ICREA
Building an egalitarian and sustainable future
www.icrea.cat/memoir2022
A complex world

We live in a complex world that is constantly evolving and presenting us with new challenges, from climate change to public health crises. Science provides a framework for understanding and tackling these challenges through research, helping us to build a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

Committed Scientists

In today’s world, scientists must be more committed than ever to using their knowledge and experience to find innovative solutions for society. At the same time, institutions need to provide a favourable environment to carry out their research with independence and integrity, free from political pressures or external influences that could compromise the quality of their work.
New paradigms of knowledge

At ICREA, over 270 committed researchers are advancing new paradigms of knowledge in multiple areas of science, including engineering, mathematics, medicine, social sciences and the humanities.

Like the great thinkers of antiquity, they all share an inexhaustible passion for understanding the problems of our complex world.

276
ICREA Research Professors

130
in universities

116
in CERCA centres

16
in CSIC centres

14
in other institutions

34
12%
Social & Behavioural Sciences

45
16%
Humanities

74
27%
Experimental Sciences and Mathematics

46
17%
Engineering Sciences

77
28%
Life & Medical Sciences

56%
Coming from abroad

40%
Non-Nationals


16% 17% 18% 18% 19% 20% 23% WOMEN 24%

16% 17% 18% 18% 19% 20% 23% 2022

MEN 76%
Excellence and freedom for research

ICREA’s mission is to attract and retain outstanding scientists from around the world and help boost the impact and global visibility of Catalan universities and research centres.

ICREA researchers benefit from competitive conditions of employment and can pursue their work at the host institutions which are the best fit for their projects.

An external, independent promotion committee evaluates each researcher’s performance regularly over the course of their career.

Full respect for freedom of research means scientists can generate new ideas and approaches that have the potential to transform society and help build a more egalitarian and sustainable future.

Citations and impact

One third of ICREA’s publications rank amongst the top 10% most cited worldwide.

Top 1% most cited researchers worldwide by Clarivate

Source: Highly Cited Researchers™, © 2023 Clarivate
These are a few ICREA Research Professors who received awards in 2022

Salvador Aznar Benitah
Premio de Investigación Biomédica de la Fundación Lilly

Quique Bassat
Medalla Narcís Monturiol

Roberto Emparan García de Salazar
Medalla Narcís Monturiol

María Escudero Escribano
Miembro de la Academia Joven de España

Alexander Fidora Riera
Humboldt Research Award

Elena Galea
Elected Member of the Academia Europaea

Maciej Lewenstein
Premi Nacional de Recerca

Núria López-Bigas
ISCB Innovator Award

Rosemarie Nagel
Fellow of the Econometric Society

Sílvia Osuna
EuChemS Lecture Award

Jelena Radjenović
Premi Nacional de Recerca al Talent Jove

Marta Reynal-Querol
Premio Rei Jaume I de Economía

Samuel Sánchez-Ordóñez
Premi Fundació Banc Sabadell a les Ciències i l’Enginyeria

Sergey Tikhonov
Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award

Sergio Valenzuela
Elected Member of the Academia Europaea

Peter Wagner
Elected Member of the Academia Europaea
Manel Esteller Badosa
Premio Constantes y Vitales a la Trayectoria Científica en Investigación Biomédica

Núria Montserrat Pulido
Premio Constantes y Vitales al Joven Talento en Investigación Biomédica

Xavier Ros Oton
Miembro de la Real Academia de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales de España

Andreas Winter
Humboldt Research Award
ICREA’s impact in 2022

JOBS
6.8
Each ICREA funded an average of 6.8 jobs

FUNDS
139 M€
Competitive funding raised

EDUCATION
181
PhD theses defended

BUSINESS
2
New spin-off companies created

OPPORTUNITIES
6
New technologies licensed

Totalling 41 companies with a market value of 294 M€ and employing 154 people

Totalling 123 technologies licensed to 67 companies
ERC grants awarded in 2022
(excluding the Proof of Concept scheme)

Advanced Grants

Mar Albà
Life Sciences

Dan Brockington
Social Sciences and Humanities

Marta Reynal-Querol
Social Sciences and Humanities

Jordi Sort
Physical Sciences and Engineering

Tess Knighton
Social Sciences and Humanities

Niek van Hulst
Physical Sciences and Engineering

Synergy Grants

Gustavo Deco

Giorgos Kallis

Albert Pol

Verena Ruprecht

María Victoria Sánchez Vives

Juan Valcárcel

One in four ICREAs has an active ERC grant
Transparency

We strive to use our budget wisely, investing the funds with utmost care to make sure that our resources are directly turned into the best possible science. Here is a snapshot of our budget structure.

97% researchers

82.5% ICREA Research Professors

14.5% ICREA Acadèmia grants

1.2% admin. salaries

1.8% evaluation, selection and running costs

54% Universities

37% CERCA centres

5% CSIC centres

4% Other research institutions

100% Government of Catalonia
All images have been generated using AI software.