



## Danijela Drakulic

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### WORK EXPERIENCE

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#### Head of Group for Human Molecular Genetics

*Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade* [ 2024 – Current ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

#### Associate Research Professor

*Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade* [ 2019 – Current ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

#### Assistant Research Professor

*Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade* [ 2012 – 2019 ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

#### Research Assistant

*Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade* [ 2005 – 2012 ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

#### Research Trainee

*Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade* [ 2002 – 2005 ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

#### Deputy Head of Group for Human Molecular Genetics

*Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade* [ 2018 – 2024 ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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#### PhD in Biological Sciences

*University of Belgrade Faculty of Biology* [ 2005 – 2011 ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

#### M.Sc. in Biology

*University of Belgrade Faculty of Biology* [ 2000 – 2005 ]

City: Belgrade

Country: Serbia

**B.Sc. in Molecular biology and physiology**  
*University of Belgrade Faculty of Biology* [ 1994 – 2000 ]

City: Belgrade  
Country: Serbia

**Semi-master course: Bioinformatics for biologists**  
*Faculty of Computer Science, Union University* [ 2019 – 2021 ]

City: Belgrade  
Country: Serbia

**Staff exchange "Bioinformatics data analysis and formation of a digitalized repository"**  
*School for Mental Health and Neuroscience, Maastricht University* [ 24/09/2023 – 02/12/2023 ]

City: Maastricht  
Country: Netherlands

**Staff exchange "RNA-seq"**  
*School for Mental Health and Neuroscience, Maastricht University* [ 24/09/2023 – 02/12/2023 ]

City: Maastricht  
Country: Netherlands

**Staff exchange "Cell reprogramming"**  
*Neuroscience and Mental Health Innovation Institute, Cardiff University* [ 31/07/2022 – 29/10/2022 ]

City: Cardiff  
Country: United Kingdom

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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Mother tongue(s): **Serbian**  
Other language(s): **English**

## **HONOURS AND AWARDS**

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**The best PhD thesis in the field of molecular biology for 2011.**  
Goran Ljubijankic Foundation

## **MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS**

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**Vice President of Scientific council (2023 - )**

**Management Committee member of COST Innovators Grant: MINDDS-connect (2022-2023)**

**Management Committee member of COST Action: CA16210 - Maximising Impact of research in NeuroDevelopmental DisorderS (MINDDS) (2017-2022)**

## **PROJECTS**

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**Strengthening regional stem cells based research for advancement of multi modal innovative strategy for modelling neurodevelopmental disorders (STREAMLINE)**

[ 01/07/2022 – 30/06/2025 ]

Coordinator Contact

Leader of WP5

Funded by European Union

Horizon Europe Programme: Twinning Western Balkans

Grant Agreement Number 101060201

Link: <https://streamlineproject.rs/>

**COST Innovators Grant: MINDDS-connect: an innovative data and resource sharing platform for real time analysis of patient meta-cohorts for the neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders**

[ 2022 – 2023 ]

Management Committee member

**Cardiff Neuropsychiatric patient-iPSC International Consortium**

[ 2022 – 2023 ]

Participant

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

**Studying the effects of microdeletion of chromosome 22 (22q11) on the occurrence of neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases (MIKRONEURO)**

[ 01/05/2021 – 30/04/2024 ]

Leader of WP5

Strategic project of Serbian Academy of Arts and Sciences

**Studying the roles of SOX proteins in promoting malignant cell phenotypes (SOPROMAL)**

[ 2021 – Current ]

Participant

Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

**COST Action: CA16210 - Maximising Impact of research in NeuroDevelopmental DisorderS (MINDDS)**

[ 2017 – 2022 ]

Management Committee member

**Strengthening the Research Potential of IMGGE through Reinforcement of Biomedical Science of Rare Diseases in Serbia – en route for innovation**

[ 2013 – 2016 ]

Leader of WP3

**Studying signal transduction pathways and epigenetic mechanisms that control human SOX genes expression: further insight into their roles in cell fate determination and differentiation**

[ 2011 – 2019 ]

Participant

Funded by Ministry of Science and Technological Development, Republic of Serbia

**Studying the molecular mechanisms involved in maintaining pluripotency and differentiation of stem cells**

[ 2010 – 2020 ]

Participant

Funded by Scientific Research Fund of Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

**Studying the regulation of expression and function of the human SOX genes**

[ 2006 – 2010 ]

Participant

Funded by Ministry of Science and Technological Development, Republic of Serbia

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6790-6673>

## **NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

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**Serbian Genetic Society**

**The Serbian Society for Molecular Biology (MolBioS)**

## **RESEARCH INTEREST**

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### **RESEARCH INTEREST**

- Analysis of pathophysiological mechanisms underlying neurodevelopmental disorders
- Analysis of properties of neurons and astrocytes generated by differentiation of induced pluripotent stem cells of patients with 22q11.2 Deletion and Duplication Syndromes
- Genotype - phenotype correlation studies in patients with 22q11.2 Deletion and Duplication Syndromes
- Exploring malignant phenotype of glioblastoma and the effects of modulation of *SOX* gene expression on properties of glioblastoma cells
- Testing potential antitumor properties of bioactive compounds