



# Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom



# Annual report

July 2022 - July 2023

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Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom SRUK/CERU  
Office 7, 35-37 Ludgate Hill, London, EC4M 7JN, United Kingdom  
[www.sruk.org.uk](http://www.sruk.org.uk) / [info@sruk.org.uk](mailto:info@sruk.org.uk)

Edited by Irene Echeverría Altuna and Javier Pardo Díaz.

Layout by Cristina Gallego Páramo. Cover design by Berta Gallego.

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**Society of  
Spanish Researchers  
in the United Kingdom**



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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members and friends of SRUK/CERU,

This has been another fruitful year for our Society. Numerous activities, events and workshops have been organised that have strengthened the connection amongst old friends whilst reaching new members, societies, and institutions. The quality and impact of the initiatives driven by the passion and hard work of all our volunteers has been amazing. A very big thanks to you all, because you have not only kept SRUK/CERU alive but exceeded expectations. You are the engine that drives SRUK/CERU forward.

As a summary of our major accomplishments, I would like to highlight the following:

- Since December 2021 we have held the vice-presidency of the network of Spanish researchers abroad (RAICEX). Being part of RAICEX allows us greater impact when contributing to the consultation and modification of laws i.e. Organic Law of the University System from the Ministry of Universities, and The Royal Decree-Law to access University educational bodies. You can read more at <https://raicex.org/novedades/>. As part of RAICEX, we also attended the VII Meeting of Spanish Scientific, Technological and Innovation Diplomacy in Madrid, and wrote several articles “**The story of RAICEX as a successful scientific diaspora organization**” (Frontiers, July 2022), and “**Reforma de la Ley de la Ciencia**” (SEBBM, Sept 2022)
- Together with other EU research diasporas in the UK (AISUK, DANinUK, FERN, Polonium Foundation, Parsuk, and Native Scientists) we have launched a new collaborative project “CONNECTS-UK” to strengthen the European research community in the UK. The amount of work and cooperation put into the proposal of this project was astonishing. I am amazed of what we can achieve as a team and when collaborating with our partners. This is a long-term project that will not only contribute positively this year but many more to come towards a more cohesive and stronger European community much needed in this post-Brexit reality. Bravo!
- We have furthered the professional development of our members by offering our Travel Grant programme that facilitates attendance to international conferences to disseminate the research of 10 SRUK/CERU members. Our consolidated Emerging Talent Award, sponsored by Fundación Banco Santander, aimed at young research leaders with an outstanding trajectory in the UK will facilitate the dissemination of the prize-winner’s research to both Spanish and British societies. The award ceremony will be announced soon - stay tuned!

- Other noteworthy events include:

1. Multiple events organised by the recently created SRUK/CERU Outreach and Public Engagement department such as the promotion of our book Science-me a Story, the Cancer Symposium (Birmingham), and the Ageing and Disease Conference in Cambridge.

2. The events to promote the role of women in STEM through a variety of on-line and in-person events such as talks, roundtables, and school visits carried out by the SRUK/CERU Women Research and Equity committee.

3. Scientific and social activities carried out by the different constituency teams throughout the UK. The constituency teams have done an outstanding job recruiting new members and organising high-quality events despite having less volunteers.

- To ensure the sustainability of our Society we created standard operating procedures (SOPs) for initiatives and roles to facilitate the handover from past directors and to define tasks and responsibilities whilst limiting the workload and promoting cooperation. During our last Annual General Meeting suggestions for a more transparent, inclusive, and sustainable Society were made by our members. The accepted changes were included in the Articles of Association which are available under our filing history in the Companies House webpage.



*Claudia Román - Montañana*

My term as President has finished after almost two years of growth and intense work with an amazing team. I am very grateful and proud to have contributed my own part to SRUK/CERU, and now it is only my wish to keep seeing SRUK/CERU growing and progressing through the next generations. I am very excited to see what the future brings to SRUK/CERU; great things for sure!

Un abrazo muy grande,

Claudia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Claudia Román - Montañana'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

**Claudia Román - Montañana**  
President of SRUK/CERU

For more information, please contact  
[president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk)

# WHAT IS SRUK/CERU? WHAT ARE OUR AIMS?

**The Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom (SRUK/CERU) is a non-profit, independent organization. We do not have any political affiliation.**

SRUK/CERU was created in July 2011 and was formally established in June 2012. At that time, SRUK/CERU was registered in the Companies House of England and Wales. The Society was created with four main aims:

## 1. SOCIAL NETWORK

To create a social network of researchers and students working in the United Kingdom. We aim to facilitate the arrival of the new members, offer advice, and share professional and life experiences.

## 2. SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

To increase public awareness of every aspect of the Research and Innovation (R&I) system. We aim to close the existing gap between researchers and the general public by holding seminars, roundtables, conferences and the Society's annual symposium.

## 3. SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVES

To be the representatives of the Spanish researchers in the United Kingdom for British and Spanish organisations, general public, and the media. We aim to serve as scientific advisors for both public and private organisations. We believe that our knowledge and experience are relevant and worth sharing.

## 4. SCIENCE MEDIATORS

To facilitate collaborations between both private and public British and Spanish R&I institutions. It is our opinion that exploring and establishing collaboration between the UK and Spain will bear fruit in the long run.

## ¿QUÉ ES CERU Y CUÁLES SON NUESTROS OBJETIVOS?

La sociedad de Científicos Españoles en Reino Unido (CERU) es una organización independiente sin ánimo de lucro y sin afiliación política. Se creó en 2011 y se constituyó de manera oficial en junio de 2012. La sociedad persigue cuatro objetivos principales:

1. Crear una red social de investigadores que trabajan en el Reino Unido.
2. Acercar la ciencia y la investigación al público en general.
3. Ser los portavoces de los investigadores españoles en Reino Unido ante instituciones británicas y españolas, medios de comunicación y redes sociales.
4. Facilitar colaboraciones entre organizaciones relacionadas con la I+D+i del Reino Unido y de España, tanto públicas como privadas.

For more information, please contact [info@sruk.org.uk](mailto:info@sruk.org.uk)



# OUR STRUCTURE

SRUK/CERU is managed by the **Executive Committee** (EC), formed by 17 heads representing all our SRUK/CERU members. They work together to pursue the aims of the Society and are elected during the Annual General Assembly. In addition, SRUK/CERU is organised in nine established Regional Constituencies across the UK, and the directors of these constituencies are also part of the EC and elected by their local members. This facilitates a direct communication between our members and the EC. We also have Ambassadors in Spain, who are our main link with the country and represent our members there.

Our volunteers shape our departments, working groups and committees. SRUK/CERU is composed of six departments: **Institutional Relations, International Collaborations, Science Policy, Press, Outreach** and **Communications**. Moreover, each constituency has a Local Working Group to shape their regional activities and events. In addition, **SRUK/CERU committees** work to achieve specific goals of the Society. Currently, SRUK/CERU has eleven committees: Fellowships and Awards, Evaluation, International Symposium, Mentoring, Women, equity and research, Cancer, Science-me a Story, En Foco and Design, Blog, Radio, YouTube and Instagram, and the members of our Scientific Advisory Board.

As in previous years, we have grown, achieved goals, and consolidated ourselves as a key player within Spain and the UK. As always, we welcome any member interested in participating actively on board of our amazing team of volunteers.

**SRUK/CERU is run by volunteers. During 2022/2023 around 100 members have actively participated in our departments, working groups and committees, channelling all of the efforts and energy necessary for the Society to work!**



## ESTRUCTURA DE CERU

La Sociedad funciona gracias al trabajo de más de 100 voluntarios y voluntarias que hacen posible el crecimiento y la consolidación de CERU. El Comité Ejecutivo (CE) es el encargado de representar a los socios, desarrollar los objetivos de la Sociedad y delinear el plan estratégico de la misma. Cada año la Asamblea General elige a los miembros del CE, a los directores administrativos y a los de los departamentos. Además, CERU se divide en nueve Delegaciones Regionales cuya Directiva Local, elegida a nivel regional, también forma parte del Comité Ejecutivo. Así se facilita la comunicación entre los socios y el Comité Ejecutivo. Los voluntarios de CERU participan en los grupos de trabajo de las delegaciones, en los departamentos y en los distintos comités, que desarrollan los objetivos específicos de la sociedad.

For more information, please contact [info@sruk.org.uk](mailto:info@sruk.org.uk)



## Executive Committee



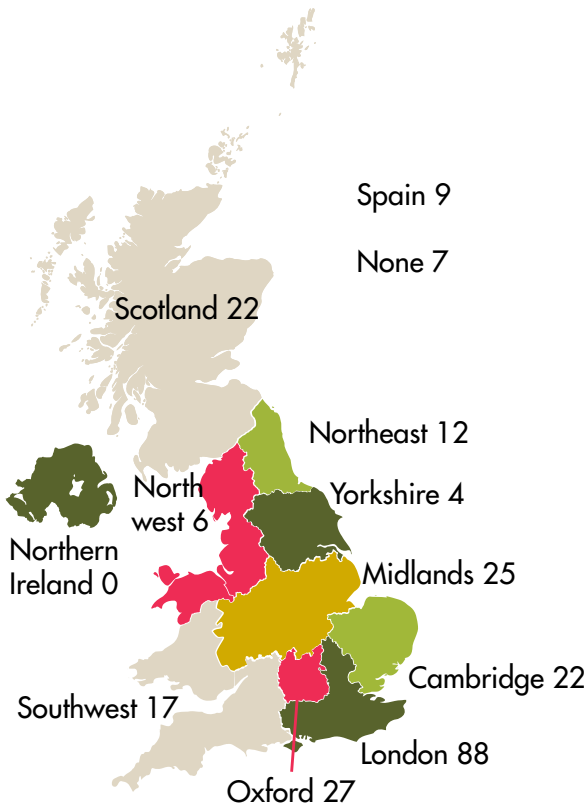
\* Director of Science Policy (Javier Pardo July22-Jan23, Rafael Carrascosa Jan23-July23)

\* Secretary (Jorge Mellado July22-Mar23, Sinué Perea Mar23-July23)

## Committees

Fellowships & Awards  
 Wom=n Equity & Research  
 Evaluation  
 En Foco  
 Cancer  
 Science-me a story

Annual Symposium  
 Design  
 Blog  
 Radio - En Fase Experimental  
 Instagram



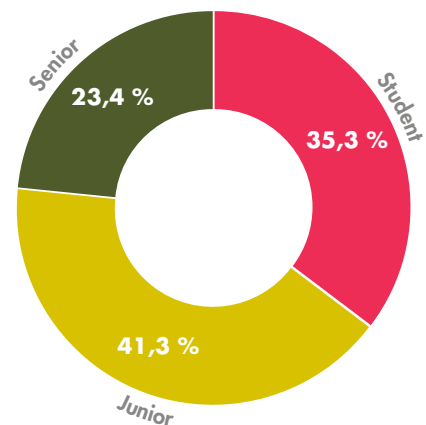
SRUK/CERU accommodates all research disciplines and career stages. Most of our academic members are in the “career consolidation stage”, between being a PhD student and an independent group leader. We also count with members working in industry and in the public sector.

# OUR MEMBERS

SRUK/CERU is consolidated as a network that reaches over 600 persons through its channels of communication. A fraction of this community encompasses our regular members, who are grouped in nine established constituencies across the UK and one in the process of being developed. We also have a number of Friend members in Spain and other countries and Associate members in the UK.

Type of membership	Description	%
Regular	Spanish researchers working in the UK	37.6
Friend	Working outside the UK	55.8
Associate	Non-researchers or non-spanish working in the UK	0.013
Honorary	Merit Awardees and other key members	0.008
Former Presidents		0.016
Founding		0.04

Type of regular membership



## NUESTROS SOCIOS

CERU es una red que, en el curso 2022-2023, ha conectado a más de 600 personas. Una fracción de esta comunidad está constituida por nuestros miembros regulares, que se agrupan en nueve delegaciones oficiales y una en fase de constitución. CERU cuenta con tres tipos de miembros: socios regulares (investigadores españoles que trabajan en Reino Unido), socios asociados (no investigadores o no españoles que trabajan en Reino Unido) y amigos (fuera de Reino Unido), dando la bienvenida a todo el mundo interesado en formar parte de CERU.

For more information, please contact [membership@sruk.org.uk](mailto:membership@sruk.org.uk)

# SCIENCE POLICY

**In the Science Policy Department, we identify and work with key stakeholders both in Spain and in the UK – including researchers, officials, parliamentarians, other associations, and the media – and seek to inform decisions with our reports and evidence submissions.**

## The Science Policy Department

**Javier Pardo Díaz**, Director of Science Policy (July - January)

**Rafael Carrascosa Marzo**, Director of Science Policy (February - June)

**Carmen Sánchez Cañizares**, Director of Institutional Relations (July - December)

**Carlos Outeiral**

**Rocío Gaudioso**

**Javier Escudero**

**Igor Arrieta**

**Diego Sainz de la Mata**

All our activities, reports and statements can be found in our website:

<https://sruk.org.uk/teams/science-policy-department-backstage/>

We have taken and continue to take an **active role in defending the interests and rights of Spanish researchers** both during the Brexit negotiations and beyond. We also **perform impartial analyses and provide recommendations to foster the Spanish R&D system**, based on our perspective from within the British system.

## In the UK

We maintain ongoing oversight of the latest regulations introduced in the UK that have an impact on research, researchers, as well as their families and dependents. As part of this effort, we have made **information about the UK immigration system** accessible to Spanish researchers and students who intend to relocate to the UK. Furthermore, we have kept a vigilant watch on **significant political developments** in the UK, including changes in government and the Windsor Framework, to assess their implications for research. Throughout, we have consistently **advocated for the association of the UK to Horizon Europe**. To increase the impact of our activities, SRUK/CER has increased its collaborations with **other associations of EU researchers in the UK by leading the CONNECTS-UK project** (see pages 12-13).

## In Spain

We have worked on enhancing international mobility and bilateral collaborations by highlighting the difficulties faced by Spanish and international researchers in the UK when planning to relocate to Spain. Related to this last point, we have also prepared **guidelines on the accreditation process with ANECA** including the updates following the exit of the UK in the EU. We have also continued working alongside the **other societies of Spanish researchers abroad, grouped in RAICEX**, in providing science policy recommendations to boost the Spanish research system and talent attraction (see pages 14-15).

