



**Dr. Emilija Z. Brdarić** (Citation 112, h-index 5, Scopus) is an Assistant Research Professor at the Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, in Group for probiotics and microbiota-host interaction. She received her PhD in Molecular biology from the Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade in 2023. Dr. Brdarić participated in three projects of the Fund for Innovation Activities and one project of the "Start for Science" foundation. Currently is a participant in one project of the Fund for Science. She is the author and co-author of six papers in the M21 category and 17 announcements at international and national congresses. She is a member

of the Association of Serbian Microbiologists and the Serbian Society for Molecular Biology. Dr. Emilija has extensive experience in traditional and molecular microbiology, isolation and cultivation of aerobes, anaerobes and facultative anaerobes from various samples (food, water, animal tissues, etc.) and molecular microbiology techniques (PCR, rep-PCR, qPCR, DGGE, PFGE, 16S rRNA gene sequencing). As a perspective young researcher, she gained FEMS training grant for stay at IPLA, Spain, to learn how to cultivate and manipulate anaerobes and to follow real-time host-microbe interaction on confocal microscope and in Real-Time Cell Analyser. The main scientific topics of her research are: 1. Protective effects of the bioactive molecules derived from the Lactic Acid Bacteria, 2. Molecular mechanisms of the protection from toxic metals based on lactobacilli's exopolysaccharides, 3. The role of microbiota in a different host pathological condition, 4. Identification and characterization of the next generation probiotics.