

To the 85th jubilee of Anna Valentynivna Elska, Full Member of NAS of Ukraine



On October 15, 2025, we are delighted to celebrate the 85th birthday of a brilliant and globally renowned scientist, Academician Anna Valentynivna Elska. A Full Member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) of Ukraine and a luminary in her field, she served as the Director of the Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics of NAS of Ukraine from 2003 to 2019 and remains one of the most active and devoted members of our journal's Editorial Board.

Devoted to Science

Born on October 15, 1940, in Donetsk, Anna Valentynivna began her scientific journey with a top-honors graduation from Donetsk Medical University in 1963. She dedicated her entire career to the Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics, steadily rising through the ranks from senior researcher in 1973 to department head in 1978, Deputy Director for Science in 1996, and finally, Director. Today, she continues to provide invaluable guidance as the Institute's Honorary Director and Advisor to the Directorate.

Pioneering Research and Impact

Academician Elska is a founder of a new trend in molecular biology: the study of gene expression regulation at the translational level in eukaryotes. Her groundbreaking work led to the discovery of the scientific phenomenon of tRNA functional adaptation, a feat for which she was awarded a prestigious diploma in 1991. More recently, she led research that revealed the spatial structure of a key factor in protein biosynthesis, identifying crucial differences from its bacterial counterpart and shedding light on its functional specificities in carcinogenic forms.

Her pioneering spirit also extended to molecular bioelectronics and analytical biotechnology. Her fundamental research into the interaction between biomolecules and electrochemical transducers



paved the way for the development of innovative biosensors. These new-generation analytical devices are now essential for medical diagnostics, industrial biotechnology, food safety, and environmental protection.

Furthermore, Anna Elska has made an invaluable contribution to establishing and developing such vital fields as genomics, molecular and cellular biotechnology, bioinformatics, and biomedicine in Ukraine. She has been a strategic force in fostering international collaborations, ensuring that her Institute became a trusted partner in numerous global projects, including many within the EU Framework Programmes.

Awards, Honors, and a Legacy of Mentorship

Throughout her remarkable career, Anna Valentynivna has been recognized with the highest sci-

entific degrees and titles, culminating in her election as a Full Member of the NAS of Ukraine in 1992. Her extensive list of awards and honors is a testament to her profound impact:

1986: Laureate of the State Prize of the Ukrainian SSR in science and technology.

1998: Honorary Worker of Science and Technology of Ukraine.

2004: Certificate of Merit from the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

2008, 2015, 2021: Orders of Princess Olha, I, II, and III degrees.

2015: Vernadsky Gold Medal of the NAS of Ukraine for outstanding achievements in molecular biology and bioelectronics.

2017: “Woman of Ukraine” Award in the “Science and Education” nomination.

As a brilliant teacher and mentor, Professor Elska has built a flourishing scientific school, guiding six Doctors of Science and 28 Philosophy Doctors to successful thesis defenses under her supervision. Her research creativity has resulted in over 400 scientific articles, 6 monographs, and dozens of patents.

Her lifelong commitment to science also includes extensive organizational and public work, where she has served on numerous national and international councils, committees, and editorial boards, leaving a profound mark on the scientific landscape of Ukraine and beyond.

On this special occasion, the scientific community, her friends, colleagues, and disciples extend their heartfelt congratulations to Anna Valentynivna. We wish her continued good health, the fulfillment of her many ideas, and a very happy birthday!