

# FALLING WALLS LAB SPAIN

May, 30<sup>th</sup> 2025

**Salón de Actos CSIC, Madrid**

C/ de Serrano 117, 28006, Madrid

## Organizers



# Concept

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

new 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 (1-8)
- 11:45** Networking break
- 12:15** Pitches (9-15)
- 13:15** Jury session / Networking break
- 13:45** Award Ceremony / Group picture
- 14:00** End of event

# Introductory remarks

## **Pura Fernández**

Deputy Vice-President for Scientific Culture and Citizen Science

## **Inmaculada Yruela**

Representative of the Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SEBBM)

## **María Inmaculada López**

Director of the Office of Entrepreneurship at UCM-Compluemprende

## **José María Párraga**

Deputy Director General of the INCYDE Foundation of the chambers of commerce

## **Maria Margarete Gosse**

Ambassador of Germany to Spain

# Jury

## **Georg Schulze Zumkley**

He is a career German diplomat and currently serves as Counselor for Economic Affairs and Science at the German Embassy in Madrid. He began his career as a corporate lawyer and joined the diplomatic service in 2003. He has held positions in Berlin, Beijing, Washington D.C., and the German Bundestag. He studied international law and languages in Passau and at King's College London, and earned a doctorate in international and European law from the University of Potsdam in 2006.

### **Eduardo Díaz Sánchez**

He is a physicist from the University of Salamanca and MBA from IE, is Director of the Technology-Based Entrepreneur Unit at Fundación madri+d. With over 25 years of experience, he has worked in public policy, innovation, and technology transfer. He was Strategy Consultancy Manager at Socintec and has also been a lecturer and software engineer in the electronics and aerospace sectors.

### **Inmaculada Yruela**

She is a researcher at the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) in Zaragoza and leads an R&D unit at BIFI-UNIZAR. Her expertise is in biochemistry and structural biology. She has a strong background in science communication, has organized science-art workshops and performances, and has received awards for innovative outreach. She currently serves as chief editor of SEBBM Journal.

### **Daniel García González**

He is Academic Secretary of the Young Academy of Spain, Associate Professor at UC3M, and director of the MULTIBIOSTRUCTURES Lab. His research focuses on multifunctional materials for bioengineering and soft robotics. He has developed in vitro models for mechanosensitive processes with applications in healing, neuroscience, and cancer. He leads two ERC-funded projects, co-founded the spin-off 60Nd S.L., and directs the UC3M-NAVANTIA-MONODON Chair on deep technologies.

## Juan Manuel Bolívar Bolívar

He is a chemical engineer and professor at Complutense University of Madrid (UCM), specializing in biocatalysis and biochemical engineering. He earned his Ph.D. at UCM, researched at CSIC, and worked at Graz University of Technology. Since 2019, he has focused on enzymatic processes for sustainability, waste valorization, and pollutant remediation. He has published widely, leads research projects, and is active in the Spanish Society of Biotechnology and outreach activities.

## Judith Morales Fernaz

She is Deputy Director for Research of the National Museum of Natural Sciences (MNCS-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.

## Pedro López Sáez

He is Advisor for Entrepreneurship at UCM, helping students and researchers turn ideas into successful ventures. With a background in business strategy and innovation, he works to bridge academia and industry, mentors emerging entrepreneurs, and develops programs that promote innovation and social impact, strengthening UCM's entrepreneurial culture.

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## Feedback

What was your overall impression of Falling Walls Lab Spain?

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

Contact: [fallingwallsspain@gmail.com](mailto:fallingwallsspain@gmail.com)