

María Gómez Vicentefranqueira is Científico Titular del CSIC and Group Leader at Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa. She was trained in Molecular Biology and Epigenetics with Professors Francisco Antequera and Neil Brockdorff and previously held a position as a junior PI “Ramón y Cajal” at the Instituto de Microbiología Bioquímica (current Biología Funcional y Genómica) in Salamanca, Spain (2004-2009).

Since 2010 she leads the “Functional Organization of the Genome” lab, at the Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa. Her lab interests are Genome Biology, DNA replication, transcription and chromatin and, in particular, how the central processes of replication and transcription are coordinated with chromatin structure to maintain genome performance. Recent findings from her team are: (i), demonstrating that alterations in chromatin structure affects both processes in different ways, which could lead to replicative stress and instability (Almeida et al., 2018 *Nat Commun*, doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-03539-8); (ii), showing that non-coding RNA turnover in chromatin is key to avoid replicative stress and limit replication-transcription encounters, and unveiling an unexpected role of histone H1 on RNA post-transcriptional modifications (Fernández-Justel et al., 2022 *Cell Rep*, doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2022.111329); or (iii), revealing the 3D chromatin organization of highly active DNA replication origins (Jodkowska et al., 2022 *Nucl Acids Res*, doi: 10.1093/nar/gkac1111).

María Gómez holds an active network of collaborators, including the participants of the Marie Curie Doctoral Network RepliFate ([www.replifate.eu](http://www.replifate.eu)). She trained several scientists along these years; had or is directing 8 PhD Theses and numerous Master and undergraduates Thesis. She is also actively involved in raising the interests of the new generations in Science, organize laboratory classes and give talks to primary and secondary school students yearly at the Italian School in Madrid and participate in the AEAC/CSIC program Cientific@s en Prácticas (<https://aeac.science/actividad/cientifics-en-practicas/>).