FALLING WALLS LAB
SPAIN
May, 31st
2024
Salón de Actos CSIC, Madrid
C/ de Serrano 117, 28006, Madrid

Organizers
The Falling Walls Foundation founded Falling Walls Lab in 2011 to:

**CONNECT**  
aspiring innovators

**DISCOVER**  
and develop talents

**SUPPORT**  
interdisciplinary dialogue and international cooperation

**DEVELOP**  
new ways of scientific communication

**BUILD**  
ew and strong networks

---

**Timeline**

09:45  Arrival for jury and participants  
10:00  Jury Briefing / Arrival for the public  
10:30  Welcome and introductory remarks  
11:00  Pitches (1-7)  
11:45  Networking break  
12:15  Pitches (8-14)  
13:00  Jury session / Networking break  
13:30  Award Ceremony / Group picture  
14:00  End of event
Introductory remarks

José María Martell
CSIC Vice President for Scientific and Technical Research

María Monsalve Pérez
Vocal member of companies of the Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SEBBM)

Óscar Lucía Gil
President of the Young Academy of Spain

Pedro López Sáez
Advisor to the Vice-Rectorate for Lifelong Learning, Employability and Entrepreneurship of the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM).

Maria Margarete Gosse
Ambassador of Germany to Spain

Jury

María Ángeles Serrano García
She holds a PhD from USAL, with postdoctoral work at the University of Richmond and CNRS in France. Since 2000, she has been a Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at USAL, researching membrane transporter proteins. She held key positions such as Vice-Rector for Research and Internationalisation at USAL, Director of the Teaching and Institutional Assessment Division at ANECA, and was elected Secretary General of COSCE in 2023.
David Pascual-Ezama
He holds dual PhDs in Financial Economics and Accounting, and in Social Psychology and Methodology, along with an MBA. He is a professor and researcher at the UCM, affiliated with MIT’s Neuroeconomics and Behavioral Economics Lab. Professionally, he has worked in the consulting world in companies such as Indra Systems and the hotel sector, and actively participates in consulting and entrepreneurship projects.

Carolina Pola de Vivar
She is the CEO of STAb Therapeutics, specializing in innovative cell therapies against cancer. She collaborates with UCAM HiTech and advises CNIO’s spin-off, Revertium. She supports women tech entrepreneurs through WA4STEAM and teaches at IE University. She holds a PhD from NYU and has deep experience, including roles at Nature Medicine, PharmaMar, CNIO, Kaudal, and Arquimea. Her career spans genetic engineering, drug development, and strategic innovation in academic and private sectors.

Ingo Stender
He is Minister and Head of the Economic Department at the German Embassy in Madrid since August 2023. Previously, he was Budget Officer at the Federal Foreign Office, Minister and Head of the Economic Department at the German Embassy in Lima. Prior to that, he held positions at the Embassies of Ankara, Mexico, Seville and Santiago de Chile. He joined the diplomatic service at the Federal Foreign Office in 1990.
Óscar Lucía Gil
He is a University Professor in the area of Electronic Technology at the University of Zaragoza, and belongs to the Engineering Research Institute of Aragón (I3A). He develops his teaching and research work in the field of power electronics with industrial, domestic, biomedical and electric vehicle applications. As a result of this activity, he holds more than 60 patents with more than 150 international extensions. He is currently the president of the Young Academy of Spain.

Borja Martínez Téllez
He is a Ramón y Cajal researcher at the University of Almería and was winner of the Falling Walls Lab Spain 2022. He currently leads his own research group, focused on understanding how various non-pharmacological interventions modulate human metabolism. In addition, Borja combines his research with entrepreneurship, having founded several companies to transfer his discoveries into practical solutions for society.

Judith Morales Fernaz
She is Deputy Director for Research of the National Museum of Natural Sciences (MNCN-CSIC), from January 2024. Her main research themes: animal social behaviour and the mechanisms underlying its plasticity. Essentially, she is interested in questions such as how flexible decision rules are in social interactions, and how this flexibility is shaped by ontogenetic effects and environmental changes.
Feedback

What was your overall impression of Falling Walls Lab Madrid?

Do you have concrete suggestions for improvement? If so, what?

Contact: fallingwallslabspain@mncn.csic.es