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Greek scientists linked to the Human Genome Project, the Mediterranean Diet Score, Regeneron and CERN's CMS experiment

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Eleven scientists and **researchers** with links to **Greece** have been included among the **world's top 1,000** researchers for 2025-2026, according to the Research.com "Best Scientists in the World" [ranking](#).

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The group includes leading figures working across medicine, biology, genetics, biotechnology, physics, chemistry, chemical engineering and pharmaceuticals.

The ranking is based mainly on the h-index, a measure of scientific productivity and impact, using bibliometric data from OpenAlex and CrossRef collected on

27 November 2024. In total, 279,971 scientist profiles were assessed, including major awards, distinctions, and field-specific achievements.

1. John P. A. Ioannidis - No 89 | Mr Meta-Research

John P. A. Ioannidis, the highest-ranked Greek scientist on the list, is one of the world's best-known figures in meta-research, the study of how scientific research itself is produced, tested and improved. Born in New York and raised in Athens, he has built a major international profile through work on evidence, bias, reproducibility and the reliability of published findings.

His Stanford profile describes his aim as improving research methods and integrating reliable evidence. As he puts it, "Science is the best thing that can happen to humans, but doing research is like swimming in an ocean at night. Science thrives in darkness." Ioannidis has also written literary/poetry books, while his public profile grew further during the COVID-19 pandemic, when he became a prominent critic of some strict lockdown measures. His advice to young researchers is to persist despite rejection: "Do not give up, regardless of the odds."

2. Panos Deloukas - No 102 | Mapping the genetics of heart disease

Panos Deloukas is Professor of Cardiovascular Genomics and Director of the William Harvey Research Institute at Queen Mary University of London. His work has focused on the genetics of complex human traits and disease, including major studies on coronary artery disease, heart attack risk and related cardiometabolic conditions.

Before moving to Queen Mary, Deloukas worked at the Wellcome Sanger Institute, where he helped build genetic maps for the Human Genome Project and contributed to research on genetic predisposition to cardiometabolic traits. In 2024, he was also elected director of the Greek Institute of Human Genomics at the Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas.

3. George P. Chrousos - No 117 | Understanding the biology of stress

George P. Chrousos, emeritus professor of Paediatrics and Endocrinology at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, is internationally known for his research on the biology and medicine of stress. His work has examined how stress affects the body at behavioural, neuroendocrine, cellular and molecular

levels, with particular emphasis on the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis and glucocorticoids.

Chrousos has also worked extensively on human development, especially adolescence. He holds the UNESCO Chair on Adolescent Health Care and is associated with several leading Greek research and medical institutions, including the University Research Institute of Maternal and Child Health and Precision Medicine. His record includes thousands of publications and a long list of Greek and international distinctions.

4. George D. Yancopoulos - No 193 | From Greek diaspora science to biotech drug discovery

George D. Yancopoulos is one of the most prominent Greek diaspora scientists in biotechnology. He is co-founder, board co-chair, president and chief scientific officer of Regeneron, the US pharmaceutical company associated with a series of major drug discoveries and antibody-based treatments.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Regeneron's experimental antibody cocktail drew global attention after it was administered to Donald Trump when he tested positive for the coronavirus in October 2020. More broadly, Yancopoulos' career combines academic science, drug development and biotechnology entrepreneurship, placing him among the most visible Greek-origin figures in global biomedical research.

5. Mercuri G. Kanatzidis - No 262 | The chemist behind kanatzidisite

Mercuri G. Kanatzidis, a Greek-born chemistry professor at Northwestern University, is closely associated with the discovery and synthesis of materials used in areas such as energy conversion, semiconductors, thermoelectrics and halide perovskites. He was born and educated in Thessaloniki, graduating from the Chemistry Department of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki before completing his doctorate at the University of Iowa.

In 2023, a newly identified chalcogenide mineral was named kanatzidisite in his honour, reflecting the influence of his work on this class of materials. Kanatzidis is also linked to dozens of patents and has repeatedly stressed the importance of scientific integrity and training the next generation of researchers. As he has

put it, "We must have the highest ethics so that whatever we publish is correct and true. Everything else follows."

6. Eva Halkiadakis - No 268 | Greek science at the CMS experiment

Eva Halkiadakis is a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Rutgers University in New Jersey. An experimental particle physicist, she works in high-energy physics and is associated with the Compact Muon Solenoid, or CMS, experiment at CERN's Large Hadron Collider.

Her research has focused on searches for new physics at the LHC, and her publication record reflects the scale of modern international particle physics collaborations. Research.com ranks her among the leading researchers in physics, with a particularly strong citation profile linked to CMS publications.

7. Antonia Trichopoulou - No 651 | The Mediterranean diet pioneer

Antonia Trichopoulou, emeritus professor at the University of Athens Medical School, is one of the best-known researchers associated with the Mediterranean diet. Her work has helped make the traditional Mediterranean dietary pattern a major subject of international public health research.

She developed the Mediterranean Diet Score, a standardised tool used to assess adherence to the Mediterranean diet and study its relationship with health outcomes. In December 2021, she was elected a full member of the Academy of Athens in the field of Medical Sciences, Epidemiology and Public Health. Her career has helped place Greek dietary research at the centre of global debates on nutrition and healthy ageing.

8. Tom Maniatis - No 770 | The scientist behind a genetics classic

Tom Maniatis, professor of molecular and cellular biology at Columbia University, is widely regarded as a pioneer of modern molecular biology. He co-authored *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, a landmark guide that became known simply as "Maniatis" in laboratories worldwide.

His research helped develop methods for isolating, studying and cloning individual human genes. His laboratory also created the first complete human genomic DNA library, a major step that helped researchers identify and study disease-related genes. At Columbia's Zuckerman Institute, Maniatis has also

worked on neurological and neurodegenerative diseases, including ALS, a disease that affected his family personally.

9. Nicholas A. Peppas - No 790 | Biomaterials, drug delivery and more than 150 awards

Nicholas A. Peppas is Cockrell Family Regents Chair in Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin and one of the most influential researchers in biomaterials and drug delivery. His work spans chemical engineering, biomedical engineering, pharmaceuticals and regenerative medicine.

Peppas has made major contributions to controlled drug delivery, biomaterials, biological recognition and the modelling of protein interactions with biomaterials and tissues. His career has been recognised with more than 150 awards, reflecting his role in shaping fields that connect engineering, medicine and pharmaceutical science.

10. Meletios A. Dimopoulos - No 792 | A leading Greek voice in oncology

Meletios A. Dimopoulos is a professor at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and a leading Greek oncologist and haematologist. His research has focused on haematological malignancies, especially multiple myeloma, as well as solid tumours, including genitourinary and gynaecological cancers.

Dimopoulos became widely known in Greece during the COVID-19 pandemic through his public scientific commentary. He also served as rector of the University of Athens from 2015 to 2023 and briefly as health minister in Greece's caretaker government in September 2015. His Research.com profile places him among the top-ranked scientists on the global list, with a large publication and citation record in clinical medicine.

11. Antonios G. Mikos - No 928 | Engineering new biomaterials

Antonios G. Mikos is the Louis Calder Professor of Bioengineering and Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Rice University. He also directs major research programmes and laboratories in tissue engineering and biomedical engineering. He began his studies in chemical engineering at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Mikos' research focuses on the synthesis, processing and evaluation of new biomaterials. These materials are used as scaffolds for tissue engineering, carriers for controlled drug delivery, non-viral vectors for gene therapy and platforms for disease modelling. His work has contributed to the development of new biomaterials with potential applications in orthopaedics, dentistry, cardiovascular medicine, neurology and ophthalmology.