

## Press Release

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### CHARPENTIER AMONGST 100 „LEADING GLOBAL THINKERS“

HZI BEGEHT JUBILÄUM DES HZI RESEARCHER BELONGS TO THE 100 MOST IMPORTANT PUBLIC INTELLECTUALS WORLDWIDE ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN POLICY MAGAZINE

Once a year, the Foreign Policy magazine publishes a list of the 100 most important intellectuals, the so-called 100 „Leading Global Thinkers“. Besides politicians, journalists and activists this list also includes scientists who have changed the world with their work. One of them is Prof Emmanuelle Charpentier, head of the Department “Regulation in Infection Biology” at the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI) in Braunschweig, Alexander von Humboldt Professor at Hannover Medical School and Guest Professor at the Laboratory for Molecular Infection Medicine, Umeå University, Sweden.



Emmanuelle Charpentier is the head of the department “Regulation in Infection Biology” at the HZI

Charpentier is a leading researcher in the field of [RNA](#) regulation and molecular [infection](#) biology. She is one of the discoverers of *CRISPR-Cas9*, an ancient defense mechanism in *bacteria* harnessed as a biotechnological tool, which can be used to edit genetic material. The research of Charpentier and her colleagues is revolutionizing research by its wide range of application across biology and medicine and paves the way to treat genetic diseases in the future and gives hope for curing many other diseases, such as *AIDS*.

Emmanuelle Charpentier moved from Sweden to Germany as an Humboldt Professor in 2013 and has since been working at the HZI and the Hannover Medical School. She has received various prizes for her research in recent years with the latest being the renowned Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences.

More information about the [Foreign Policy Magazine](#) and the list of the 100 Leading Global Thinkers can be found [here](#).

The department “**Regulation in Infection Biology**” studies how the expression of bacterial RNA and bacterial proteins is controlled. Both factors contribute to the establishment and the course of an infection.

The **Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI)** contributes to the achievement of the goals of the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres and to the successful implementation of the research strategy of the German Federal Government. The goal is to meet the challenges in infection research and make a contribution to public health with new strategies for the prevention and therapy of infectious diseases. [www.helmholtz-hzi.de](http://www.helmholtz-hzi.de)