

## IUIS Council Member Description

### Personal description by the Candidate for 2019-2022 Council:

Ursula Wiedermann studied Medicine in Vienna, Austria and obtained a PhD in Clinical Immunology at the University Gothenburg in Sweden. She is clinically trained and board-certified as Immunologist and specialist in Specific Prophylaxis and Tropical Medicine. She is a full professor in Vaccinology at the Medical University in Vienna and medical director of the Institute of Specific Prophylaxis and Tropical Medicine and Outpatient Clinic of Vaccinology at the Medical University Vienna. She is member of the National Vaccination Board (NITAG) since 2005 advising the Ministry of Health in vaccination recommendations and implementation of vaccination programs in Austria and member of the NITAG groups at the ECDC. Currently she is also President of the Austrian Society of Vaccinology. In 2015 she became chair of the Vaccine Committee of IUIS and contributed to the implementation of the IUIS Vaccine Prize for young researchers in the field of vaccinology.

Her research areas focus on vaccine development against infectious diseases, allergies and cancer. In preclinical studies she has been addressing the concept of mucosal tolerance induction as prophylactic strategy against allergic diseases and the use of novel adjuvants to improve vaccine efficacy. In clinical vaccination trials the major research focus is to evaluate the mechanisms of vaccination failures, thereby concentrating on particular immunocompromised risk groups. In light of the demographic changes in the population, implementation of personalized vaccination strategies, ranging from improved vaccine formulations to changes of vaccine schedules is of major interest. As vaccinology is a multidisciplinary discipline which needs new vaccine concepts to meet nowadays challenges in disease prevention but also in public health due to growing anti-vac movements, it seems of particular importance to strengthen and broaden the interdisciplinary communication and research activities between immunologists, microbiologists, molecular biologists, epidemiologists and public health specialists. The position as council member of IUIS – additional to the position as chair of the vaccine committee - would give a great opportunity to further propagate the field of vaccinology in research and promote young and talented researchers within in the network of the international societies of immunology.



Candidate for 2019-2022 Council: ***Ursula Wiedermann-Schmidt***