I have been one scientist in the first cohort of EMBO Young Investigators—a good start. I still know and interact with, so it was very nice. I met man

You have been an EMBO Young Investigator, a founding director of the DANDRITE initiative, which was launched last year. As a founding member of the EMBC, Denmark has been an active player in Denmark is seen as an active player in our ministry and research agency, and not stipends, and that has made the programme more attractive. We do a lot in genomics and regist-

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It is key. Language is a barrier for any competition for great ideas and great inspirations. This is perhaps easier for institutions in the small country with a unique language. It is not a large issue, because everyone speaks English, but undergraduate teaching is typically in Danish, which can scare some, and attracting talent is part of making our institutions in the US or UK. We also have some unique strengths at our universities with very little, if any, base funding. There is a lot of research funding available here, but scientists do not get it with their position and must apply for exter-

Aarhus University

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Meet scientists from the EMBO communities

Nicolas Nieto Moreno studies the mechanisms of transcription during DNA damage. "When a transcribing RNA polymerase II遇上bubble DNA lesion, such as those induced by UV light, it goes stall," he explains. "I am exploring whether RNA polymerase II stalls signals global changes in transcription." In his lab at the University of Copenhagen, he can learn techniques that were not available in his previous lab in Argentina, such as genome-wide analyses and mass spectrometry. "It’s great that I can widen my skill set," he says. In Denmark he feels at the centre of the research world, from faster delivery time for supplies to building collaborations across Europe. "I can meet people I only know from names on papers," he says. His lab is part of one of several university research centres, joint networks encourage collaboration. Nieto Moreno, who moved from Argentina with his wife in 2020, says the move has been a big change. "Copenhagen is small, but it has everything, and we hide everywhere. We’re very happy here. The excellent Danish healthcare system and research units, her group specializes in the structural biology of the research world, from faster delivery time for supplies to build up a research programme as an academic career. It also has a lot of skills and experience in high impact journals, but also about making an impact on society by new solutions and applications in green technologies and medicine.

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Denmark and EMBO in numbers

- **EMBO Members**
  - Aarhus University
  - Copenhagen University
  - Odense University
  - University of Copenhagen
  - University of Southern Denmark

- **EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships**
  - 5 Going abroad from Denmark
  - 2 Coming to Denmark

- **EMBO Scientific Exchange Grants**
  - 36 Going abroad from Denmark
  - 42 Coming to Denmark

- **EMBO Young Investigators**
  - Aarhus University
  - Copenhagen University
  - Odense University

- **EMBO Courses & Workshops**
  - 4 Practical courses
  - 6 Workshops
  - 473 Participants
  - 296 Danish nationals attended EMBO Courses & Workshops anywhere

- **EMBO Core Facility Fellowships**
  - Going abroad from Denmark

- **EMBO Delegates**
  - Kaare Tallum
  - Associate professor, University of Copenhagen
  - Michael Sandgren
  - Head of Section, Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science

- **EMBO Molecular Medicine, Molecular Systems Biology, and Life Science Alliance**
  - Published in partnership with Rockefeller University Press and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press.

Opportunities in Denmark

- **EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships**
  - fund scientists to carry out research for a period of up to two years. International mobility is a key requirement. Applications open all year around.

- **EMBO Scientific Exchange Grants**
  - support new, international collaborations, enabling the transfer of expertise unavailable in the applicant’s laboratory. They fund research visits of up to three months. Applications open all year around.

- **EMBO Young Investigator Programme**
  - support group leaders in the early stages of setting up their independent laboratories for a period of four years. Networking is a key aspect of the programme. Application deadline: 1 April

- **EMBO Practical Courses**
  - provide training in new techniques for researchers and core facility staff. Application deadlines: 1 March and 1 August

- **EMBO Workshops**
  - bring together scientists to present and discuss their latest discoveries. Application deadlines: 1 March and 1 August

The EMBO Gold Medal

is awarded annually to young scientists for outstanding contributions to the life sciences in Europe. Awards receive 12,000 euros and a handcrafted medal. Nomination by EMBO Members; deadline: 1 February

- **EMBO Press**
  - publishes free journals that serve the global life science community: The EMBO Journal, EMBO Reports, EMBO Molecular Medicine, Molecular Systems Biology, and Life Science Alliance, which is published in partnership with Rockefeller University Press and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press.

Facts and figures

- **Gross expenditure on research and development in Denmark is around 3% of GDP**, about twice as much as that of the US. The life science industry accounts for more than 11% of GDP, more than twice the Danish product export, making it one of the country’s largest export industries.

- **Life science clusters**, such as the Copenhagen Bioscience Cluster, bring together universities, clinics and companies, and allow access to the large-scale research infrastructures of the Danish-Scandinavian Research Cooperation. They fund research visits of up to three months. Applications open all year around.

- **EMBO Change Grants**
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- **Denmark has a high level of employment and secondary education attainment with 81% of adults having completed secondary education**. The life science industries are an essential part of the sector with concrete initiatives to, for example, enhance sustainable growth and strengthen partnerships.

- **The life sciences in Denmark are a key element of innovation and design deployment in Denmark is around 3% of GDP**, about twice as much as that of the US. The life science industry accounts for more than 11% of GDP, more than twice the Danish product export, making it one of the country’s largest export industries.

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Key figures

- **Population**: 5.8 million
- **R&D spending**: 3% of GDP
- **Patients**: 2,046 in 2020
- **Researchers**: 86,743
- **Universities and 7 university colleges**
- **Horten 2020 funding**: 2,892 projects, 183 ERC Principal Investigators