

## **Tamara ELZEIN, Ph.D.**

Secretary General of the National Council for Scientific Research of Lebanon

Lebanese scientist in the field of material science, born in 1977 in Lebanon. She is laureate of the "L'OREAL-UNESCO for Women in Science" prize (Levant-Egypt region 2016), in addition to the distinction of "Lebanese women pioneers" by the "National Initiative of the Centenary of Greater Lebanon". In 2017, she received the "International Rising Talent" award from the "L'OREAL-UNESCO for Women in Science" program. In October 2020, she has been named, by the French Republic, Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques (Knight in the Order of the Academic Palms). In 2022, she was appointed Secretary General of the National Council for Scientific Research of Lebanon, to be the first woman to head this institution since its establishment in 1962.

In addition to her duties as Secretary General of the National Council for Scientific Research, she is co-president of the French-Lebanese committee of the PHC CEDRE program. She is also Vice-President of the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO. She served as advisor for scientific research and Francophone affairs to the current Minister of Education and Higher Education. In addition, between 2016 and 2022 she had been a member of the international scientific board of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie. Between 2014 and 2019, she had been a designated expert for the European Commission CBRN Centers of Excellence (EU-CBRN CoE). In 2019, with the support of UNESCO, she founded the national observatory for women in research "DAWReK'n-دوركن", of which she is the president. Starting 2023, she becomes the jury president of the "L'OREAL-UNESCO for Women in Science" program for both Levant and Middle East regions.

Regarding her scientific career, after a PhD in physical chemistry from the University of Haute-Alsace (2002), she was appointed in 2003 Maître de Conférences at the same university. At the end of 2013, she asked to be placed on leave to return to Lebanon and join the Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission of CNRS-L where she established a new research unit on "innovative materials for radioactive decontamination". Her scientific research has been published in two international patents and more than 69 articles and international conferences.

In addition to her professional commitment, she is active in the field of open science and to linking Science and society. In this context, she represented Lebanon as an expert in the Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts (Second Category) on the UNESCO recommendation on Open Science (2021). She got support from UNESCO to implement her project "Unlocking Science" which aimed to popularize science and make it accessible to Society through various activities. Within this project, she established several events with new concepts, such as "Dardacha Talks" and "Scientific Mezzés". In parallel, she wrote for the Lebanese and Arab press many articles dealing with education, research and scientific progress, and specifically on topics covering educational inequality, the humanization of progress, scientific mediocracy, rankings, the trust in Science, etc.