## EL DEPARTAMENTO DE POLÍTICA CIENTÍFICA

Desde el Departamento de Política Científica de CERU, interactuamos con distintos actores en España y Reino Unido para defender los intereses de los investigadores en ambos países, la mejora de sus sistemas de I+D+i y la movilidad y las colaboraciones internacionales. Muchas de estas actividades las hacemos en colaboración con otras asociaciones de investigadores europeos en el Reino Unido y de investigadores españoles en el exterior.

# CIENCIAUK 2023

Since 2014, the **Fundación Ramón Areces** and the **Society of Spanish Scientists in the United Kingdom** have been collaborating in the realisation of a **professional development workshop for the promotion of scientific careers in the United Kingdom: CienciaUK**. CienciaUK was created with the aim that information on scientific careers in a more mature system such as the British system permeate into the Spanish system and also serve to inform students and researchers interested in developing some stage of their professional career in the United Kingdom.

The 7th edition of CienciaUK took place in Madrid in April in Fundación Ramón Areces with more than 60 attendees. As in previous editions, it was an event to provide some insights into the research career in the UK. At CienciaUK 2023, **we presented the main effects that Brexit has had on the British R&D system, as well as on international science relations and mobility opportunities**. Co-chaired by Javier Pardo Díaz and Rafael Carrascosa Marzo, the event included presentations and round tables in which **experts in scientific policy issues, members of SRUK/CERU, and internationally renowned researchers** participated. We highlight the participation of Victoria Millor (Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology), Francisco Colomer (Spanish Ministry for Science and Innovation), Nicholas Harrap (British Embassy in Madrid) Eva Ortega Paño (RAICEX), and Blanca Cano (Embassy of Spain in London), among others.

This event was also an opportunity for SRUK/CERU to present and **give visibility to our work and activities for the audience in Spain** and to engage with some of our collaborators in Madrid. In this sense, we also promoted a close environment, in which SRUK/CERU members were able to debate with the attendees, answer their concerns, and explore future collaborations.

## Challenges and opportunities after Brexit



*Participants and organisers of CienciaUK 2023*

## CIENCIAUK 2023

La 7ª edición de CienciaUK, organizada en Madrid por la Fundación Ramón Areces y CERU, se centró en los principales efectos que el Brexit ha tenido en el sistema de I+D+i británico, en las colaboraciones científicas y en la movilidad internacional. Además, sirvió para presentar en España las actividades e iniciativas llevadas a cabo por CERU.

# CONNECTS-UK

## An SRUK/CERU-led partnership between EU research diasporas in the UK to enhance EU-UK research collaborations

SRUK/CERU is leading the project **CONNECTS-UK (CONNeCting European Communities Through Science in the UK)**. This project is a partnership with other scientific diasporas of EU countries (namely, Finland, France, Italy, Poland, Portugal, and Netherlands) and Native Scientists which aims to **strengthen the scientific and research relationships between the EU and the UK**. Additional stakeholders such as the Fundación Española para la Ciencia y la Tecnología (FECYT), the Fundación Banco Santander, and different embassies of EU countries in the UK are supportive of this project.

This project focuses on the relevance of international research as a key element of creating and improving diplomatic relations between the UK and the European countries, much damaged after the exit of the UK from the EU. CONNECTS-UK has four main objectives:

- Establishing a **professional network of EU researchers in the UK**
- Furthering **research on EU-UK research collaborations** and international mobility and on the characterisation of the community of EU researchers in the UK
- Providing **policy advice** to European and UK stakeholders
- Developing **science outreach programmes** while highlighting the role of EU researchers in the UK R&D system.

To achieve these objectives, the associations involved in the project will work together in delivering different scientific and policy-related activities and establishing working connections with European and British policy and academic institutions. Most of these activities will take place during 2024 and 2025.

**You can follow on Twitter:**

**@CONNECTS\_UK\_**



**Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom**



**POLONIUM FOUNDATION**

**parsuk** portuguese association of researchers and students in the uk 



**native scientists**

# connectsuk

CONNECTS-UK was officially presented by our Director of Science Policy, Javier Pardo, at the **First Meeting of the European Scientific Diaspora in the UK** organised by the Embassy of France in London in October. This event was also an opportunity to get to know how the other associations of EU researchers in the UK work and their past and current projects, and for our Vice-President, Irene Echeverria, to present the extensive portfolio of activities carried out by SRUK/CERU.



*First Meeting of European Diaspora in the UK, hosted at the Institut Français in London*

In February, SRUK/CERU was invited to present CONNECTS-UK at the **EU Science Diplomacy Alliance meeting** held in Córdoba (Spain) during the Marie Curie Alumni Association annual conference. The Alliance, which welcomed SRUK/CERU as a Global Networking Partner in June, brings together more than 20 institutions oriented towards science diplomacy research, policy expertise, sustainable development, and education.



During May and June SRUK/CERU has led the organisation of several **EU-themed events in which EU researchers from different nationalities have presented their work**. These events have taken place in Newcastle (in collaboration with the University of Newcastle), London (in collaboration with the European Parliament Liaison Office in the UK), and Oxford (in collaboration with Kellogg College). At the X SRUK/CERU International Symposium celebrated in June there was also a session focused on CONNECTS-UK and the EU research diaspora in the UK.

SRUK/CERU volunteers from different departments, constituencies, and committees are working together in this initiative, led by Javier Pardo.



*EU researchers in the London event, hosted at Europe House*

## CONNECTS-UK

El proyecto CONNECTS-UK es una iniciativa conjunta de las diferentes asociaciones de investigadores europeos en el Reino Unido que tiene como objetivo principal reforzar las colaboraciones en investigación entre la Unión Europea y Reino Unido mediante la organización de eventos, el establecimiento de contactos con instituciones europeas y británicas y la realización de trabajos de investigación.

For more information, contact [eu.policy@sruk.org.uk](mailto:eu.policy@sruk.org.uk)

# RAICEX



**Officially established in July 2018, the Network of Associations of Spanish Scientists and Researchers Abroad (Red de Asociaciones de Científicos e Investigadores Españoles en el Exterior, RAICEX) currently represents 21 associations, which together account for more than 4,000 Spanish researchers and scientists abroad.**

## The RAICEX Board of Directors 2022/2023

**Francisco Vilaplana**, ACES - Sweden, President  
**Carmen Sánchez-Cañizares**, SRUK/CERU - UK, Vice-presidency (2022)

**Irene Echeverría Altuna**, SRUK/CERU - UK, Vice-presidency (2023)

**Álvaro de la Cruz Dombriz**, ACE - South Africa, Secretary

**Guillermo Pérez**, CERFA - Germany, Treasurer  
**Eva Ortega**, General Secretary in Spain



VII Meeting of Spanish Scientific, Technological and Innovation Diplomacy

Our joint mission is to promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge between Spanish researchers abroad and all the agents of the Spanish System of Science, Technology and Innovation, serving as an advisory body, a channel of information, and a catalyst of international relations and multi-directional research. RAICEX has achieved an important institutional recognition in Spain and in an effort to continue transmitting the concerns of our communities to the R&D agents in Spain.

This year SRUK/CERU has collaborated with RAICEX in the following actions:

- In December 2022, the **VII Meeting of Spanish Scientific, Technological and Innovation Diplomacy** was held in Madrid, facilitated by FECYT and hosted by the Ramón Areces Foundation. Our Vice President Irene Echeverría and our Director of Science Policy Javier Pardo represented SRUK/CERU at this event. During this meeting, RAICEX officially presented the **ATRAE Report** (Attraction of Talent and Return to Spain), a report including proposals to attract international talent to the Spanish R&D system.

## Science Policy and Talent Attraction

- RAICEX has participated in a series of **Constantes y Vitales** (Atresmedia) programs on the brain drain and the attraction and retention of scientific talent in Spain.
- In September, SRUK/CERU led the drafting of **amendments to the Organic Law of the University System from the Ministry of Universities** to promote the internationalisation of Spanish universities and enhance the attraction and retention of talent. These amendments were shared with the different political parties and, some of them, incorporated into the final legislative text, approved in April.
- In September, our Director of Institutional Relations Carmen Sánchez Cañizares and our Ambassador in Spain Eduardo Olive published an **opinion article in the SEBBM** (Sociedad Española de Bioquímica y Biología Molecular): “**Reforma de la Ley de la Ciencia**”.
- In September, SRUK/CERU led the drafting of suggestions for the **Statute of Spanish Citizenship Abroad**, which were sent to the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security, and Migrations.
- In May, SRUK/CERU led the drafting of proposals to improve the **accreditation and competition system to access university teaching bodies** by simplifying the accreditation process, promoting the internationalisation of the university system and improving the evaluation criteria. Most of our proposals were taken into account.
- In July, RAICEX prepared a **decatalogue with specific measures to boost the Spanish R&I system and talent attraction**.



## Women in Research

- In September, SRUK/CERU co-organised with RAICEX and ECUSA (Spanish Scientists in the USA) an event on **how gender equality in research has evolved and continues evolving**.
- SRUK/CERU has co-authored a book underscoring **gender differences and progress towards equality** across 13 nations.

## Research communication

- In October, our members David Fairén Jiménez and Bartomeu Monserrat participated at the seminar series “**Diálogos de Ciencia en Español**” organised by RAICEX in collaboration with the Ramón Areces Foundation, Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid, and the Rafael del Pino Foundation.
- In July, in commemoration of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a society, Punto de Enlace (RNE) dedicated a whole program to review the past, present and future of SRUK/CERU interviewing to Lorenzo Melchor (founder president of SRUK/CERU), Eduardo Oliver (SRUK/CERU expresident) and Claudia Román (SRUK/CERU president).

SRUK/CERU has participated in regular meetings with these groups to monitor the impact of Brexit in the Spanish community. We presented SRUK/CERU in **joint events in strategic cities (Cardiff, Birmingham, Leeds, and Manchester)**. In addition, SRUK/CERU also participated in the **EU citizens gathering organised by the EU Delegation** in the UK in November.

SRUK/CERU has signed together with these groups a note asking for the improvement of the working conditions of the staff of the Spanish administration in the UK.



**DECÁLOGO PARA FOMENTAR LA INTERNACIONALIZACIÓN DEL SISTEMA ESPAÑOL DE CIENCIA, TECNOLOGÍA E INNOVACIÓN**

RAICEX

- 01 Aumento progresivo de la financiación pública en I+D+i**  
Alcanzar el objetivo mínimo del 1,5% del PIB para la financiación pública antes de 2030 (superar al 1,25% fijado por la Comisión Europea)
- 02 Fomentar la financiación privada nacional e internacional**  
Impulsar colaboraciones Academia-Sector Privado a través del CDTI. Reformar la Ley de Mecanismo Científico para favorecer la inversión de capital privado. Instaurar un marco administrativo y financiero que favorezca la creación de start-ups.
- 03 Mejorar condiciones de contratación, sueldos y trabajo**  
Incorporar medidas que faciliten la conciliación familiar, la movilidad de fondos adquiridos en el extranjero y la equipación de laboratorios.
- 04 Promoción de la internacionalización**  
Reforzar programas híbridos público-privados (doctorados industriales y proyectos de innovación) en áreas estratégicas para el desarrollo económico del país.
- 05 Sistemas de evaluación y acreditación accesibles**  
Reconocer las figuras como Profesor Titular y Catedrático de universidades extranjeras. Simplificar el sistema de acreditaciones para promover solicitudes internacionales.
- 06 Dobles afiliaciones y estancias internacionales**  
Modificar la Ley de Ciencia para regular la doble afiliación entre instituciones españolas y extranjeras. Convenios bilaterales para el aumento de patentes y proyectos internacionales.
- 07 Agenda Estable**  
Asegurar un calendario de convocatorias y resoluciones anual con criterios de evaluación y salarios concretos. Plazos de inicio de la ejecución de los programas más flexibles.
- 08 Apertura y fomento del multilingüismo**  
Dar difusión internacional (en inglés) de convocatorias y proyectos. Facilitar la formación en inglés y la integración de candidatos extranjeros en el sistema docente, dando un plazo razonable para adquirir la(s) lengua(s) oficial(es) de la región (ejemplo: nivel B1 en 2 años).
- 09 Solicitud y evaluación centralizada y accesible**  
Crear un portal centralizado, cuyos tribunales independientes evalúen a los candidatos (nacionales e internacionales) de acuerdo con baremos públicos y transparentes.
- 10 Mentorazgo para conocer mejor el sistema de CDTI**  
Fomentar los programas de mentoría que quien y faciliten la adaptación de los investigadores a las particularidades del SÉCTI.

*Decalogue of recommendations prepared by RAICEX ahead of the Spanish general elections.*

## CONSEJOS DE RESIDENTES ESPAÑOLES

*SRUK/CERU volunteers presenting our work at the events organised by the Consejo de españoles residentes en el centro del Reino Unido in Birmingham, Leeds, and Manchester*

## RELACIONES INSTITUCIONALES

CERU forma parte de distintas asociaciones y colabora con distintos colectivos para defender los intereses de los investigadores españoles en España y Reino Unido, fortaleciendo la presencia de nuestra Sociedad en ambos países. Este curso ostentamos la vicepresidencia de la Red de Asociaciones de Científicos e Investigadores Españoles en el Exterior (RAICEX) y hemos colaborado activamente con los Consejos de Residentes y Coalición de Españoles en Reino Unido.

For more information, contact [vicepresident@sruk.org.uk](mailto:vicepresident@sruk.org.uk)

# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

**SRUK/CERU aims create a bridge between private and public institutions in Spain and in the UK and to contribute to the success of both national Research & Innovation systems.**

## The International Collaborations Committee

Cristina Barrero Sicilia, Director  
 Rosa Sánchez Lucas  
 Ignacio Tolosana  
 Sara Alvira  
 Desirée Villahermosa Caballero (former member)



*Ciencia-UK Event.  
 From left to right: Desire Villahermosa (former Head of International Collaboration at SRUK), Elena Pascual Vega (Placement Coordinator at UFV), Mayte de los Frailes (Vice-Chancellor of International Collaborations), and Cristina Barrero (Head of International Collaborations at SRUK/CERU)*

We engage in communication and negotiation with academic and non-academic organizations in Spain and the UK, seeking opportunities for interaction and generating agreements for collaboration. Furthermore, we collaborate and exchange knowledge with other societies of Spanish researchers worldwide. Our portfolio of programs focuses on education, awards, networking, and mobility initiatives.

