

Curriculum vitae

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Maria Manuela Estevez Pintado is currently Associate Professor of the College of Biotechnology of the Portuguese Catholic University (ESB-UCP), Associate Director of School of Biotechnology from Universidade Católica Portuguesa (ESB-UCP, Porto, Portugal) and the director of CBQF (Chemistry and Biotechnology Center – State Associate Laboratory), an ESB-UCP research unit and Associate Laboratory, and President of EBRI - European Biotechnology Research Institute (EBRI). In research field she is the Head of Bioactive and Bioproducts Research Laboratory.

Academically, she has a B.Sc. in Pharmacy (Clinical Analysis and Pharmacy options) from the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Porto (1991), she frequented the curricular part of the Food Science and Engineering Masters from the Portuguese Catholic University (1993) and finished her Ph.D. in Biotechnology (in the field of Food Science and Engineering) from the Portuguese Catholic University in 1999.

Among other relevant activities some are highlighted: Coordinator of the partnership and Project Amyris-UCP (since 2016), Member of IBET advisory Member (since 2016), Member of Strategic Group for AgroFood, Forest and Biodiversity and Member of Strategic Group for Circular Economy nominated by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), Vice-President of the Scientific Council for Natural and Environmental Sciences (CCCNA) of Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), one of the four Scientific Councils established by FCT (2013-2016), Coordinator of the Evaluation Committee of Final Reports of FCT projects for Biological Engineering and Biotechnology area (since 2013), Vice-President of European Chitin Society (since 2013-2017), Chair for SIG (Special Interest Group) – Bioactive Compounds of ISEKI Food Association (since 2014), member of several National and international Evaluation Committee for post-graduate studies and research projects. She has established strong interaction with industry and she has been Coordinator of Department of Scientific Services for Industry (SETIF) (2013-2016). Additionally, she has been an invited professor at Paraíba Federal University (from 2012 to 2016).

The research can be summarized into: (i) development, compositional characterization and validation of bioactivity of functional and bioactive ingredients (proteins and biopeptides, antioxidants, probiotics, prebiotics and antimicrobials) and study applications on the development of novel functional foods and other added value applications (ii) by-product and new resources valorization through bioprocesses and extraction processes aiming to obtain molecules/extracts fully characterized in terms of composition, bioactivities, functionalities and safety to be explored as high-added value bioproducts in different high value fields (iii) application of the above research developments to other Biotechnological fields.

During her scientific trajectory, she published several papers (ca. 640 papers) in refereed international journals and authored 70 chapters in handbooks on these topics, and creator of 25 patents. She has a h-index of 65 with ca. 17200 citations.

She has participated in several professional meetings and international symposia and congresses presenting 190 invited oral communications and 220 selected oral communications and about 700 posters in National and International conferences. She supervises(ed) or co-supervises(ed) 76 MSc, 70 PhD thesis and 50 post-doc scholarships/contracts as well as 30 international training scholarships and 80 research grants. She has been a part of 60 PhD evaluation panels and 55 MSc. evaluation panels. Additionally, she has been responsible for the coordination and co-coordination of 100 externally funded (through national and international funds) research and development projects and has been involved in collaborations with multiple Universities and Research Centers, companies and Associations/technology clusters. Given her overall curricular merit, she has been recognized by the Ciência Viva program as one of the females faces of the Portuguese science community in its book dedicated to Portuguese scientist women. Yet, she is one of the scientists in the World's Top Most Cited Researchers in 2019, 2020 and 2021 in the area of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forest, according to the "World's Top 2% Scientists" ranking, prepared by Stanford University (USA) and also highlighted for their impact on science throughout their career.