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Pau Gorostiza graduated in physics at the Universitat de Barcelona (UB), where he also obtained his Ph.D. (European Doctorate) in the field of semiconductor electrochemistry. He also worked at the microscopy facility of the UB, where he gained experience in AFM and STM of biological samples, as well as in nanotechnology applied to materials science. He has visited the CNRS and the Université Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris (France), and the University of California at Berkeley (USA). His recent works include the development of optical switches for remotely controlling neuronal activity. He obtained a Young Biomedical Investigator Award of the Francisco Cobos Foundation, a Career Development Award of the Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP) and a Starting Grant of the European Research Council (ERC). He is currently ICREA Research Professor at the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC).

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