them the extra resources they need to get their groups started. The five grantees will also enter the prestigious network of EMBO Young Investigators, allowing them to integrate themselves and their

laboratories into the European scientific community.

“EMBO Installation Grants recognize talented group leaders and assist them and their host countries to get closer to the hubs of the European science community,” said EMBO Deputy Director Gerlind Wallon. “Europe will be at its best only if centres of high quality in research and education are distributed in a balanced way.”

Since the start of the programme in 2006, 34 young group leaders have received support through EMBO Installation Grants. The scheme was set up and is financed entirely by the seven EMBC Member States hosting the grantees: Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia,

Hungary, Poland, Portugal and Turkey. EMBC is the intergovernmental body funding EMBO.

The five scientists were selected by a committee of EMBO Members from a pool of 33 applicants. Their average age is 36 and three of them are women. Two will establish a research group in the Czech Republic, two in Poland and one in Portugal. They will relocate to these countries from institutes in the US and in Germany.

The next application deadline for EMBO Installation Grants is **15 April 2010**.

Installation Grantees 2009

Elena **Baena-González**, Portugal

Cyril **Barinka**, Czech Republic

Pawel **Bednarek**, Poland

Agnieszka **Chacinska**, Poland

Alena **Zíková**, Czech Republic

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About EMBO

The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) promotes excellence in molecular life sciences in Europe by recognizing and fostering talented scientists. Since 1964, leading scientists are elected annually to become EMBO Members based on proven excellence in research. Members number more than 1,400 today. Fifty-three scientists from the EMBO membership have received the Nobel Prize.

Leading peer-reviewed journals – *The EMBO Journal*, *EMBO reports* and *Molecular Systems Biology* – span a broad spectrum of topics of molecular biology and reflect how science is shaping the world. A new journal, *EMBO Molecular Medicine*, publishes original research offering molecular insight into the cellular and systemic processes underlying human disease.

EMBO funding, training and networking activities impact thousands of scientists every year, promoting collaboration in all areas of molecular biology – within its 27 member states, in Europe and neighbouring countries, and worldwide.

For more information: www.embo.org