



Instituto Universitario de Investigación  
**Biocomputación y Física  
de Sistemas Complejos**  
**Universidad Zaragoza**

## Blanca Viguri Lamata

Graduated in Biotechnology, she started her research activity during her Erasmus stay in a laboratory at KU Leuven University (Leuven, Belgium) while doing her TFG, a project on the creation of artificial red blood cells. She returned to Zaragoza and did her Master in Biophysics and Quantitative Biotechnology at BIFI, where she carried out her TFM on the study of proteins involved in autophagy. Currently, she is a predoctoral researcher with a grant from the DGA to carry out her PhD thesis at BIFI.



### Researcher profile

Currently, she is an R1 level researcher, and her work is focused on understanding the molecular mechanisms that regulate autophagy, specifically the role of the p62 receptor. This is a protein that forms biomolecular condensates and eliminates polyubiquitinated proteins. Using biophysical techniques, both in vitro and in cells, she studies the molecular and structural factors that regulate the formation, organization and function of these condensates.

### Importance of her research

Most neurodegenerative diseases are characterized by the formation of protein aggregates. The presence of autophagy components, such as the p62 receptor and polyubiquitin chains, in intracellular inclusions in patients is evidence of their connection with these pathologies. Understanding the underlying molecular mechanisms is key to developing therapeutic strategies for these diseases.

