



Jelena Begović, Principal research fellow IMGGE, Director of IMGGE. Since 2013 positioned as a director of Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade. Also, as a principal research fellow she is a Head of the Laboratory for Molecular Microbiology. Representative of the Republic of Serbia in "Board of Governors", of UN International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Trieste, Italy and Liaison officer of ICGEB for Serbia.

More than 22 years of research experience in the field of molecular microbiology and also in the application of biotech in biomedicine, food, feed, agriculture and pharmaceutical industry. Particularly scientific expertise in research and solutions related to development of novel probiotics and challenges associated with new technologies addressing bacterial antibiotic resistance. Published more than 60 papers in leading international journals in the field.

Actively involved in development and implementation of technology transfer system and open innovation concept in Serbia. Established a technology transfer office at IMGGE and built a collaborative network with numerous national and international companies in biomedical and biotechnology fields. Experience in the field of IP protection and innovation process, from the research to the market placement. Also, a coordinator and participant in numerous scientific national and international projects, particularly those with the industry. Presently involved as a mentor in Proof of concept projects managed by Innovation fund.

Engaged, as a consultant, in creation of Smart specialization Strategy (S3) and one of the coordinators of entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) in Serbia (priority domain Food for Future) and also as a consultant for Joint Research Center EC, for the development of methodology for S3). Also, During the pandemic in 2020 in front of the Government of RS a coordinator of the development and establishment of high-throughput HuoYan National laboratories for molecular detection of infectious agents in Belgrade and Niš for SARS CoV2 testing.