



# Aleksandra Divac Rankov

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**Date of birth:** 15/08/1975 | **Place of birth:** Belgrade, Serbia | **Nationality:** Serbian | **Phone number:**

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## ● WORK EXPERIENCE

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**FULL RESEARCH PROFESSOR – INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR GENETICS AND GENETIC ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE** – 2024 – Current

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**ASSOCIATE RESEARCH PROFESSOR – INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR GENETICS AND GENETIC ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE** – 2018 – 2024

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**ASSISTANT RESEARCH PROFESSOR – INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR GENETICS AND GENETIC ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE** – 2008 – 2018

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**RESEARCH ASSISTANT – INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR GENETICS AND GENETIC ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE** – 2002 – 2008

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**POSTGRADUATE FELLOW – MINISTRY OF SCIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA** – 2001 – 2002

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## ● EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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2003 – 2008

**PHD IN MOLECULAR GENETICS AND GENETIC ENGINEERING** Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade

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2001 – 2003

**M.SC. IN MOLECULAR GENETICS AND GENETIC ENGINEERING**

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1994 – 2001

**B.SC. IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY** Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade

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## ● PROJECTS

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2024 – 2027

**Enhancing Non-Communicable Disease Research Excellence through Zebrafish Capacity Building (ZeNCure)**

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Coordinator, Horizon-WIDERA

Link [zencure.rs](http://zencure.rs)

2025 – 2027

**Novel peptide-based aggregation inhibitors as potential therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases (NEPTUNE)**

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multilateral project, participant

2022 – 2025

**A sound proteome for a sound body: targeting proteolysis for proteome remodeling**

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Core Group Member

2024 – 2025

**New approach in inhibiting alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (ATLEA)**

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Proof of Concept Grant, Science Fund of Serbia, participant

2023 – 2024

**Exploring zebrafish swim bladder as a model for chronic lung diseases**

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PI, National Institute of Genetics, Mishima, NIG-JOINT, 212023

2023 – 2024

**Personalized lung cancer therapy and novel response to therapy biomarkers**

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PI, funded by the World Bank within Serbia Accelerating Innovation and Growth Entrepreneurship (SAIGE) programme

2019 – 2021

**Zebrafish as a model for asthma research - role of Wnt signalling in response to cigarette smoking**

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PI, Bilateral project with Germany, funded by the DAAD and Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia (NITRA RS)

2018 – 2019

**Science in Motion for Friday Night Commotion 2018-2019 (SCIMFONICOM 2018-2019)**

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Coordinator, European Researcher's Night, H2020-818747

2011 – 2019

**Complex diseases as a model system for phenotype modulation – structural and functional analysis of molecular biomarkers**

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Ministry of Education and Science, Republic of Serbia (173008), WP leader

● **PUBLICATIONS**

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<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6282-6746>

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● **HONOURS AND AWARDS**

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2009

**The best PhD thesis in the field of molecular biology for 2008. – Goran Ljubijankic Foundation**

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2008

**Young Scientist Award – First Eastern European CF Conference**

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● **NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

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**European Zebrafish Society**

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**Zebrafish Disease Modeling Society**

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Member of Advocacy Committee

**European Association for Cancer Research**

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**European Respiratory Society**

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**Serbian Society for Molecular Biology**

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**Serbian Genetic Society**

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**Serbian Biological Society**

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**Serbian Association for Cancer Research**

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## ● MENTORING

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2019 – 2024

**Mentor of defended PhD thesis "The importance of alpha-1 antitrypsin and methionine sulfoxide reductase A in the development and progression of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in the population of Serbia"**

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Vera Milovanović, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Belgrade

2008 – CURRENT

**Mentor of 4 ongoing PhD theses, 4 defended and one ongoing MSc theses**

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## ● CERTIFICATIONS

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Department of Biology, University of Crete Heraklion, Crete, Greece, 2025

**FELASA Accredited "051/15" Care and use of laboratory animals: mice, rats, zebrafish**

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### **Functions**

Function A-procedures on animals,

Function B-designing procedures and projects,

Function C-taking care of animals,

Function D-euthanasia

### **Additional Modules**

N° 20 "Anaesthesia for minor procedures",

N° 21 "Advanced anaesthesia for surgical or prolonged procedures",

N° 22 "Principles of Surgery",

N° 23 "Advanced animal husbandry, care and enrichment practices"

### **Species**

Mice, Rats, Zebrafish

## ● OTHER ACTIVITIES

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2025 – CURRENT

**Ethics Committee for the Protection of Experimental Animals' Welfare**

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Deputy Chair