### Key aspects of our work include:

- **International agreements.** With a resolute commitment, we act as conduits for fostering collaborations, elevating the visibility of Spanish and British research clusters. By nurturing strategic partnerships and formal agreements, we foster the perfect climate for joint projects and the sharing of vital expertise.
- **International mobility.** We function as a dynamic bridge, promoting two-way mobility for researchers at every career juncture. Through our well-orchestrated initiatives, we cultivate robust relationships amongst research groups in both territories, creating a framework for seamless collaboration.
- **Networking and Information.** With a strategic intent, we orchestrate networking events and informative sessions, nurturing vital connections amongst researchers and equipping them with invaluable insights. Our astute analysis of Brexit's impact on research mobility remains a cornerstone, guiding us in adapting our programs to new paradigms and challenges.

### Highlighted Initiatives under SRUK/CERU:

- **International research mobility UK ↔ Spain.** Our mobility grants stand as testament to our commitment, providing diverse training and collaborative placements. From fledgling undergraduates to seasoned lecturers, we nurture knowledge exchange, international partnerships, and career growth.
- **Talent recruitment and networking opportunities.** Our forum events serve as vital nexus points, uniting researchers from diverse backgrounds. These occasions galvanize networking, catalyzing collaborations and propelling funding prospects and job pathways.
- **Professional development and awards.** Our informative and training schemes empower our members with skills that enrich their CVs, preparing them for the multifaceted demands of the research realm.

## DEPARTAMENTO DE RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES

Un objetivo fundamental de CERU es ser intermediaria en Ciencia e Investigación, para lo cual establece conexiones y acuerdos con instituciones de investigación españolas. A través de estos convenios, estimulamos colaboraciones entre organizaciones e instituciones en España y Reino Unido, tanto privadas como públicas y facilitamos la movilidad entre ambos países.

Las iniciativas desarrolladas dentro del departamento de Colaboraciones Internacionales de CERU engloban programas de movilidad para estudiantes e investigadores en diferentes estadios de la carrera investigadora, oportunidades para la transferencia de conocimiento y el desarrollo profesional, reclutamiento de talento y premios a la carrera investigadora.

For more information, contact [international@sruk.org.uk](mailto:international@sruk.org.uk)

In our ongoing commitment, we are pleased to share a snapshot of our 2022/2023 achievements:

- **SRUK/CERU Winter and Summer Studentships:** These placements, spanning 4–6 months, have provided invaluable opportunities for 19 students from three Spanish universities. The growing popularity of these studentships underscores their importance in fostering continuous academic growth.
- **4<sup>th</sup> edition On the Move Fellowships:** On the Move is a bi-directional mobility programme for research staff in Spain and in the UK in partnership with the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE). This year, we have awarded 1 placement in the UK.
- In the **post-Brexit era**, placements and internships have become more challenging due to rapidly changing immigration rules. We receive a significant number of inquiries regarding visa applications. At SRUK, we strive to provide guidance and gather information from institutional sources. However, it is important to note that the rules differ across universities in Spain and the UK, making it difficult to establish a robust guideline. Ultimately, the criteria for placements are determined by the home and host universities, based on their interpretation of the requirements set by the UK Home Office.



## Future initiatives

- As we steer towards the future, our commitment to forging fresh collaborations and nurturing existing partnerships remains unwavering. Negotiations with institutions like Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia and the University of Girona are emblematic of our forward-looking approach.
- Looking ahead, our plans encompass gatherings tailored for students and researchers visiting the UK for professional purposes. These events will pave the way for impactful networking and foster genuine connections. We're also actively developing short-stay grants, which will facilitate preliminary discussions with potential collaborators, priming the environment for meaningful collaborative undertakings.
- We are equally enthusiastic about supporting our CERU internship students, extending studentships for participation in the CERU-SRUK symposiums and Connect-UK activities. This affords them the invaluable chance to showcase their research, gain prominence within the scientific community, and forge connections that could pave the path for future synergies.

## Partnerships

Universities	Networks	Charities and Foundations	Societies	Research Institutes
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid - <b>UAM</b>	Conferencia de Rectores de las Universidades Españolas - <b>CRUE</b>	Fundación Damián Rodríguez Olivares - <b>DRO Foundation</b>	Asociación Española de Investigación sobre el Cáncer - <b>ASEICA</b>	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas - <b>CSIC</b>
Universidad de Zaragoza - <b>Unizar</b>	Red de Universidades Valencianas por el fomento de la I+D - <b>RUVID</b>	International Mentoring Foundation for the Advancement of Higher Education - <b>IMFAHE</b>	Real Sociedad Española de Física - <b>RSEF</b>	Fundación Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria de Aragón - <b>IIS Aragón</b>
Universidad Francisco de Vitoria - <b>UFV</b>	Fundación Pública Andaluza para la Investigación Biosanitaria Andalucía Oriental - <b>FIBAO</b>	Fundación <b>CRISCáncer</b>	Sociedad Española de Bioquímica y Biología Molecular - <b>SEBBM</b>	Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas de Málaga - <b>IBIMA</b>
Universidad de La Laguna - <b>ULL</b>			Sociedad Española de Ingeniería Biomédica - <b>SEIB</b>	Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas - <b>CNIO</b>
			Federación Española de Biotecnólogos - <b>FEBiotec</b>	

# X INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM



## FORGING CONNECTIONS

X SRUK/CERU INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM · LONDON

### Members of the Symposium Committee

Larissa Zárate García (symposium Chair)  
 Diego Alonso Álvarez (symposium Chair)  
 Sandra Álvarez-Carretero  
 Cristina Barrero-Sicilia  
 Ana Cristina Carvajal Duperier  
 María Camacho Encina  
 Cristina Delgado  
 Sara Franco  
 Berta Gallego  
 Esther García-Cela  
 Claudia López  
 Isabel Murillo  
 Francisco Romera  
 Diego Sainz  
 Carmen Sánchez Cañizares

This year, we celebrated our signature event, the **SRUK/CERU International Symposium in London**. The theme of this year's event was SRUK/CERU itself, under the title of “**Forging Connections**”. The objective was to recall the spirit of **cooperation** that motivated the foundation of SRUK/CERU during the first years of its history and adapt it to current times, giving the Society a new start: **new committed volunteers, fresh ideas, a broader range of fields of research and closer relationships with other institutions**. The Symposium also wanted to innovate in its format and structure, giving more weight to **networking and discussion** among members, but without losing its power as an opportunity for SRUK/CERU members to present their work in a safe and welcoming space.



Opening ceremony  
at the Royal Institution of Great Britain

The opening ceremony took place at the iconic **Royal Institution of Great Britain**, institution with a long standing tradition in outreach and science communication. The event was hosted by **Dr Diego Alonso Álvarez and Dr Larissa Zárate García**, and counted with approximately a hundred attendees. It opened with welcome speeches by **Dr Claudia Román Montañana, SRUK/CERU President; Mr Pedro Serrano de Haro, European Union Ambassador to the United Kingdom; Ms Rosario Bernal García, General Consul of Spain in London, Mr Raimundo Pérez-Hernández y Torra, Director of the Ramón Areces Foundation; Ms Imma Aguilar Náchter, Director of the FECYT; and Dr Francisco Vilaplana, President of RAICEX**. All of them highlighted the great work that SRUK/CERU does in connecting Spain and UK, with the General Consul of Spain remarking “the exchange of knowledge and ideas that ensures collaborations and mobility”.



**Prof. Clara Grima Ruiz and Prof. Rosario Rueda Cuerva** were in charge of delivering the keynote lectures at the Royal Institution, showing how **connections** are created and evolve in widely different contexts, like social networks and the development of the brain of babies. They shared not only their deep knowledge and understanding of their fields, but also a contagious **enthusiasm and passion**, leaving everyone in the room with a desire to know more. The keynotes on Saturday and Sunday were delivered by **Prof. Pilar López Sancho and Prof. Soledad Torres Guijarro**, respectively, both discussing **gender bias** in research and the value that diversity, in all fronts, brings to the table, as well as the risks of lacking it.

As one of the goals of the symposium was to **forge connections between societies and institutions**, it counted with two fabulous roundtables. The first one with representatives of the Network of Associations of Spanish Researchers and Scientists

Abroad (**RAICEX**) who shared their expertise and knowledge acquired by working in a global scientific context where international collaborations are essential. The second roundtable brought together established **societies of European researchers working in the UK** like the Marie Curie Alumni Association, PARSUK, Polonium Foundation and DANinUK. Ala Santos, from Polonium stressed that “our power as diasporas is the network and pressure we can make together in the UK, our countries of origin and the countries that surround us”.

Further sessions included **short talks and posters from SRUK/CERU members**, specially from early career researchers, and engagement sessions with FECYT and the Axencia Galega de Innovación (GAIN), two of the sponsors of this Symposium. To further strengthen the spirit of collaboration among members, two discussion sessions were organised, led by the attendees themselves. The first one, **“What’s in it for me?”** had the attendees as the main focus, where more veteran volunteers provided insights on all that involves engaging with the Society. The second discussion session, **“Pathways to the future”**, encouraged the attendees to think how to move forward together and what actions could be taken to help SRUK/CERU face the many challenges that lay ahead in these uncertain times.

We believe the Symposium met the goals that we set for it, and that new ideas and initiatives will flourish in the following months. But only time will tell!



Posters and discussion sessions



Attendants to the X SRUK/CERU International Symposium



RAICEX roundtable

## X SIMPOSIO INTERNACIONAL

El X Simposio de CERU se celebró este año en Londres, donde “Forjando Conexiones” fue el hilo conector. Destacadas investigadoras como la Prof. Clara Grima, la Prof. Rosario Rueda, la Prof. Pilar López, y la Prof. Soledad Torres remarcaron el valor de la multidisciplinariedad y la interseccionalidad en los equipos de investigación. Este encuentro reunió a instituciones y organizaciones clave en las interacciones entre el Reino Unido y España, así como a investigadores españoles de diferentes disciplinas y ubicaciones geográficas. Los asistentes participaron activamente en discusiones destinadas a establecer nuevos objetivos para allanar el camino de CERU hacia su futuro.

Please contact [symposium@sruk.org.uk](mailto:symposium@sruk.org.uk) for more information

# PRESS DEPARTMENT

**The SRUK/CERU Press Department consists of a motivated and enthusiastic team of 7 volunteers that informs society about the different activities carried out and goals achieved by SRUK/CERU and its members. Who are we?**

## The Press Department

**Sandra Álvarez**, Press Directory, Co-editor-in-chief of the SRUK/CERU Blog - Blog CERU, and Web Manager + Member of the Press Dpt.

**Laura Martinez**, Co-director of the Radio Committee + Member of the Press Dpt.

**David Ruiz**, Co-director of the Radio Committee + Member of the Press Dpt.

**Marga Segovia**, Co-editor-in-chief of the SRUK/CERU Blog - Blog CERU + Member of the Press Dpt.

**Diego Alonso**, Editor of the SRUK/CERU Blog - Blog CERU+ Member of the Press Dpt.

**Beatriz Castejón Vega**, Editor of the SRUK/CERU Blog - Blog CERU + Member of the Press Dpt.

**Luis Moliner**, Online Manager of the SRUK/CERU Blog - Blog CERU

Since June 2022, our department has issued a total of **11 press releases** written by our team members and in collaboration with both members of the SRUK/CERU Executive Committee and our collaborators.

This year, we have kept covering the **issues the scientific community is currently facing in the UK**. For instance, we have discussed the many difficulties that Spanish researchers are facing in the UK since **access to the Horizon Europe program was lost**, and hence to the research grants funded by this scheme. Apart from news focused on **science policy**, we have also covered events in which SRUK/CERU has been involved as well as the awards our Society delivers. Some of these press releases include the **SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award**, the success of the **Science-Me a Story book** as its stories were highlighted and read in a storytelling event during the **International Women’s Day**, the first **SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium**, and the first event discussing **gender perspective** in climate change and research. A total of **21 journals and newspapers** have been disseminating our press releases in the media, making it possible for the wide audience to learn more about how SRUK/CERU is contributing to society.

As part of the **SRUK/CERU outreach program**, our department also coordinates the radio program **“En Fase Experimental”** and the **SRUK/CERU Blog “1,2,3... Explore!”**. Both initiatives publish their content monthly, covering the latest scientific news explained by both SRUK/CERU members and invited collaborators. This year, “En Fase Experimental” has been on hold so that our wonderful Laura can enjoy her maternity leave – although she and David, as co-directors of the radio team, have been lately preparing the **next podcast season** — and we cannot wait to listen to the new episodes that are to come! Our other initiative, the SRUK/CERU Blog “1, 2, 3... Explore!”, contributes to scientific outreach by publishing monthly posts about the up-to-date research that our SRUK/CERU members and collaborators carry out.





This year, we have published **10 posts** that have covered topics from **everything and anything in science and research**: biology, chemistry, new technologies, women in research, personal experiences as SRUK/CERU volunteers... You name it! **Our posts have been read between 2,000 and 9,000 times**, so we are extremely thankful to all the bloggers that have collaborated with us this year. It is only thanks to them that our SRUK/CERU Blog can be up and running and enjoyed by many readers across the globe! In September 2023, we will reveal the 3 winners of our seventh edition of the annual SRUK/CERU Blog contest on our social media, so **stay tuned** to discover the posts that our readers have liked the most!

Given that information is currently transmitted mostly online, the **Press Department** has joined forces with the **Online Department**. In that way, both departments have been working closely together to develop and communicate SRUK/CERU activities in a **clear, transparent, quick, and truthful** manner to society.

