



**Lluís Montoliu (Barcelona, Spain, 1963) graduated in Biological Sciences (1986) and obtained his PhD in Molecular Genetics (1990) at the University of Barcelona. Currently, he is a Research Scientist of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and established his laboratory at the National Centre for Biotechnology (CNB), where he is Deputy Director, in Madrid (Spain) since 1997, after two postdoctoral periods in Heidelberg (German Cancer Research Center, 1991-1995) and Barcelona (Autonomous University of Barcelona, 1995-96). Since 2007 he was also appointed researcher at the Spanish Research Initiative on Rare Diseases (CIBERER-ISCIII) where he is now serving at its Steering Committee. He has been Honorary Professor at the Autonomous University of Madrid for 20 years (1998-2018), and, since the 2021-2022 has been appointed as Honorary Professor at the Complutense University of Madrid, at the School of Biology. Since 2007 is the Director of the Spanish node of the European Mouse Mutant Archive (EMMA/INFRAFRONTIER) Spanish node.**

Including his PhD, from 1986, where he worked in plant molecular genetics, in maize, he has been always working on the genetic modification of organisms (GMOs). Since 1991 he has been working in several scientific projects within the field of animal transgenesis. At the CNB he leads a research team interested in basic science, to understand the mechanisms controlling gene expression and organization in mammalian genomes, and in applied science, generating animal models for the study of human rare diseases, such as albinism. He has contributed significantly to animal transgenesis methods developing artificial chromosome transgenesis. He has also pioneered the use and dissemination of gene-editing CRISPR approaches in Spain for the functional analysis, in vivo, of regulatory elements found in the non-coding genome. He has published more than 142 articles, six popular science books on genome editing, two on albinism, pigmentation genetics, rare diseases and bioethics, and co-invented seven patents in the field.

He is the current President of the European Society for Pigment Cell Research (ESPCR), President of the Association for Responsible Research and Innovation in Genome Editing (ARRIGE), President of the International Federation of Pigment Cell Societies (IFPCS), and Scientific Secretary of the Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SEBBM). He served in two terms at the board of the Spanish Society of Genetics. In 2006, he founded the International Society for Transgenic Technologies (ISTT) for which he has served as President since inception to 2014. He has been a member of CSIC Ethics Committee (2017-2022) and its President (2020-2022) and he also has advised the CSIC Presidency on Ethics and Science Europe issues. He is a member of the Ethics Panel of ERC in Brussels since 2013 and of the EMBO Policy Advisory Board since 2024. He served as Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee for the Global Albinism Alliance and regularly collaborates with the Spanish Association in Support of People with Albinism (ALBA) since inception. He has promoted the COSCE agreement on transparency in animal experimentation in Spain, launched in 2016. He is a member of the scientific councils of Foundation Gadea, Foundation Querer, Foundation Lilly and of the International Society of Bioethics. In addition to research, he is also interested in bioethics, education and popular science. He has written numerous articles in newspapers, journals and blogs and participated in many mass media programs (radio, television, podcasts...).

In 2018 he was awarded the ISTT Prize, for his outstanding contributions to animal transgenesis, the Honor Plaque from the Association of Spanish Scientists (ACE) for his contributions to Spanish Science and the SINcronizados Award by the Agencia SINC for his commitment with popular science and collaboration with journalists and media. In 2019, he was awarded by Fundación Antama for his contributions to popular science in the biotechnology field. In 2020, he received the H.S. Raper Medal, awarded by IFPCS/ESPCR, for his contributions to the fields of pigmentation and albinism, and was the finalist (runner-up) of the 33th Boehringer Ingelheim Award for Best Communicator in Social Networks. In 2022, he was awarded the COSCE Prize for science outreach in Spain. In 2024 he was distinguished as Honorary member of the College of Biologists of Catalunya, was the finalist of "Science with Ñ" contest organized by CEBE-Belgium with his book "Why my son has a rare disease?" and was awarded the Science Communication Prize by CSIC and BBVA Foundation.

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Más información: <http://www.user.cnb.csic.es/montoliu/>

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