



**ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI
PRESS OFFICE**

ph. (+30)2310 997158 e-mail: press@auth.gr

Administration Building «K. Karatheodori» AUTH, P.C. 541 24, Thessaloniki

[@Aristoteleio](https://www.facebook.com/Aristoteleio) [@authuniversity](https://www.instagram.com/authuniversity) [@Auth_University](https://twitter.com/Auth_University)

PRESS RELEASE

**Gold Medal for the iGEM Student Team of Aristotle University for an
Innovative Therapeutic Proposal Against Chronic Lymphocytic
Leukemia**

Thessaloniki, 19/11/2025

The interdisciplinary student team “iGEM Thessaloniki” of the Aristotle University won one of the gold medals at the “iGEM Competition 2025,” the World Competition of Synthetic Biology. More than 400 research teams participated in this year’s event, which took place from October 28 to 31, 2025, in Paris, competing for one of the Competition’s medals.

The team participated in this year’s Competition with the research project “siREN,” which, by leveraging Synthetic Biology techniques, constitutes a targeted RNAi precision therapeutic approach against Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia, one of the most common types of leukemia in adults in Western countries.

Continuing its tradition of success with multiple medals from 2017 to the present

It is worth noting that the team receives distinctions in every one of its participations in the World Competition, as in 2017 it won the gold medal, in 2018 it won the silver medal, in 2019 the gold medal, and in 2022, 2023, and 2024 the silver medal.

This year’s team consists of 11 students from four schools and six departments of the Aristotle University. Members of the team are: from the School of Medicine, Erriketti-Theodora Moumka; from the School of Biology, Georgios Zekas, Margarita Papastergiou, and Errika Sylai; from the School of Chemistry, Georgios Maroulis and Olga-Anna Skarlatou; from the School of Agriculture, Marianna Rafaelia Palieraki; from the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Antonios Tsiourvas and Kyriakos-Marios Papamanolis; from the School of Chemical Engineering, Ioanna Karampela; as well as Biology graduate Angeliki Iordanidou. The team’s instructors are Dr.

Konstantina Psatha, Dr. Stefania Maniatsi, and Dr. Eleftheria Girousi from the School of Medicine of the Aristotle University. Doctoral candidate of the University of Malta, Demosthenis Tzimotoudis, also participated in the team's training.

The scientific supervisor of the team, for the fifth consecutive year, is Professor Michail Aivaliotis of the School of Medicine of the Aristotle University and Coordinator of the interdisciplinary group of Functional Proteomics Analysis and Systems Biology (FunPATH, CIRI (KEDEK) Aristotle University).

Photos of the iGEM team are attached.

We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.