## EL DEPARTAMENTO DE PRENSA

El Departamento de Prensa está formado por un equipo de 7 voluntarios/as que activamente promueve el trabajo que los/las miembros de CERU llevan a cabo en Reino Unido. Nuestro equipo redacta notas de prensa para informar a medios de comunicación nacionales y regionales sobre eventos y actividades en los que CERU participa en Reino Unido. A su vez, gracias a la contribución tanto de miembros de CERU como de profesionales de la investigación que colaboran con CERU, nuestro programa de radio **"En Fase Experimental"** y nuestro Blog CERU **"1, 2, 3... ¡Explora!"** siguen siendo puntos de referencia en divulgación científica para la sociedad.

If you are interested in joining The Press Department, contact us at: [press@sruk.org.uk](mailto:press@sruk.org.uk)

# COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

**The SRUK/CERU Communications Department is the face of our community online, increasing SRUK/CERU's visibility worldwide through all our communication channels. Responsible for the online communications strategy, it keeps our community engaged with all our events and initiatives, as well as delivering the latest news about science and research.**

## The Communications Department

Bet Batlle Rocafort Director

## Regional Community Managers

Loreto Gestoso	London
Carlota Segura	Oxford
Maribel Garcia	Cambridge
Marta Dominguez	Midlands
Paula Sotelo	Scotland
Ana Viñuela	SouthWest

## Department and Committee Managers

Sandra Álvarez	Web Manager
Ignacio Tolosana	International Collaborations
Javier Pardo	Science Policy
Isabel Peset	Ciencia-me un cuento
Luis Moliner	Press & Blog
Lorea Valcarcel	Wom=en Committee

Our team of volunteers bring to life **exciting content** for the SRUK/CERU community every single day. Our social media channels have continued to grow in impact and followers, with a community of now 5k followers on Twitter. We want to continue spreading the word about the nationwide success of our initiatives, using all our communication channels including YouTube and Instagram which have now been successfully established. Once more, the Communications Department has been giving voice to our volunteers and members across the UK, updating our community on all our events and initiatives as well as delivering the latest news about science and research. This year has been busy and exciting for our online community, with a growing number of initiatives taking the SRUK/CERU brand further than ever before.

The Online team has been involved in the development of social media campaigns and video editing to promote and cover all our events, ranging from the local constituency events to official ceremonies such as the Emerging Talent Award Ceremony taking place at the Spanish Embassy. This year, all main events such as the **SRUK/CERU Aging and Diseases Conference** in Midlands or the **SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium** in Birmingham have been supported by Online Department Managers in committees, departments and constituencies, facilitating the promotion and the covering of the event across all social media channels.



*Tweets covering the SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium and SRUK/CERU Aging and Diseases Conference*

This year we have continued to engage with all our members and volunteers, making our initiatives more accessible and our community more approachable to attract new members and volunteers to our working groups and departments.

Following up with our Instagram channel launching, we wanted to create a space for SRUK/CERU's initiatives to be known,



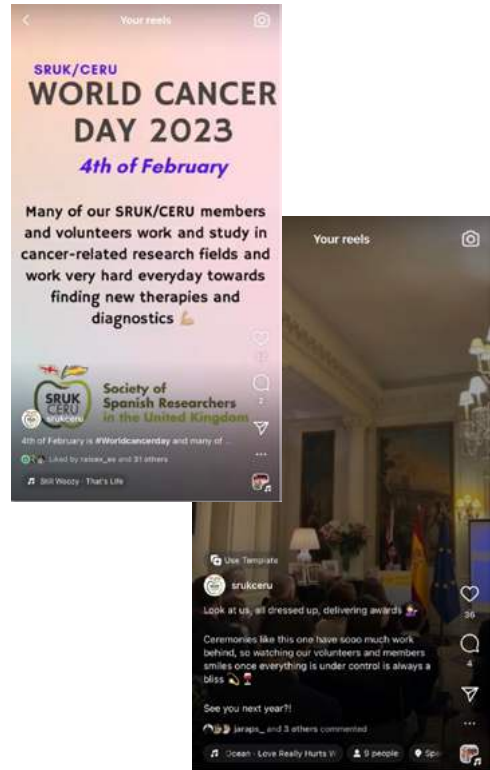
as well as our members' careers and interests. For instance, the monthly posts on our SRUK/CERU blog were shared on Instagram as well to emphasise our members' contributions and thoughts on their respective research fields. We have also been creating content for this platform that include for instance Reels on relevant scientific days or video recaps on main events.

Stay tuned to find out more about our new ideas on how to engage with current and future members, with new sections such as “**what SRUK/CERU can do for you**” or “**Meet the volunteers**”. And as always, contact us if you would like to develop your communications skills and collaborate with the team!

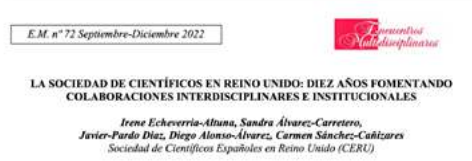
The second edition of the **Inktober with a Scientific Twist** in October 2022 as a collaborative science outreach challenge on our Instagram page was yet another success. Once more, it is encouraging to see members combining their passion for science and art, helping raise awareness about the value of science in their daily life, while developing their creativity during the month. All the illustrations were published on our Instagram page @srukceru. This initiative is led by the SRUK/CERU Design committee, comprised of our most talented scientists and researchers who bring together art and science and help the Communications Department to deliver events and initiatives in the best possible way. A huge thank you to all of them once more!

As the communications and online department work in really close collaboration with all the departments and constituencies of SRUK/CERU, its working group has the opportunity to engage with every single volunteer and to learn from all of them, to stay up to date with everything going on in the society at any time, and to explore the creativity to find feasible ways to communicate in different channels and tones.

As a celebration of SRUK/CERU's X Anniversary in 2022, we supported the publication of the article “LA SOCIEDAD DE CIENTÍFICOS EN REINO UNIDO: DIEZ AÑOS FOMENTANDO COLABORACIONES INTERDISCIPLINARES E INSTITUCIONALES” in **Encuentros Multidisciplinares**.



*Instagram publications on World Cancer Day and Emerging Talent Award ceremony*



*Article published in Encuentros Multidisciplinares*

## EL DEPARTAMENTO DE COMUNICACIÓN Y REDES SOCIALES

El Departamento de Comunicación y Redes Sociales se encarga de visibilizar el trabajo de toda nuestra comunidad a través de nuestra web, YouTube y nuestras redes sociales. Esta labor es clave para establecer vínculos entre los miembros de nuestra comunidad, dando difusión a todas las iniciativas de la asociación. Este año hemos seguido creciendo nuestra comunidad online a través de nuestras campañas en redes y nuestra nueva web, facilitando la difusión de toda la labor de CERU. Nuestro canal de YouTube sigue aumentando en videos y visitas y nuestro canal de Instagram se ha usado para promocionar eventos de una manera más cercana.

If you want to be part of our Communications team, or want to know more about us: [online@sruk.org.uk](mailto:online@sruk.org.uk)

# DESIGN COMMITTEE

**The Design Committee started in February 2021, as part of the Communications Department. Our principal aim is to enhance the visual image of SRUK/CERU, aligning it to the values of our Society, and improving our audience's perception through better communication.**

## The Design Team

Cristina Gallego Páramo, Chair  
 Berta Gallego Páramo  
 Loreto Gestoso Suárez  
 Paula Sotelo Parrilla

We are an enthusiastic team passionate about science but also about art and design. We are always open to collaborate helping other SRUK/CERU teams and members with the design of the visuals for their events and initiatives.

A special mission this year was to **design a logotype for CONNECTS-UK** (see page 12) as a start to continue developing its visual guidelines during next year.

We collaborated with the **Annual Symposium Committee**, to design an **exclusive logo/illustration conveying the idea of "Forging Connections"**, the theme chosen for this event (see pages 18-19), that was used in their communications. Our work also included designing material for flagship initiatives, like the **Emerging Talent Award**. Also for other special events, like the **Cancer Symposium** in Birmingham, **Sustainable plastics for the future** in Oxford, **EU Research in London and Oxford**, or the **Ageing and diseases conference** in Cambridge.

We helped **EnFoco** photographs being part of people lives through the **design of calendars**.

The Committee has been also in charge of the formatting, layout, and cover of the **Annual report**.

## connectsuk



## Plans 2023/2024

- Working in our image as a Society, SRUK/CERU public perception, improving templates for creating banners for the events. Capacitate members to use templates following design rules. Actualisation and standardisation.
- Continue developing the identity manual for CONNECTS-UK
- Continue giving support to initiatives creating graphic design material, including the Annual Symposium.

## COMITÉ DE DISEÑO

Como parte del Departamento de Comunicación, en el Comité de Diseño trabajamos para mejorar la percepción pública que se ofrece de SRUK/CERU a través de la imagen que se da en nuestras comunicaciones. Mediante el diseño gráfico no solo creamos una imagen atractiva, sino efectiva, y alineada con nuestros valores e identidad como Sociedad. Hemos colaborado con diseños para las principales iniciativas, como el Simposio Anual, carteles y material para el Talento Emergente, así como para otros eventos puntuales. También estamos a cargo del diseño y maquetación de la Memoria Anual.

You can contact us at [design@sruk.org.uk](mailto:design@sruk.org.uk)

# INKTOBER

## WITH A SCIENTIFIC TWIST

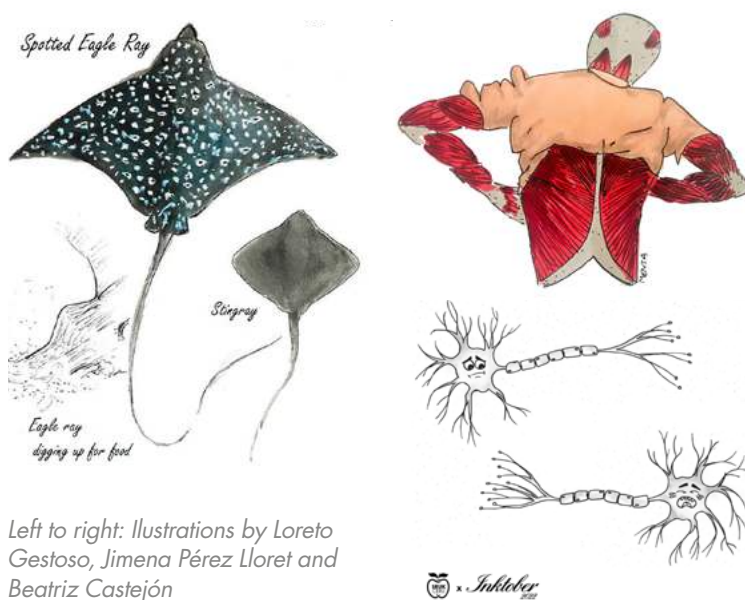
Inktober is a month-long art challenge that lives on Instagram and that is very popular within the illustrators' community. It consists of publishing an original illustration per day during October, each inspired by a given word.

With "Inktober with a Scientific Twist", we adhered to this initiative for the second time on **SRUK/CERU Instagram**, asking the participants to **find a "scientific twist" to the official Inktober words**. We also requested to add a little explanation to the image, to expand the meaning of the illustration.

We recruited and organised a team of volunteers (members and not members of our Society) to **complete the challenge collaboratively**. By doing this, we aim at promoting the values of cooperation, to stimulate curiosity, and, of course, having fun.

We recruited a team of **11 volunteers** from different profiles, but most of them were working in areas related to life sciences. Some of the illustrations portrayed interesting facts about animals and plants, highlighting the importance of biodiversity conservation. Others delved into how life works, explaining physiology, and structural and molecular biology. Chemistry and technology also had their place.

The team had fun and learned a few things. We hope anyone following the challenge on our social media did too!



Left to right: Illustrations by Loreto Gestoso, Jimena Pérez Lloret and Beatriz Castejón

**This initiative aims to raise awareness about how scientific advancement and the wonders of nature are present in every aspect of life and to encourage the use of visuals for scientific communication.**

**You can follow the challenge on Instagram: @srukceru**

### The "Inktober with a Scientific twist" Organising Team

Berta Gallego Páramo  
Cristina Gallego Páramo  
Loreto Gestoso Suarez  
Paula Sotelo Parrilla

### Volunteer Illustrators Team

- Jimena Pérez Lloret @jimenaperezlloret
- Eva Cacabelos @evadebuxa
- Sara González Antón
- Verónica Hidalgo Álvarez @v\_hidalgo\_alvarez
- Beatriz Castejón
- Marta Pérez @art\_martattack
- Susana Barrera @viviendocientificos
- Loreto Gestoso @zelaya.orama
- Cristina Gallego @a\_romantic\_scientist
- Paula Sotelo Parrilla @pauleavessp
- Berta Gallego @silken\_woods

## INKTOBER CON UN GIRO CIENTÍFICO

Inktober es un desafío muy popular dentro de la comunidad artística: se publica en Instagram una ilustración cada día de octubre, inspirada por una palabra dada. Con "Inktober con un giro científico", nos unimos a esta iniciativa de forma particular: con un equipo de voluntarios para afrontar el desafío de forma colaborativa y dando una orientación científica a cada palabra. Pretendemos destacar así el papel de la ciencia y la naturaleza en nuestras vidas, promover la comunicación visual en ciencia, el espíritu colaborativo y la curiosidad. La segunda edición reunió un equipo de 11 voluntarias, que participaron con ilustraciones sobre naturaleza, fisiología, biología, química y tecnología. La experiencia fue divertida y estimulante para las ilustradoras y esperamos que para el público también.

More info: [sruk.org.uk/initiatives/public-engagement/sruk-ceru-x-inktober/](https://sruk.org.uk/initiatives/public-engagement/sruk-ceru-x-inktober/), contact: [design@sruk.org.uk](mailto:design@sruk.org.uk)

# OUTREACH

**This recently-established department has overseen SRUK/CERU outreach activities developed by the Science-me a Story, Cancer, and ‘Investigación En Foco’ committees.**

## Head of the Department of Public Engagement and Outreach

José Luis Marín Rubio

The Science-me a Story, Cancer, and ‘Investigación En Foco’ committees use distinct approaches to convey research in a multidisciplinary fashion to diverse audiences, encompassing children, adults, scientists, and the general public.

