

**Ivan Dikic** is Director of the Institute of Biochemistry II (IBC2) at Goethe University's Medical School in Frankfurt. He was recruited to the IBC2 in 2002 as professor and was appointed as its chair in 2009. He also was the founding director of the Buchmann Institute for Molecular Life Sciences (BMLS, 2009 - 2013) at Goethe University, where he continues to sustain an outstation lab. Ivan Dikic was trained as a medical doctor in Zagreb (Croatia) and obtained his PhD with Joseph Schlessinger at the New York University Medical Center (PhD degree issued by University of Zagreb in 1997). From 1997-2002 he was a Group Leader at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, Uppsala, Sweden. He is speaker of two collaborative research networks on selective autophagy (SFB 1177) and ubiquitin networks (LOEWE Ub-Net), and board member of the Cluster of Excellence Macromolecular Complexes (CEF-MC).

Ivan explores molecular mechanisms of cellular signalling, which have a high relevance to human diseases such as cancer, neurodegenerative disorders and inflammation. Early on, he started to focus on ubiquitin to understand how this modification regulates a large variety of physiological and pathophysiological processes. He established a novel concept of ubiquitin signal recognition by specialized domains serving as ubiquitin receptors. His group demonstrated how multiple monoubiquitination controls EGFR endocytosis and cloned several ubiquitin receptors, which regulate DNA repair, inflammation, cancer, infection and proteasomal degradation. In addition, his team has revealed the functions of linear ubiquitin chains in promoting the NF- $\kappa$ B pathway, thereby impacting on pathogen defenses and other immune responses. Recently, he described the chemistry of a novel type of ubiquitination that is utilized by the bacterial pathogen *Legionella* to control multiple cellular processes. One of his current major interests lies in selective autophagy, which is essential for the clearance of protein aggregates, pathogens and damaged organelles from the cell. His team has provided important mechanistic insight in the regulatory networks and the structures controlling mitophagy, xenophagy and ER-phagy, shaping host-pathogen interactions and impacting on the development of neurodegenerative diseases like ALS.

Ivan is wholeheartedly dedicated to fostering scientific exchange and education, and has contributed to the organization of many international conferences and workshops. In 1998, he initiated the series of Dubrovnik Cell Signalling Conferences, which has been sponsored by EMBO continuously since 2004. In 2016, he hosted the first Frankfurt Conference on Ubiquitin and Autophagy.

Ivan is an elected member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) and the Academia Europaea. He is also a senior editor of eLife and chairman of the EMBO Publication Committee. In addition, he serves on the editorial boards of multiple journals including Cell, Molecular Cell, Developmental Cell, EMBO Journal, EMBO Reports etc. Ivan's scientific achievements were honoured with numerous awards, amongst them Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cancer Research by AACR, the Ernst Jung Prize for Medicine and the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize.