



FEBS Workshop ‘Protein termini 2026 – From mechanisms to biological impact’

A [FEBS Advanced Course](#) and the
5th Conference of the [International Society for Protein Termini \(ISPT\)](#),
Palermo, June 3-6, 2026 – proteintermini.org/meeting

Wednesday, 3 June 2026

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
9:00-11:00	Registration	
11:00-11:05	Opening	Carmela Giglione (ISPT) – Welcome and opening remarks
11:05-11:25	Welcome	Magnifico Rettore Prof. Massimo Midiri - Opening speech
11:25-14:25	Session 1	Molecular Choreography: Ribosomal Coordination of Terminal Fate
11:25-12:05	The ISPT Lecture 	Roland Beckmann (Ludwig Maximilians University, Germany) „It takes more than two to tango: structural basis and coordination of co-translational N-terminal nascent chain modification“
12:05-13:15	Welcome Lunch & Table Icebreaker	Guided Sign-Ups by Theme
13:15-13:35	Talk	Irmgard Sinning (Biochemistry Center Heidelberg University, Germany) „Multi-factor complexes coordinate protein N-termini processing at the eukaryotic ribosome“
13:35-13:55	Talk	Elke Deuerling (University of Constance, Germany) „Interplay of N-terminal processing factors during translation“
13:55-14:10	Short Talk	1 Short talk selected from abstracts
14:10-14:25		Duncan Wright (FEBS Letters) – presentation of FEBS PRESS
14:25-15:00	Coffee Break + ECR Meet & Greet Corner	Informal Networking

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
15:00-18:15	Session 2	Terminal Modifications I: Mechanisms & Functions
15:00-15:20	Talk	Emily Flashman (University of Oxford, UK) Enzymatic control of protein N-terminal cysteine oxidation status in plants“
15:20-15:40	Talk	Thomas Arnesen (University of Bergen, Norway) „Protein N-terminal acetylation – from molecular machinery to protein fate“
15:40-16:00	Talk	Ophir Shalem (University of Pennsylvania, USA) „The role of N-terminal acetylation in alpha synuclein stability and function and potential therapeutic opportunities“
16:00-16:20	Talk	Carmela Giglione (French National Centre for Scientific Research, France) „Multifaceted machinery of N-terminal protein modifications in plant plastids“
16:20-17:00	Coffee Break + ECR Meet & Greet Corner	Informal Networking
17:00-17:20	Talk	Philip Beachy (Stanford University of Medicine, USA) „Amino- and carboxy termini of the Hedgehog protein signal: lipid modifications and receptor interactions“
17:20-17:35	Short Talks	1 Short talk selected from abstracts
17:35-18:05	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (9x3 min)
18:05-18:15	 FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETIES	Tamás Aranyi (FEBS) – presentation of <i>The Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS)</i>
18:15-20:00	Poster Session 1a	
20:00-21:00	Dinner	Dine-Around with Mentors (rotating, pre-assigned dinner tables mixing senior scientists, ECRs, students, and participants from academia, industry, and publishing)
21:00-23:00	Poster Session 1b, following Guided Discussion	Group discussion on “Technological advances” involving companies (CryoEM/Mass spectrometry/ribosome profiling/NG). Snacks and Drinks available.

Thursday, 4 June 2026


Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
8:00-9:00	Breakfast & Walking Groups	Optional: Start the day with light movement and meaningful conversation. Join fellow participants for a casual walk through the historic surroundings of Palermo.
9:00-11:00	Session 3	Terminal Modifications II: Mechanisms & Functions
9:00-9:20	Talk	Yi Zhang (Boston Children's Hospital, USA) „Selectivity and specificity of ATE1: Catalytic mechanisms and beyond“
9:20-9:40	Talk	Christine Schaner Tooley (Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, USA) „Cytoplasmic and nuclear functions of N-terminal methylation“
9:40-10:15	Short Talks	3 Short talks selected from abstracts
10:15-10:35	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (6x3 min)
10:35-11:00	Coffee Break + ECR Meet & Greet Corner	Informal Networking
11:00-12:00	Poster Session 2a	
12:00-13:00	Guided Rotating Spotlights	Small-group thematic discussions on biotechnological breakthroughs to tackle protein termini and practical tools such as PROTACS
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-16:35	Session 4	N-Terminal Signals in Protein Stability
14:00-14:20	Talk	Anton Khmelinskii (Inst. of Mol. Biology (IMB), Germany) „Specificity and functions of terminal degrons in proteostasis and metabolism“
14:20-14:40	Talk	Andreas Bachmair (Max F. Perutz Laboratories, Austria) „Ubiquitin ligases of N-degron pathways“
14:40-15:00	Talk	Michael Holdsworth (University of Nottingham, UK) „Understanding the roles of N-degron pathways in plant biology“
15:00-15:20	Talk	Frederica Theodoulou (Rothamsted Research, UK) „Linking proteostatic and physical functions of BIG/AtUBR4“