Thanks to this collective effort, the **Cancer Committee has risen like a phoenix** this year, and the **III SRUK/CERU photography competition** has taken place, as coordinated by the ‘Investigación En Foco’ Committee. Additionally, the **‘Science-me a story’ book** has reached the classrooms of the **Cañana Blanch Institute** in London, the **Spanish supplementary schools** across the United Kingdom, as well as both **Instituto Cervantes in London and Manchester**.

Additionally, the Department of Public Engagement and Outreach has established **collaborations with new institutions and has secured financial support** for SRUK/CERU’s outreach initiatives. We have also continued collaborating with our long-term partner Native Scientists, approaching research to the younger public.



**native scientists**

SRUK/CERU members in outreach activities organised by Native Scientists at the Embassy of Spain in London (left picture), and at the Fiesta event in Whitley Bay (Newcastle) (right picture).

## DEPARTAMENTO DE DIVULGACIÓN CIENTÍFICA Y PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA

Este nuevo departamento de CERU ha coordinado y ampliado las iniciativas de difusión científica de los comités de Ciencia-me un Cuento, Cáncer e Investigación En Foco, utilizando distintas estrategias para traer la investigación a diversos públicos. Como resultado de este esfuerzo conjunto, el comité de Cáncer ha resurgido junto con el III Concurso de Fotografía Investigación En Foco. Además, el libro Ciencia-me un Cuento ha llegado a aulas de institutos y escuelas suplementarias en el Reino Unido a través de cuentacuentos y experimentos científicos.

# CANCER COMMITTEE

The committee has achieved significant success this year with the support of the **Midlands Constituency** (see page 37) by organizing two events that **attracted more than 100 researchers**. The first was the **I SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium**, which connected Spanish cancer researchers in the UK on December 3rd 2022, in Birmingham. The second event was the **SRUK/CERU Ageing and Diseases Conference** held on June 9th 2023, in Cambridge.

Outstanding Spanish researchers based in the UK showcased their **most innovative work in cancer research** in these events through their invited talks and the SRUK/CERU member short talks. These events aimed to communicate the research of Spanish scientists in the field of cancer research to a **diverse and multidisciplinary audience**. Covering basic and clinical research, drug and therapy development, as well as ageing-related diseases. Speakers and attendees had the opportunity to learn from each other during the **social networking sessions**.

Thanks to the sponsorship support of the Embassy of Spain in the United Kingdom, as well as the support of Manchester Consulate, CRIS Cancer, ASEICA, CERFA, University of Birmingham, University of Cambridge, Instituto Cervantes, Consejo de Residentes Españoles (CREs), AltosLabs, and The Institute of Cancer Research.



## **I SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium. December 2022, Birmingham.**

From left to right. Dr Paloma García (University of Birmingham), Dr Cristina Montiel-Duarte (Nottingham Trent University), Mrs Laura García Alfaya, Consul General of Spain in Manchester, Mr José María Robles Fraga, Minister Counselor for Cultural and Scientific Affairs of the Spanish Embassy in London, Dr Claudia Román Montañana (SRUK/CERU President), Dr Daniel Muñoz-Espin (University of Cambridge), Ms Lola Manterola, founder of the CRIS Cancer Foundation, Dr Pilar Acedo Nuñez (University College London), Dr Pablo Nenclares Peña, the Institute of Cancer Research, and Dr José Luis Marín Rubio (Chair of the Symposium).

**The SRUK/CERU Cancer Committee aims to foster discussions and promote collaboration among cancer researchers in the UK and Spain, thereby bringing together world-renowned cancer institutions from these countries.**

## **Members of the Cancer Committee**

Pilar Acedo Núñez (London)  
José Luis Marín Rubio (Northeast)  
Ana Cristina Carvajal Duperier (Spain)  
Ignacio Rodríguez Pastrana (Midlands)  
Verónica Hidalgo-Alvarez (Cambridge)  
Andrés García Sampedro (London)  
Beatriz Salvador (Southwest)

## **& SRUK/CERU Midlands Constituency Working Group**

Miguel Ángel Aleñá Rodríguez  
Marta Dominguez Prieto  
Claudia Román Montañana  
Laura Bravo Merodio  
Asier Rodríguez Muguruza



## **COMITÉ DE CÁNCER**

El Comité de Cáncer de CERU busca fomentar la colaboración entre investigadores de cáncer en España y en el Reino Unido. Este año, han organizado dos jornadas que atrajeron a más de 100 investigadores: el I SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium conectó a investigadores españoles en Birmingham en diciembre del 2022; y la Conferencia de Envejecimiento y Enfermedades en junio del 2023 en Cambridge. Ambos eventos mostraron el trabajo de científicos españoles en la investigación del cáncer, fomentar la colaboración y el aprendizaje mutuo, así como apoyar la difusión al público.

For more information, please contact [cancer@sruk.org.uk](mailto:cancer@sruk.org.uk)

# SCIENCE-ME A STORY 2022



Sponsored by



## Awarded stories from the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Science-me a story

### Spanish category

- 1<sup>st</sup> Felipe Tenebaum for *El error*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Pau Sarle i Valles for *Bienvenidos a Eukarya*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nereida Bueno Guerra for *Hugo tiene dos mamás*

### English category

- 1<sup>st</sup> Joseph Daunt for *A different type of Magic*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Heather Downey-Barrier for *The summer I bred a dinosaur*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Laura Jardine for *Snake Hunters*

### Members of the Science-me a Story Committee

María Pin Nó (Chair)  
Isabel Peset Martin  
Alba Iglesias Vilches  
Ester Baixauli  
Eva García Alegría  
José Luis Marin Rubio  
Paula Rodríguez Villamayor

### Members of the external Jury

Greg Lynall, Claire Culliford, Victoria Wong,  
Jules Pottle, Adam Feinstein, Danielle  
Thibodeau, Vanessa Pombo, Francisco Vega,  
José Pío Beltrán, Daniel Ramón Vidal,  
Maruxa Martínez Campos, Susana Gaytán

In 2022, the Science-me a Story committee organised the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the established contest. The committee received around 173 stories from over 40 countries. As from the first edition, the awarded stories and the finalists in Spanish were published regularly on the website of Principia Magazine, while the stories in English are available on the website of the Literature and Science Hub of the University of Liverpool. The awardees also received £200, £150 and £100 respectively. The committee is very grateful to the judging panel, which needed to be increased to six members per category, for their amazing work and their patience.

In April 2022, commemorating World Book Day, the committee presented the Science-me a Story book to the English public at the Instituto Cervantes of Manchester. In the roundtable, led by María Pin, from the committee; Jules Pottle and Claire Culliford, members of the judging panels for the English category; Cristina Gallego, illustrator of the Science-me a Story book and Isabel Peset, co-organiser of the initiative discussed how stories can be used to teach. The event finished with wine and Spanish snacks that gave the attendees the opportunity to network.

During this past year, the committee has also been busy sending the hardcopies of the book to the authors that made it possible, as well as to the members of the judging panels of previous editions of the contest with whom the initiative would not have been launched. The remaining copies are for collaborators and Science engagers that will use them in their initiatives. For example, some were sent to the school Cañada Blanch, others to a library in France and even a few hardcopies went to Nepal thanks to Alba Abad, the former director of the Scotland Constituency.

Collaborators:



PRINCIPIA

VICENTE CAÑADA BLANCH  
SPANISH SCHOOL

There are some books still available, so do not hesitate to contact the committee if you are willing to use the book actively. If you do not have it yet, **download the digital free copy from the QR code on this page.**

*Book cover and QR to download it!*



In June, the Science-me a Story initiative was presented at the **IX Encontro Mocidade Investigadora from the University of Santiago de Compostela**. Paula Rodríguez Villamayor was joined *via* Teams by other members of the committee and authors of the book to inspire young researchers to share their scientific work to the public.

The committee is also keen to bring the stories to the kids, so they have been collaborating with SRUK members, teachers and Scientific Engagers that want to use the stories in their activities. Among other activities, Elisa López used the stories in the **Biodiversity Walk** organised by the library of Torredembarra and the Instituto Cervantes of Manchester uses them in their storytelling series Storytime. The students of the supplementary school Nuestra Escuela Leeds had the opportunity to learn about cells by reading the "Welcome to Eukarya", while participating in a workshop with José Luis Marín about pH and the chemical reactions that occur inside the cell.



*Isabel Murillo telling her story 'Hello Mrs E. coli!' at the Instituto Cervantes in London*

*"Storytelling" series at the Instituto Cervantes in Manchester. Magaly Flores telling the story 'Jenny normal'*



## CIENCIA-ME UN CUENTO

En 2022, se celebró la 5ª edición del concurso con 173 cuentos de más de 40 países. Además, coincidiendo con el Día Mundial del Libro, se presentó Ciencia-me un Cuento al público británico en el Instituto Cervantes de Manchester con una mesa redonda en la que se habló sobre cómo usar relatos en la enseñanza. En este año, el comité se ha centrado en hacer llegar los cuentos a los más pequeños colaborando con divulgadores, profesores y otros expertos en cuentacuentos y talleres. La iniciativa fue presentada en el IX Encontro Mocidade Investigadora de la Universidad de Santiago de Compostela para inspirar a los jóvenes investigadores a que divulguen su trabajo.

For more information, please contact [relatosciencia@sruk.org.uk](mailto:relatosciencia@sruk.org.uk)

# INVESTIGACIÓN EN FOCO



## III SRUK/CERU Photography Competition

**The competition aims to highlight the aesthetic value and significance of research through visual representations. It provides an exclusive platform for researchers to showcase the beauty of their work and make research accessible to a broad audience and understandable to people outside the academic community.**

### Members of the organising committee

José Luis Marín Rubio (NorthEast)  
Gentzane Sánchez Elexpuru (Cambridge)  
Andrés García Sampedro (London)

### Panel of expert judges

Daniela Riva Rossi, art historian and artist  
Clara Novo, scientist at Francis Crick Institute, and photographer  
Gem Toes-Crichton, photographer in Plant Sciences department, Oxford  
Helena González Burón, biomedical, CEO of Big Van Ciencia  
Laura Ulera, deputy vice-president of Scientific Culture, CSIC  
Juan Aballe, professional photographer  
Caitlin Griffiths, Lecturer on Photography BA (Hons) at Salford University

This year, the **12 finalist photographs** were exhibited during the X SRUK/CERU International Symposium in London, where the winners received their awards. The photographs will also be featured in the **SRUK/CERU 2024 calendar**.

The third edition of **"Investigación En Foco"**, SRUK/CERU's scientific photography competition, attracted the submission of 17 photographs by **SRUK/CERU members and friends**.

Each participant was able to submit a single photograph that captured a particular theme in any research field, including Mathematics, Biology, Medicine and Health, Chemistry, Ecology and Environmental Science, Physics, Astronomy, Engineering Technology, Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences and Science Communication.

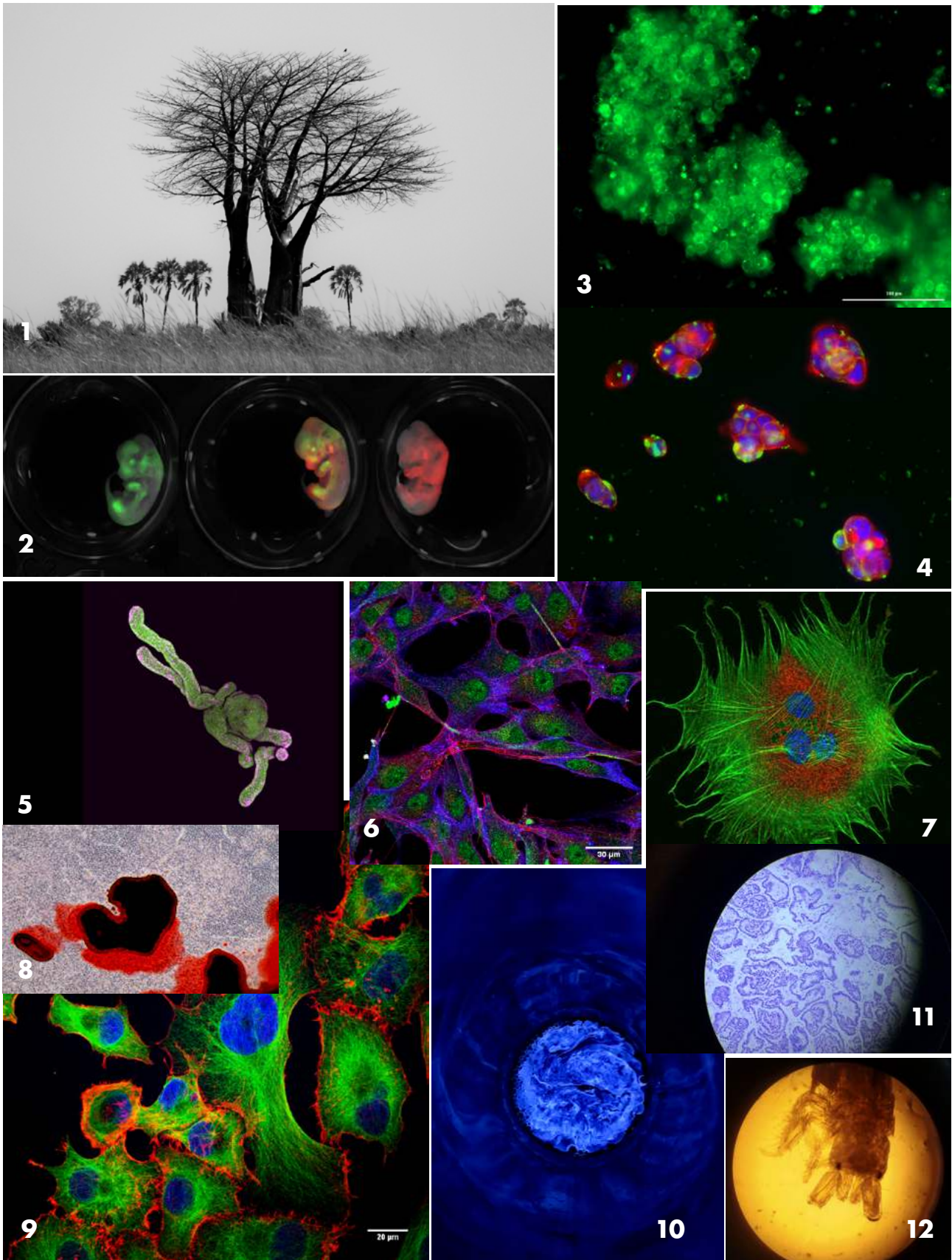
The external evaluation panel of the photographs was composed of seven members with varied expertise such as photography, public engagement, science, and history, among others. Participants' submissions were evaluated according to three criteria: originality, technique, and research communication. A fourth winner was elected by the SRUK/CERU members and friends through virtual vote. The winners were awarded £100 each and were:

- **Adrian Acuña** with 'Uncharted Planet'. **Winner of Originality and artistic character of the image.**
- **Luis Moliner Cachazo** with 'The secluded Baobab'. **Winner of Technique and quality of the photograph category.**
- **Beatriz Fernandez Ruiz** with 'Colouring ontogeny'. **Winner of Research Communication category.**
- **Luisa Chocarro de Erauso** with 'Programming immune cells to kill cancer'. **Winner elected by SRUK/CERU members and Friends.**

## III CONCURSO DE FOTOGRAFÍA DE CERU "INVESTIGACIÓN EN FOCO"

La tercera edición de **"Investigación En Foco"**, el concurso de fotografía científica de CERU, recibió este año 17 fotografías enviadas por miembros y amigos de CERU. El concurso tiene como objetivo proporcionar una plataforma para que los investigadores muestren la **belleza de su trabajo** y lo divulguen para que sea **accesible a todo el público**. Las fotografías fueron evaluadas por un Panel de Expertos de acuerdo con estos tres criterios: originalidad, técnica y comunicación de la investigación. Además, los miembros y amigos de CERU votaron su fotografía favorita mediante una votación virtual.





