

# IOANA NICOLETA MELEG

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<https://publons.com/researcher/2933870/ioana-nicoleta-meleg/>

<http://palaeogenetics.com/im/>

<http://a-dna-history.iser.ro>

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## PROFILE

Evolutionary biologist and speleologist, with particular expertise in the ecology of Romanian caves and karst system, as well as ancient DNA and palaeogenomics.

In my career I have focused on subterranean ecosystems to address questions in: a) ecology, ranging from classical ecology over subterranean biodiversity related to subterranean and surface landscape features to molecular studies on crypsis phenomenon in subterranean fauna, and b) palaeoecology to investigate ancient population genomics within a palaeoenvironmental context.

## EXPERIENCE

Scientific Researcher II, STAR-UBB; February 2021 - Present

Scientific Researcher II, III and research assistant, “Emil Racoviță” Institute of Speleology of the Romanian Academy; Romanian Academy, Cluj Branch; October 2007 - Present

The strength of my research is the interdisciplinary nature of my work, which combines ecology, molecular biology and conservation at population and ecosystem level, with a strong focus on cave environment.

## EDUCATION

PhD in Biology, Romanian Academy, 2008 - 2013

MA, Systemic Ecology and Biodiversity Conservation, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babeș-Bolyai University, 2006 - 2007

BA, Ecology and Environment Protection, Faculty of Biology and Geology, Babeș-Bolyai University, 2002 - 2006

## GRANTS

Principal investigator:

2021-2023: Exploratory Research Project, financed by the Romanian Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization, CNCS/CCCDI-UEFISCDI, project number PN-III-P4-ID-PCE-2020-0518.

October 2020 - September 2022: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, grant agreement No 885088.

Host: Swedish Museum of Natural History.

January 2019 - December 2019: Humboldt Return Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, grant number ROU 1161809 HFST-P.

February 2016 - September 2018: Postdoctoral Research Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, grant number ROU 1161809 HFST-P.  
Hosts: University of Tübingen; University of Potsdam.

Expert and collaborator in six research grants.

Expert and collaborator in eleven projects (environment and speleology).

### **SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION**

- 18 scientific papers indexed in Web of Science, out of which 8 as main author;
- 3 book chapters, published by top publishers;
- 2 books as main author and coordinating editor published by national publishers;
- contributions at more than 20 international conferences and 5 national conferences.

### **VARIA**

- expert to conduct peer reviews of research projects, for the Ministry of Research and Innovation, Romania and for Belgian Science Policy Office;
- development of occupational competence standards in the field of speleology as support for continuous professional training.

### **REFERENCES**

[Prof. Hervé Bocherens](#), Head of Biogeology Research Group, University of Tübingen

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[Prof. Love Dalén](#), Professor in Evolutionary Genetics, Department of Bioinformatics and Genetics, Swedish Museum of Natural History

Email: [Love.Dalen@nrm.se](mailto:Love.Dalen@nrm.se)

[Prof. Michael Hofreiter](#), Professor for Evolutionary Adaptive Genomics, Institute for Biochemistry and Biology, Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, University of Potsdam

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