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
15:20-16:10	Coffee Break + ECR Meet & Greet Corner	Informal Networking
16:10-16:35	Short Talks	2 Short talks selected from abstracts
16:35-18:15	Session 5	N-Degrans and Their N-Recognins
16:35-16:55	Talk	Itay Koren (Bar-Ilan University, Israel) „Old dog, new tricks: unlocking new specificities for UBR E3 ligases in N-degron pathways“
16:55-17:15	Talk	Tanja Bange (Ludwig Maximilians University, Germany) „CUL4A-DDB1-DCAF10 acts as an N-recognin for Nt-acetylated Src Kinases“
17:15-17:50	Short Talks	3 Short talks selected from abstracts
17:50-18:15	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (8x3 min)
18:15-20:00	Poster Session 2b	
20:00-21:00	Dinner	Dine-Around with Mentors (rotating, pre-assigned dinner tables mixing senior scientists, ECRs, students, and participants from academia, industry, and publishing)
21:00-23:00	Poster Session 2c, following Guided Discussion	Poster session with snacks and drinks and Group discussion on „Sustainability in Science“



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BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETIES**

Friday, 5 June 2026

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
8:00-9:00	Breakfast	
9:00-12:30	Session 6	Beyond Degradation: Functional Roles of Protein Termini
9:00-9:40	The EMBO Keynote Lecture 	F. Ulrich Hartl (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Germany) „Molecular chaperone functions in protein folding and proteostasis maintenance“
9:40-10:00	Talk	Anna Kashina (University of Pennsylvania, USA) „Co- and posttranslational protein regulation by arginylation“
10:00-10:25	Short Talks	2 Short talks selected from abstracts
10:25-11:05	Coffee Break + ECR Meet & Greet Corner	Informal Networking
11:05-11:25	Talk	Annika Meinander (Åbo Akademi University, Finland) „M1-ubiquitination of the Drosophila caspase Dredd promotes NF-κB activation by protection of the IKK complex“
11:25-11:45	Flash Talks	Poster Slam (6x3 min)
11:45-12:10	Short Talks	2 Short talks selected from abstracts
12:10-12:30	Talk	Young-Jun Choe (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) „Aggregation mechanism of C-terminally extended stalled polypeptides“ „Aggregation mechanism of C-terminally extended stalled polypeptides“
12:45-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-15:00	Networking Event	Guided ECR Speed Networking
15:00-18:10	Session 7	Therapeutic Applications I
15:00-15:20	Talk	Edward W. Tate (Imperial College London & Francis Crick Institute, UK) „Targeting termini: from anti-infectives to next generation cancer therapeutics“
15:20-15:40	Talk	Stefan Knapp (University of Frankfurt, Germany)

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
		„Degron mimetics as tools for the development of selective protein degraders“
15:40-16:00	Short Talk	1 short talk selected from abstracts
16:00-17:00	Coffee Break + ECR Meet & Greet Corner	Informal Networking
17:00-17:35	Short Talks	3 Short talks from abstracts
17:35-17:55	Talk	Geert-Jan Boons (Utrecht University, The Netherlands) „Improving pharmaceutical properties of proteins by N-terminal glyco-tagging“
17:55-18:10	Short Talk	1 short talk selected from abstracts
18:10-19:00	Poster Session 3	
19:00-20:30	Social Event	Tour of the city managed by professors and students of the Cultural Geography department of Palermo University
20:30-23:00	Gala Dinner	