**1.** Luis Moliner Cachazo, 'The secluded Baobab'. Winner of Technique and quality of the photograph category.  
**2.** Beatriz Fernandez Ruiz, 'Colouring ontogeny'. Winner of Research Communication. **3.** Luisa Chocarro de Erauso, 'Programming immune cells to kill cancer'. Winner elected by SRUK/CERU members and Friends.  
**4.** Sara Escalera Anzola, 'Targeting Nanomaterials'. **5.** Carmen Moreno Gonzalez, 'Octopus organoid'.  
**6.** Maria Rosado Rodriguez, 'Immunofluorescence of human glioblastoma cells'.  
**7.** Juan González Valdivieso, 'Stretching routine!'. **8.** Maria Florez Martin, 'For the Love of Bone'. **9.** Pilar Acedo, 'We like to move it!'. **10.** José Luis Marín Rubio, 'The light of chemistry'. **11.** Adrian Acuña, 'Uncharted Planet'. Winner of Originality and artistic character of the image. **12.** Loreto Gestoso, 'Marine life through the lens'.

# TRAVEL GRANTS



## The 2023 SRUK/CERU Travel Grants awardees

- Sandra Álvarez Carretero
- Eva Bugallo Blanco
- Rubén de Dios Barranco
- Paula del Val Vales
- Sara Franco Ortega
- Andrés García Sampedro
- Sara Mederos
- Violeta Menéndez González
- Miguel Páez Pérez
- Helena Rodríguez Caro

In February 2023, to promote the career development of its regular members, SRUK/CERU opened the 10th call of the SRUK/CERU **Travel Grants**. In this new call, applications were accepted for **international** research activities and events. Ten grants of up to £400 were available for this round.

Twenty-five applications from diverse scientific areas were received. Due to the limited nature of the funding, grants were awarded on a competitive basis, based on merit and the expected impact of the meeting on the applicant's professional development and career. Among the members who fulfilled the mandatory requested criteria, SRUK/CERU awarded **ten members** a 2023 travel grant. These grants were aimed to help fund the cost of presenting their research outcomes at in person international conferences or specialised meetings.



(left to right) Pilar Acedo Nuñez (SRUK/CERU Roving Director), Violeta Menéndez González (2023 Travel Grant Awardee), Sara Franco Ortega (2023 Travel Grant Awardee), Claudia Román Montañana (SRUK/CERU President) and Irene Echeverría Altuna (SRUK/CERU Vicepresident).

# EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The SRUK/CERU **Evaluation Committee** participates in scientific evaluations of applications for certain SRUK/CERU initiatives and provides **advice** to the Board of Directors on scientific matters. The Evaluation Committee evaluates the SRUK/CERU Travel Grants, abstracts submitted for presentation in our annual Symposium when required, and other initiatives in which SRUK/CERU collaborates, such as the **British Spanish Society** scholarships.

## Members of the 2023 SRUK/CERU Evaluation Committee

Pilar Acedo (Chair)  
Diego Alonso Álvarez  
Nerea Alonso  
Sara Alvira de Celis  
Silvia Corrochano  
Beatriz de la Fuente Marina

Cristina Delgado  
Carmen Domene  
Carmen María Escudero Martínez  
Nuria Ferrándiz Díaz  
Francisco Flórez Revuelta  
Berta Gallego Páramo

Loreto Gestoso  
Rocío Gómez Lencero  
María Hernández Fuentes  
Rodrigo Ledesma Amaro  
Francisco José López Cantos  
Gloria López Castejón  
Carlos Outeiral Rubiera

Javier Pardo  
Ana Rodríguez  
Rosa Sánchez  
Juan Suárez  
Nuria Tapia Ruiz  
Marta Vila  
Larissa Zarate

## COMITÉ DE EVALUACIÓN

El Comité de Evaluación de CERU está formado por investigadores en diversas etapas de la carrera investigadora que ayudan en la gestión de bolsas de viaje y programas de movilidad de CERU, o las becas de la British Spanish Society. Su participación en el proceso de revisión aporta valiosas habilidades para el desarrollo profesional. El comité está abierto todo el año a cualquiera de nuestros socios que quiera colaborar activamente en las distintas convocatorias a lo largo del año.

The Evaluation Committee is renewed periodically. Please contact [roving@sruk.org.uk](mailto:roving@sruk.org.uk) for more information if you would like to join the committee.

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## Dr Roser Vento Tormo wins the 2023 SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award

Dr Roser Vento Tormo received her PhD degree in Biomedicine/Immunology in 2016 from the University of Barcelona. She then worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the Wellcome Sanger Institute (Cambridge) until 2019, when she became a group leader at the same Institution. During these years, Roser has developed an extensive track record in the complex area of **female reproductive systems and associated diseases**.

Her research focuses on understanding the principles of transcriptional regulatory circuits, in particular, on how signals from the tissue microenvironment can rewire them. To achieve this goal, Roser integrates **cutting-edge genomics, bioinformatics and cell biology methods**. Overall, she has gained important insights into the immune and reproductive systems that have **revolutionised our understanding of women's health**. She has contributed extensively to advancing knowledge in the area of cell atlases of female reproductive tissues, identifying new cell states linked to disease. Roser has also pioneered research on the discovery of new details of placental-uterine communication using organoids, and differentiating human induced pluripotent stem cells to macrophages with translational potential.

The novelty of her approaches has been supported by numerous grants as principal investigator from ERC, Wellcome-LEAP, CZI, etc accounting for more than £2.5M. Moreover, she has also published many high impact publications as a lead author, which demonstrates the importance and impact of her work and her leadership as cutting-edge researcher in the field.

Roser will use the award money (£14.000) for multiple purposes, including **science dissemination to increase visibility of women's health and to raise societal awareness**. To achieve this, she will organise a series of workshops and events in collaboration with the Cambridge University Femtech Society. Roser also expects to improve communication among the members of her multidisciplinary team by organising a 2-day retreat, fostering collaboration and productive discussions. The award will also support Roser to develop her **leadership skills** through personal coaching sessions.



Dr Roser Vento Tormo

# EMERGING TALENT 2023

## Recognising and fostering Spanish talent in the UK

This year, **18 candidates** with a high-quality profile have applied for the Emerging Talent Award. These applications have been assessed by the designated scientific panel, made up of high-quality researchers from institutions both in Spain and the UK. Based on their evaluations, the awardee ratified by a jury composed by representatives of SRUK/CERU, the Emerging Talent Award evaluation panel, the Fundación Banco Santander, the Fundación Ramón Areces, the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECyT), and the Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs of the Embassy of Spain in the United Kingdom.

## 2023 SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award Evaluation Panel

**Carmen Galán** (Chair), University of Bristol  
**Alfonso Bueno-Orovio**, University of Oxford  
**José Antonio Carrillo de la Plata**, University of Oxford  
**Daniel García González**, University Carlos III of Madrid  
**Susana García López**, Heriot-Watt University  
**Rodrigo Ledesma**, Imperial College London  
**Maria Mittelbrunn**, Center of Molecular Biology Severo Ochoa CSIC-UAM  
**Victoria Pastor**, University Jaume I  
**Rocio Sancho**, King's College London  
**Marc Vendrell**, University of Edinburgh

## 2023 SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award Finalists

**Lucía Prieto Godino**, The Francis Crick Institute  
**Teresa Rayón Alonso**, The Babraham Institute  
**Antonio Fernández Pardiñas**, Cardiff University  
**Mauro Brotans I Gisbert**, Heriot-Watt University

## PREMIO TALENTO EMERGENTE 2023

La Dra. Roser Vento Tormo es la ganadora del Premio del Talento Emergente 2023. Roser lidera un grupo de investigación en el Wellcome Sanger Institute, que utiliza técnicas de genómica, bioinformática y biología celular para investigar el sistema reproductivo femenino y enfermedades asociadas. Roser empleará el premio (£14.000) para múltiples propósitos, como organizar una serie de reuniones y talleres en colaboración con el la Sociedad de Femtech de la Universidad de Cambridge, concienciar sobre la importancia de la investigación sobre la salud de las mujeres, y fomentar la comunicación entre los miembros de su grupo.

# WOM=N EQUITY & RESEARCH

## Promoting gender equity and diversity in research

### The SRUK/CERU Wom=n Equity & Research Committee Members

Cynthia Cabañas (Chair from March 2023)

María José Martínez Bravo  
(Chair until March 2023)

Lorea Valcárcel

Nuria Ferrándiz

Marta Peña

Marta Pina

Marisé Gálvez

Iria Sala

Soranyel González

Maria Braoudaki

Lorena Escudero



Roundtable on 'Gender Perspectives on Climate Change' at Instituto Cervantes together with MujeresXAfrica Foundation



VICENTE CAÑADA BLANCH  
SPANISH SCHOOL

The **SRUK/CERU Wom=n Equity & Research Committee** advocates for **gender equity and diversity in research**. We strive to amplify the role of women in research, nurture women's professional development, and sustain work-life balance.

We are allied with *Vocalía de Investigación y Género* of RAICEX (see page 14), with whom we have co-authored a book underscoring **gender differences and progress towards equality** across thirteen nations. María José Martínez Bravo penned the UK chapter, slated for 2023 publication. Additionally, we've promoted a calendar featuring over 50 female scientists, gaining traction via SRUK/CERU's and RAICEX's social media.

Fostering **women's professional development**, we initiated a series of empowering, virtual talks exploring racialization in academia and tips for grant applications. These talks were open to everyone and primarily in English, receiving tremendous response.

We co-hosted a pivotal roundtable "**Gender Perspectives in Climate Change Research**" with **Women for Africa Foundation** (MxA). The discussion illuminated the gendered impacts of climate change, highlighting that its effects are far from gender-neutral and disproportionately affect impoverished women. In celebration of the **Day of Women and Girl in Science** on 11th February, we invited eight female scientists to the Spanish Institute Cañada Blanch in London. They engaged students through experiments, promoting STEM education. This successful event, backed by the **Spanish Embassy**, was captured in a promotional video and shared widely on social media.

Our committee further produced another **promotional video** encapsulating the activities of the past year. We supported external initiatives by amplifying them through social media, such as the event celebrating the International Day of Women, organised by Instituto Cervantes and the Science-me a Story Committee from SRUK/CERU.

We are extending the successful "**Awakening vocations**" project from Spain to the UK and Nepal, exploring cultural influences on girls' inclinations towards STEM careers. This initiative was delayed due to the pandemic but is now underway.

Finally, our committee backed **Dra. Ana Payo Payo's nomination for the COSCE Award for the Dissemination of Science**, demonstrating our commitment to honoring the significant contributions of women in scientific research. Her commendable research work and commitment to advancing scientific dissemination made her an ideal candidate for the award.

## MUJERES EN INVESTIGACIÓN Y EQUIDAD

Promoviendo la equidad de género y la diversidad en investigación, el Comité Wom=n Equity & Research de CERU trabaja de la mano con RAICEX en la creación de un libro blanco para resaltar el papel de las mujeres en ciencia. Proporcionamos charlas de empoderamiento y coorganizamos un foro sobre perspectivas de género en el cambio climático. Durante el Día de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia, realizamos actividades científicas prácticas con estudiantes en el Instituto Cañada Blanch. Continuamos extendiendo el exitoso proyecto "Despertando vocaciones" y producimos un video promocional anual. Además, apoyamos la candidatura de una distinguida investigadora para los premios COSCE de divulgación científica.

For more information please contact us at: [women@sruk.org.uk](mailto:women@sruk.org.uk)

# LONDON CONSTITUENCY

The year 2022 has been a year of recovery after the hardest years of the Covid pandemic, so that year the London constituency has focused to promote activities that encourage networking and socialising.

In September, we did a **cultural day trip to Guildford**, a historical town in the heart of Surrey, a county Southwest of London, in which we will learn about the history of this town during a walking tour and a barge cruise. In October we started the course with the **welcome party** in which the delegation was introduced to new members and friends and a series of micro talks by some of our associates about their projects. The **Annual Assembly** was held the 16th of November, as an online event to facilitate our members to join from the different spots of our constituency. Shortly after we were invited to **visit the Natural History Museum of London** by Luis Moliner PhD. In December the traditional **London Christmas lunch** could be held after two years! We enjoyed Spanish food and an after party.

To commemorate the International **Day of Women and Girls in Science 2023**, we organised a free walking tour through the streets full of history in St James and up to the Marylebone area. The tour was followed by lunch in a local restaurant.

