**Michail Kotsyfakis** obtained his PhD in November 2004 from the Biology Department, University of Crete, under the supervision of Professor Kitsos Louis at the IMBB-FORTH. In 2005 he was hired at the NIAID/NIH as a post-doctoral visiting fellow (Rockville, Maryland, USA) where he specialized in tick-vertebrate host interactions under the mentorship of Professor Jose' MC Ribeiro. In 2009 he established his laboratory (Laboratory of Genomics and Proteomics of Disease Vectors) in the Biology Center of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Budweis, Czechia as a recipient of the prestigious Jan Evangelista Purkyně fellowship of the Czech Academy of Sciences. In July 2016 he was appointed as a Full research Professor in the same Academic Institution.

He has supervised four PhD theses and mentored seven post-docs. His group has received support from EU, EMBO Short Term fellowships, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Czech Science Foundation -among others. He has published many papers in prestigious journals, and he has delivered a number of invited talks worldwide. He is an Editorial Board member in five international journals. His current research focuses on using ticks as model organisms to address two fundamental research questions: how to improve our understanding of the basic molecular and biochemical mechanisms which mediate the disease transmission lifecycle of the specific disease vectors and how the mechanisms adopted by ticks to modulate vertebrate host physiological mechanisms may be translated into treatments for human diseases (e.g. related to vertebrate immunity and hemostasis dysfunctions).

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