Saturday, 6 June 2026

Time	Category	Speaker/Topic
8:00-9:00	Breakfast	
9:00-11:25	Session 8	Therapeutic Applications II
9:00-9:20	The IUBMB Lecture 	Michael Rapé (University of Berkeley, USA) „Stress response silencing in development and disease“
9:20-9:40	Keynote Lecture of the Assemblea Regionale Siciliana 	Yong Tae Kwon (Seoul National University, South Korea) „Targeted degradation of disease-associated proteins based on the N-degron pathway: from basic science to clinical studies“
9:40-10:00	Talk	Rong Huang (Purdue University, USA) „Chemical approaches to probe protein terminal modifications“
10:00-10:20	Talk	Beatrice Giuntoli (University of Pisa, Italy) „Exploring N-terminal cysteine oxidation in plant proteins with synthetic biology“
10:20-10:35	Short Talk	1 Short talk selected from abstracts
10:35-10:55	Talk	Antonis Kirmizis (University of Cyprus, Cyprus) „Function of NatD-mediated histone N-terminal acetylation“
10:55-11:25	Short Talks	2 Short talks selected from abstracts
11:25-11:55	Meeting, all attendees	Group Reflection: „Where is the Field Going? (moderated brainstorming with sticky notes & whiteboards)“
11:55-12:15	Meeting, all attendees	Poster & Flash Talk Prizes + „Emerging Investigator“ Award
12:15-12:30	Meeting, all attendees	Closing remarks and farewell
12:30-14:00	Departure	
13:00-21:00	Optional Social Event	Excursion and dinner

Our Supporters:

	<p>FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETIES</p>
 <p>CDBC Cellular Degradation Biology Center</p>	 <p>EMBO</p>
 <p>anr © agence nationale de la recherche</p>	 <p>DFG Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft</p>
 <p>INTERNATIONAL UNION OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY</p>	 <p>German Society for Plant Sciences</p>
 <p>SFBBM Société Française de Biochimie et Biologie Moléculaire</p>	 <p><i>The Company of Biologists</i></p>
 <p>DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst German Academic Exchange Service</p>	 <p>S E B SOCIETY FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY</p>
 <p>SPS Saclay Plant Sciences</p> <hr/>  <p>université PARIS-SACLAY</p>	 <p>Functional plasticity encoded by cellular membrane networks SFB 1557</p>

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FEBS Workshop 'Protein termini 2026: From mechanisms to biological Impact'

3-6 June 2026, Palermo, Italy proteintermini.org

This FEBS Workshop is the 5th biennial conference of the the International Society for Protein Termini (ISPT) and part of the FEBS Advanced courses series. It brings together scientists across disciplines interested in the structure, substrates, and regulatory roles of protein termini across prokaryotic, animal, and plant systems. Topics involved: enzymatic modifications, cellular quality control mechanisms, and their implications for organelle dynamics and stress responses, advances in terminomics, cryo-EM, and biotechnological applications such as PROTACs, underscoring the transformative potential of the field in medical sciences and biotechnology.



Registration and Abstract deadline
March 10, 2026

FEBS Keynote Lecture:
Roland Beckmann (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, DE)

EMBO Keynote lecture:
F. Ulrich Hartl (Max-Planck-Institute of Biochemistry, DE)

IUBMB Lecture:
Michael Rapé (University of California, Berkeley, US)

- Thomas Arnesen (University of Bergen, NO)
- Andreas Bachmair (Max Perutz Labs, Vienna, AU)
- Tanja Bange (Ludwig-Maximilians University, DE)
- Philip Beachy (Stanford University, US)
- Geert-Jan Boons (Utrecht University, NL)
- Young-Jun Choe (Nanyang Technological University, SG)
- Elke Deuerling (University of Konstanz, DE)
- Emily Flashman (University of Oxford, UK)
- Carmela Giglione (University Paris-Saclay, FR)
- Michael Holdsworth (University of Nottingham, UK)
- Rong Huang (Purdue University, US)
- Anna Kashina (University of Pennsylvania, US)
- Anton Khmelinskii (Institute of Molecular Biology, Mainz, DE)
- Stefan Knapp (Goethe University, Frankfurt, DE)
- Itay Koren (Bar-Ilan University, IL)
- Yong Tae Kwon (Seoul National University, KR)
- Annika Meinander (Åbo Akademi University, Turku, FI)
- Ophir Shalem (University of Pennsylvania, US)
- Irmgard Sinning (University of Heidelberg, DE)
- Edward W. Tate (Imperial College, UK)
- Frederica Theodoulou (Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, UK)
- Christine Schaner Tooley (State University of New York, US)
- Markus Wirtz (University of Heidelberg, DE)
- Yi Zhang (Case Western Reserve University, US)

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