In May with the spirit of bringing science from outside academia we host a talk about commercial archaeology **"The Archaeology of Cinema: multitemporal materiality and places of imagination"**. Our guest speaker Jesús Martín Alonso, an archaeologist with more than 15 years of experience, talked to us about the outdoor settings used to film historical movies from an archaeological perspective.

In the near future we are planning new and exciting activities such as a **visit to the Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA)**. SRUK/CERU members would tour MOLA's London facility, the largest company/non-profit of Archaeology in the world. We are organising a new **visit to the Natural History Museum of London**, to give an opportunity to those of our members that could not join last time. Some other activities are in our plans like an outdoors cultural activity about mud-larking and mental health workshops.



**First constituency to be founded in 2011, when SRUK/CERU was created. It covers the southeast of England, from Hampshire to Kent and up to Bedfordshire. We develop institutional, outreach and career-developing activities, with a main interest in networking through social events and informal talks.**

## The London Regional Board

**Loreto Gestoso Suárez**, Director from November and Secretary until November  
**Berta Gallego Páramo**, Director until November  
**Lola Villar Martínez**, Vice-director since November  
**Guillermo Díaz de Liaño**, Secretary since November  
**Larissa Zárate García**, Online Manager

## The London Working Group

**Pilar Acedo**  
**Sandra Álvarez Carretero**  
**Diego Alonso Álvarez**  
**Luis Moliner Cachazo**  
**Diego Sainz de la Maza**  
**Javier Pardo Díaz**  
**Laura Sanjurjo Lourés**

*Day of Women and Girls in Science 2023, free walking tour*

## DELEGACIÓN DE LONDRES

La delegación de Londres ha continuado este año con los objetivos de promover el *networking* entre socios intentando que los eventos fuesen en persona. La comida navideña pudo ser celebrada tras dos años de pandemia. En Septiembre visitamos la ciudad histórica de Guildford y en Noviembre los laboratorios del Museo de Historia Natural con uno de nuestros miembros como anfitrión. En febrero, para conmemorar el día Internacional de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia, organizamos un recorrido por las calles St James y Marylebone y en Mayo tuvimos una charla online sobre arqueología de los sets de cine y un evento junto a CONNECTS-UK sobre colaboración entre EU y Reino Unido en investigación.

For more information contact [london@sruk.org.uk](mailto:london@sruk.org.uk)

# SCOTLAND CONSTITUENCY

Since it was founded in March 2015, the SRUK/CERU Scottish constituency has organised 58 events and has grown to include members from all the major cities in Scotland: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Paisley, St Andrews and Stirling.

## The Scotland Regional Board

Marcos Valenzuela Ortega, Interim Director  
Paula Sotelo Parrilla, Director, Online manager  
Juan Jose Mata, Secretary

## The Scotland Working Group

Aida Cardona  
Alba Abad  
Beatriz Castejón Vega  
Cristina Gallego Páramo  
Iria Sala  
María Mateos Jiménez  
María Rodríguez Ríos  
Mario González Jiménez  
Miguel Luengo



Day out in Stirling and its surroundings

## Events 2022/2023

For the first time since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have organised a SRUK/CERU symposium in Scotland, this time in collaboration with the Northeast constituency (**Scientific Gatherings: Northern Power**). This event gathered researchers from the North of the UK in Napier University in Edinburgh. This event was the perfect celebration of the tenth anniversary of SRUK/CERU.

Additionally, at the end of 2022 we could also enjoy a **day out in Stirling**, where the local SRUK/CERU members led us through the deep history of this central Scottish town while the good weather lasted.

As tradition dictates, we celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science with a **Women in Science-themed Pub Quiz**. For the fourth year in a row, we collaborated with Goose's Quizzes as the pub-quiz organisers and the event was a total success! The participants were eager to learn about the amazing roles of women in science throughout history and popular culture, and we had a great time.

## Plans 2023/2024

During the next academic year 2023/24, besides exciting new initiatives, we plan to organise the events that have been postponed due to the pandemic, like **Jings! Science left the toon**, the first science festival held in one of the most deprived areas of Glasgow. Additionally, to engage with new and old members of the society, the Scottish constituency is going to focus on organising networking social events.

## DELEGACIÓN DE ESCOCIA

La delegación escocesa de CERU se constituyó en marzo de 2015 y desde entonces ha organizado 58 eventos. Se ha convertido en una de las delegaciones más grandes, con miembros residentes en las principales ciudades de esta región de Reino Unido.

Durante el curso 2022/23, la delegación ha celebrado una gran variedad de eventos, entre los que cabe destacar un pub quiz temático para celebrar el día de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia, y un simposio conjunto con la delegación North East.

# OXFORD CONSTITUENCY

## Events 2022/2023

The Oxford Constituency's Working Group put in tremendous effort to organise a diverse array of activities during the 2022/2023 academic year.

In September, we collaborated with the Portuguese Association of Researchers in the UK (PARSUK) and the Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA) to host the event titled **"The power of language for outreach"**, featuring Joana Moscoso from Native Scientists as the keynote speaker. We wrapped up the month with a warm **"Welcome event"**, providing new members of the society an opportunity to socialise and connect with fellow researchers. During October, we organised and hosted **"Sustainable plastics of the Future"**, a compelling series of talks exploring the current state and future of plastics from diverse perspectives. In November, we held the event **"Nobel Prizes 2022 (for dummies)"**, where Juan Álvarez, Marta Pina and David Egea delivered outreach talks to explain the contents of the 2022 Nobel Prizes to the general public. In December, we celebrated the Annual Assembly of the constituency, followed by our Christmas Lunch. In January, we organised the event **"Pint of Science"**, where Nuria Rico and Carlota Segura captivated the audience with fascinating accounts of their field trips to the Maldives and Brazil. In February, the Oxford Constituency commemorated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science with our annual walking tour titled **"Women who changed the world: Pioneers in the Sciences and the Arts"**. In March, we teamed-up with the University of Oxford Spanish Society to host the event titled **"How Nanotechnology ushers Physics into Biology transforming Medicine"**, featuring Sonia Contera (Oxford University). Later in April, we had the privilege of embarking on an exciting journey during the event **"Oxford University Museum of Natural History Tour: Behind the Scenes"** with Ricardo Pérez de la Fuente. We had the opportunity to explore some of the most captivating specimens and exhibitions from the museum, including rare collections and historical spaces that are not typically accessible to the public. Finally, in July, we organised a delightful **"Pint of Science"** event, bringing together constituency members and friends to share their experiences while sharing a drink in one of the most remarkable pubs in Oxford.

The city of Oxford is home to two universities, as well as several biotechnology and engineering companies. Our members represent both academic institutions and industry, as well as a wide range of disciplines. This combination results in a multidisciplinary, engaged, and social group of researchers.

### The Oxford Regional Board

David Egea Arrebola, Director  
Carlos Outeiral Rubiera, Vice-Director  
Carlota Segura García, Secretary & Online manager

### The Oxford Working Group

Álvaro Martínez, Carmen Sánchez, Cristina Delgado, Fernando Vidal, Fidel Alfaro, Gabriel Ocaña, Helena Rodríguez, Irene Echeverría, Javier Pardo, Nuria Rico, Olivia Afonso, Pablo Muñoz, Rafael Carrascosa, Virginia Casablanca



SRUK/CERU members of the Oxford constituency

## DELEGACIÓN DE OXFORD

Durante este curso, desde Oxford hemos llevado a cabo una amplia variedad de eventos. Entre ellos, destacamos **"Plásticos Sostenibles del Futuro"**, una serie de charlas centradas en el estado actual y futuro de los plásticos. También hemos organizado **"Premios Nobel 2022 (para principiantes)"** para explicar los Premios Nobel de manera sencilla al público general. Durante febrero, conmemorando el día de la mujer y niña en ciencia, la delegación llevó a cabo su tradicional **Tour de Mujeres Pioneras en Ciencias y Artes en Oxford**. Además, hemos ofrecido un emocionante **"Tour del Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad de Oxford: Detrás de las Cámaras"**, que cautivó a asistentes de todas las generaciones.

For more information contact [oxford@sruk.org.uk](mailto:oxford@sruk.org.uk)

# MIDLANDS CONSTITUENCY

**Founded in 2015, the Midlands constituency covers a large area of the UK. Traditionally, most of our members were based in Birmingham, but since 2020 we have increased our presence in other Midland cities such as Coventry, Leicester, Nottingham, and Loughborough. This has been very challenging and we are extremely proud to say we have members from different scientific backgrounds spread throughout the entirety of the Midlands.**

## The Midlands Regional Board

**Marta Domínguez Prieto**, Director and Online manager

**Asier Rodríguez Muguruza**, Secretary

**Cynthia Fernández Cuesta**, Vice-Director

## The Midlands Working Group

**Rosa Sánchez Lucas**

**Laura Bravo Merodio**

**Ignacio Rodríguez Pastrana**

**Pablo Marco Garrido**



Midlands academic year 2022/2023 has been challenging as a great part of our board and working group has left the UK. However, thanks to the commitment of the remaining working group and the energy of a few new members, we have managed to develop a good number of events and introduce SRUK/CERU to many researchers.

We started the year with the usual **Welcome Event** hosted in Birmingham with an attendee record. It was a great day of sun, pizzas and new faces. As some people couldn't make it we had a Virtual Welcome Event a couple of weeks later that was full of ideas.

In December, in collaboration with the SRUK/CERU Cancer Committee, we organised the **I SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium**. It was a successful event thanks to a great organising committee that worked together reflecting the core SRUK/CERU values. It was also fantastic to have some of these amazing people joining Midlands Christmas Lunch the day after.

As previous years, we celebrated the **International Day of Women and Girls in Science (11F)**, with an online event where two Spanish philosophers working in the UK dissected the role of women in Science as subjects but also objects of research. To celebrate the **International Women Day (8M)**, we organised a full day of activities in Nottingham, beginning with the talks of four women doing research in different areas of the Social Sciences followed by a free tour around the city. It was a success!

The end of this year is marked by the **I SRUK/CERU Ageing and Disease Conference** in Cambridge, organised again in collaboration with the Cancer Committee and most of the active members of the constituency attending the Annual Symposium.

We are looking forward to a new year full of Science, friends, and fun!

*Group picture from Midlands Welcome Event in October in Birmingham*

## DELEGACIÓN DE MIDLANDS

El curso 2022/2023 ha sido todo un reto para Midlands, ya que gran parte de nuestro comité ejecutivo y working group han abandonado Reino Unido. Sin embargo, gracias al empuje de los restantes miembros, hemos conseguido sacar adelante un buen número de eventos. Estamos especialmente orgullosos del Welcome Event con el que comenzamos el año en el que se batió el récord de asistentes de los cursos anteriores, nuestra pequeña contribución al 11F y 8M y, en especial, el trabajo conjunto con el Comité del Cáncer para sacar adelante el I SRUK/CERU Cancer Symposium y la I SRUK/CERU Ageing and Disease Conference.

For more information contact [midlands@sruk.org.uk](mailto:midlands@sruk.org.uk)



# NORTH-EAST CONSTITUENCY

The young North East constituency have consolidated their presence in the region with multiple events. We have monthly meetings for the working group at **a local pub the first Tuesday of each month**, while organising activities for members and the public in collaboration with different local entities.

In 2022, we enjoyed two fantastic events in Edinburgh and Newcastle. On October 1st, in collaboration with the Scottish constituency we organised the **II SRUK/CERU North Gathering in Edinburgh**. This event, which we aim to celebrate annually alternating locations in Scotland and the North East, gathered Spanish researchers to discuss their research with short talks and posters. We had an exciting session with nearly 20 researchers where we learned about waste management, cancer biology, and the activities of SRUK members as educators in Nepal with the Engage Nepal with Science initiative. On the 1st of December we celebrate the traditional **Christmas dinner with a Welcome event**, meeting with new and old friends to enjoy some food, music, football and the traditional Catalan "Tió de Nadal".

In 2023, we engaged with more local organisations expanding the network of friends of SRUK/CERU in the region. On March 12th, a team of the working group led by Elisa Lopez-Capel contributed on behalf of SRUK/CERU to the **Whitley Bay Fiesta event**. Our members taught kids and adults about biodiversity in their own neighbourhood using the stories of the Science-me a Story contest. On the 30th of March, because not everything is about paellas, we meet for a tasting event of **Malaysian cuisine in Newcastle upon Tyne**.

More recently, **we were awarded a small grant from the University of Newcastle (NU)** to organise a joint event as part of the Europe Week. During the **"EU Researchers in the UK: Challenges, Opportunities, and the role of Scientific Associations"**, we introduced **CONNECTS-UK**, a partnership between societies of EU researchers societies in the UK. The event, with 32 participants, included representatives from the societies from 9 different universities in the UK, from UKRI, internationalisation from the Newcastle University Medical School, Research funding and student mobility offices.

**The newest SRUK/CERU constituency was founded in Newcastle in December 2021. Since then, the working group has organised two events and is actively working to expand the membership in the area.**

## The North-East Regional Board

Ana Viñuela, Director  
Jose Luis Marín, Secretary

## The North-East Working Group

Elisa Lopez-Capel  
Sergio Serrano Blanco  
Magda Pascual  
Maria Camacho Encina



*SRUK/CERU North East Constituency attended the Whitley Bay Fiesta event! Presenting a teaching activity for kids about biodiversity and the "Cienciamé un cuento/ Science-me a Story" book.*

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE NORTH-EAST

Nuestro objetivo este año era **consolidar la presencia de SRUK/CERU en la región**, Para ello hemos celebrado varios eventos con organizaciones locales que esperamos abran las puertas para futuras colaboraciones. Gracias a una de esas colaboraciones se nos concedió una pequeña subvención de la **Universidad de Newcastle** para organizar un evento conjunto durante la Semana de Europa. El evento sirvió para presentarnos a la universidad y dar a conocer SRUK/CERU y **CONNECTS-UK** en el norte de Inglaterra. Para el próximo curso, esperamos seguir trabajando con organizaciones locales y expandiendo la delegación y el número de socios.

For more information contact [northeast@sruk.org.uk](mailto:northeast@sruk.org.uk)

**Between 2021 and 2022 these constituencies found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led them to a state of stand-by.**

**If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at [president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk)**

## **CAMBRIDGE CONSTITUENCY**

Cambridge has one of the best Universities in the world, which makes it a perfect scenario for scientific discussion and engagement of the public to the research of all kind. The SRUK/CERU Cambridge constituency has traditionally held outreach talks every two months in a pub under the name of “Pint of knowledge”. Furthermore, other social events were organized during the year such as their traditional summer barbecue – a great opportunity to gather with other members.

In 2022, the Cambridge Constituency found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led the constituency to a state of stand-by. If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at [president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk).

## **YORKSHIRE CONSTITUENCY**

The Yorkshire Constituency was formed by a group of researchers at different stages of their careers, with a high number of PhD students and postdoctoral researchers. Our members come from a wide range of fields including life sciences, computer sciences, humanities and social sciences. Their research work is based at different universities in the area, such as the Universities of Bradford, Sheffield, Leeds, York, Hull and Huddersfield. This unique blend provides a great environment for sharing ideas and experiences.

In the last years, the Yorkshire constituency has organised many academic, social and career development events. It has also recently collaborated with other constituencies in the organization of different events, such as the CineScience and the webinar series “Alternatives to Academia”.

In 2021, the Yorkshire Constituency found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led the constituency to a state of stand-by. If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at [president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk).

## NORTH-WEST CONSTITUENCY

The North West constituency was officially established in January 2015 and currently has 16 members. Most of its members live in Manchester and Liverpool, but there are also members in other cities of North West England (Preston, Burscough, Lancaster) and North Wales (Bangor). The working group is made up of members of the constituency, who voluntarily propose and organise scientific, outreach and social events in the North West area of UK.

Every year, to welcome the newly arrived researchers, the constituency organises a Welcome Party in autumn. The constituency also works on building bridges between researchers and general public, organising scientific outreach events, such as the popular Pint of Knowledge, CineScience and Scientific Tour, as well as participating in the organising committees of **Science-me a Story** and **Investigación en Foco** (research photography) contests.

In 2021, the North West Constituency found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led the constituency to a state of stand-by. If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at [president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk).

The South-West Constituency is shaped by several scientific nuclei throughout the South-West area, including amongst others, Bristol, Bath, Cardiff, Southampton and Exeter. Bristol has the higher number of members due to its population size; however, other places as Cardiff and Bath have a significant representation. The South-West is a spatially large and open constituency, and its stronger point is the diversity that shapes it, allowing it for networking with many institutions in the area. This will surely settle a fertile ground in which new inter-city or inter-institution collaborations and knowledge transfer can be achieved.

In 2021, the South West Constituency found no candidates to renew the regional board, which led the constituency to a state of stand-by. If you would be interested in joining the Constituency and leading the local working group, please email us at [president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk).

## SOUTH-WEST CONSTITUENCY

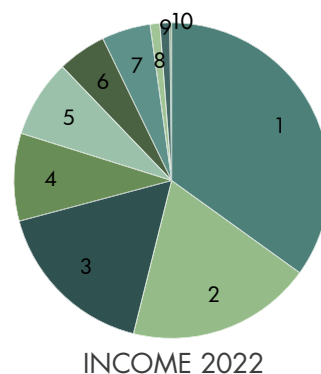
# ECONOMIC REPORT

**SRUK/CERU is a private company limited-by-guarantee operating as a non-profit society. Over the last years, our Society has experienced a huge growth in the number of events and initiatives. Although part of our income comes from SRUK/CERU membership fees, our activities would not be possible without the additional economic support from our generous sponsors.**

This economic report refers to the year 2022, beginning in January and finishing in December 2022. Our main supporters were Fundación Banco Santander contributing to 35% of our income, and Fundación Ramón Areces contributing 19%. We also had generous support from the Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs (OCSA) of the Embassy of Spain in London (17%) and Fundación Lilly (5%). This year, we continued to have our own source of income from the OnTheMove mobility programme (5%), ticketing (8%) and our membership fees (9%).

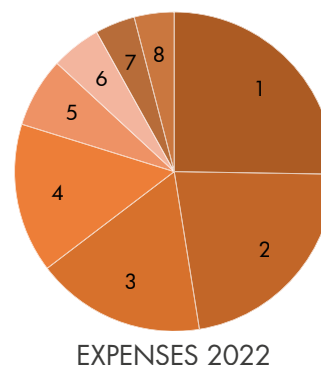
At SRUK/CERU, we continue operating with an efficient economic policy, trying to make the most out of our yearly income. In 2022, our activities were restored following the obstacles posed by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Mirroring the number of our initiatives, our expenditure was superior to previous years with most of our costs corresponding to our X SRUK/CERU International Symposium (25%), our Emerging Talent Award (22%) and the activities of our Constituencies, Departments and Committees (17%).

INCOME 2022			
1	Fundación Banco Santander	21.702,70 GBP	35 %
2	Fundación Ramon Areces*	12.229,08 GBP	19 %
3	Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs of the Embassy of Spain in London	10.500,00 GBP	17 %
4	SRUK/CERU Membership Fees	5.879,76 GBP	9 %
5	SRUK/CERU Event Ticketing	4.860,78 GBP	8 %
6	Fundación Lilly	3.282,18 GBP	5 %
7	SRUK/CERU OnTheMove 2021 Fees	2.868,84 GBP	5 %
8	VAT return	858,83 GBP	1 %
9	Biochemical Society	400 GBP	1 %
10	SRUK/CERU Merchandising	150 GBP	0,2 %
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>62.732,17 GBP</b>	<b>100,00 %</b>



\*This contribution is composed of a remanent of £8,097 from 2021 and an income of £4,132

EXPENSES 2022			
1	X SRUK/CERU International Symposium	18.786,53 GBP	25 %
2	SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award 2022	16.787,07 GBP	22 %
3	SRUK/CERU Initiatives and Activities	12.525,05 GBP	17 %
4	Administration Costs	1.1576,75 GBP	15 %
5	Web Maintenance and IT Services	5.528,79 GBP	7 %
6	SRUK/CERU Science-me a Story	4.115,57 GBP	5 %
7	Representation Expenses	3.218,47 GBP	4 %
8	SRUK/CERU Travel Grants 2022	2.719,61 GBP	4 %
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>75.257,84</b>	<b>100,00 %</b>



For more information, please contact [treasurer@sruk.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@sruk.org.uk)

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## 2023-2024

This year has seen a reactivation of our initiatives and SRUK/CERU is managing to find its new place and role in the new socio-political context of the UK. In the next year, SRUK/CERU will expand its collaborations with the associations of EU research diaspora in the UK, hence aiming to become a key player in post-Brexit science policy in the UK. Additionally, SRUK/CERU will continue to promote its connections with the other associations of Spanish researchers abroad (RAICEX) and to actively play a role in shaping the Spanish R&D System. This upcoming 2023-2024, SRUK/CERU's efforts will also focus on creating sustainable working methodologies for its volunteers and on fostering the professional development of its members.

**SRUK/CERU is achieving its objectives and finding its place in a changing environment**

### OBJECTIVE 1: Scientific and social network

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Grow in number of members: focus on senior researchers, members outside academia, and researchers from underrepresented fields (humanities and social sciences)	Keep on reducing manual work for our volunteers by enhancing the usability of our website as a tool to apply internally to our calls.
Keep improving the usability of our website as a tool to promote interactions among our members and improve our communications.	Open new channels to promote key information for non-members.
Establish the constituency of Northern Ireland, and support inactive constituencies.	Establish the constituency of Northern Ireland and build a system for supporting constituencies in the face of disruptive events.
Focus on engagement with our community in order to recover pre-pandemic volunteer numbers.	Appoint support staff for SRUK/CERU.

### OBJECTIVE 2: Science outreach

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Increase the impact of outreach activities such as the Science-me a story initiative	Expand collaborations with British outreach institutions.
Recognise and foster Spanish talent in the UK with our key awards (Emerging Talent Award and Merit Award)	Increase and consolidate our presence in British Media.
Contribute to the development of members' outreach skills by building on the expertise that SRUK/CERU has created over the years to foster sustainability of our outreach initiatives	Consolidate and support activities with children (Science weeks in schools and Despertando Vocaciones programme).
Continue offering online events with UK-wide reach, while recovering the local and onsite activities.	Provide opportunities to put a spotlight on equity and diversity through our events and initiatives (e.g., 11F and SRUK/CERU LGTBQ+ day).

### OBJECTIVE 3: Science representatives

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Continue the collaborations with major British scientific institutions such as the Russell group and BEIS regarding Brexit.	Consolidate a plan for further contacts with British scientific institutions on wider science policy issues.
Produce documentation on the continuously changing conditions for Spanish researchers in UK.	Serve as science policy advisors in Spain and UK.
Continue to meaningfully contribute to the activity of RAICEX.	Strengthen collaborations with Spanish councils and the Consejo de Residentes en el Exterior as the representatives of Spanish citizens in the UK.
Continue to collaborate with other associations of research diasporas in UK.	Continue our advocacy work with Spanish political parties, parliamentary groups and Government representatives.

### OBJECTIVE 4: Science mediators between UK and Spain

Ongoing and immediate plans	Long-term plans
Strengthen our collaborations with Spanish institutions to offer places and mentoring opportunities to Spanish early career researchers.	Academia-industry exchange scheme.
Deepen the collaboration with Spanish societies and institutions (e.g., ASEICA, CrisCancer, FeBiotec, Instituto Cervantes)	Increase the number of sponsors and partners, particularly UK and Spanish R&D companies to support new collaborations.
Keep consolidating the SRUK/CERU On-the-move mobility fellowships.	Facilitate the interdisciplinary collaborations between the UK and Spain.

# MAIN SUPPORTERS



FUNDACIÓN RAMÓN ARECES

**The Ramón Areces Foundation is our principal and unconditional supporter. Thanks to them, we are able to promote a whole range of activities and benefits year after year.**

From its creation in 1976, the Ramón Areces Foundation aims to support scientific development through the promotion of research activities, knowledge exchange, and the contribution to the generation of human capital. This institution also supports training opportunities for young researchers and promotes the exchange of ideas in Science, Education, and Culture. This Foundation has strongly supported SRUK/CERU since our very beginning. This

year, they have continued to generously sponsor our annual programme of activities (with scientific seminars, outreach activities and professional development workshops across the country), and our Annual International Symposium. They additionally supported the CienciaUK 2023 initiative which took place in Madrid on 14th April. This year, the Foundation has increased its commitment to support scientific events focused on areas with strong potential for collaborations between Spain and the UK. SRUK/CERU is also very thankful to the Foundation for its continuous support to RAICEX, the network of societies of Spanish Researchers abroad.



**Fundación Banco Santander, the sponsor of the SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award**

Fundación Banco Santander is committed to supporting cultural, humanistic and social projects and scientific initiatives. Their support to Science focuses on the promotion of three aims: the development of projects in the most innovative research fields; the organisation of science outreach activities; and the commitment to foster the career

development of young talents through the concession of grants and funding. SRUK/CERU is delighted to have received the support of Fundación Banco Santander for eight consecutive years. In 2023, SRUK/CERU and the Banco Santander Foundation launched the eighth edition of the SRUK/CERU Emerging Talent Award. With this award, we aim at recognising the work of a young Spanish researcher who has developed their career in the UK.



EMBASSY OF SPAIN LONDON

**Collaboration with the Office for Culture and Scientific Affairs (OCSA)**

The Spanish Embassy in the UK was the first Embassy to formally perform Science Diplomacy actions by including this competence in its Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs (OCSA). This Office aims to promote stronger links between Spanish and British scientific institutions. SRUK/CERU counts with the collaboration of OCSA from its very inception. This year, SRUK/CERU has received abundant support from OCSA. Their support has allowed us to

develop activities and strategies which have made our Society a reference and an example among other associations of foreign researchers in the UK. This institutional collaboration has also been crucial to reach both Spanish and British institutions and to promote the activities of SRUK/CERU. In the context of Brexit, the collaboration of the Spanish Embassy has been paramount to keep SRUK/CERU members informed of new developments, including changes in immigration and visa regulations.



Created in 2001, the **Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FEICYT)** is a public foundation dependent on the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities. The mission of FEICYT is to enhance the link between science and society, and to promote open and inclusive science as well as scientific culture and education. In this context, FEICYT

collaborates with the different Societies of Spanish Researchers abroad, including SRUK/CERU. As part of this collaboration, FEICYT has participated in the organisation of SRUK/CERU outreach activities and events since 2012, including the SRUK/CERU Annual Symposium, in which FEICYT has been participating for the last eight years.



Since 2001, the main aim of **Lilly Foundation** has been to contribute to excellence in Science and Medicine in Spain. They achieve this through activities focused on the promotion of Science, Medicine, and Humanistic Medicine. In their framework of commitment to outreach and communication of Science, the Lilly Foundation has, once again, supported the program DIVULGA. This outreach initiative spearheaded by SRUK/CERU aims at promoting scientific vocations in children and young people.

With this aim, the program DIVULGA tries to de-contextualise knowledge acquisition and to involve adults in outreach activities with children, in order to potentiate their impact. The program builds on two activities, Science-me a Story, a contest for the best children stories based on Science, written in either English or Spanish which keeps growing and consolidating every year and outreach activities at our International Symposium.

**SRUK/CERU is a member of:**



# OTHER SUPPORTERS AND COLLABORATORS



AXENCIA  
GALEGA DE  
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BritishSpanishSociety



COALICIÓN DE ESPAÑOLES

Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY



European Parliament Liaison Office in the United Kingdom



Día internacional de la mujer y la niña en la ciencia



PLUG & PLAY QUANTUM DEVICES



Kellogg College University of Oxford



PRINCIPIA



native scientists



ST PETER'S COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



Robinson College University of Cambridge



SpainÜ



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



Universidad Francisco de Vitoria

UFV Madrid



Universidad Zaragoza



VICENTE CAÑADA BLANCH SPANISH SCHOOL







**Society of  
Spanish Researchers  
in the United Kingdom**

**[www.sruk.org.uk](http://www.sruk.org.uk) / [info@sruk.org.uk](mailto:info@sruk.org.uk)**