

Marko Pende wins the 2018 Constantin von Economo Young Investigator Award

The *Constantin von Economo Young Investigator Award* was awarded for the second time in December 2018. It was awarded to Marko Pende for his paper “High resolution ultramicroscopy of the developing and adult nervous system in optically cleared *Drosophila melanogaster*” published in *Nature Communications* 2018. The Constantin von Economo Young Investigator Award is awarded annually. It honors the first authorship of an outstanding research paper published while in training as a student or postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Brain Research, Medical University of Vienna. It is endowed with € 1000,- sponsored by the *Constantin von Economo Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Naturwissenschaften*.

Marko Pende studied biology at the University of Vienna. In 2014, he received his M.Sc. degree in Molecular Biology with main focus on Neuroscience under the supervision of Professor Hans Lassmann. In 2015, he received a second M.Sc. degree in Immunology with main focus on Neuroimmunology in Professor Hans-Ulrich Dodts research group. In 2015, he started his PhD in Biomedical Engineering at the Technical University of Vienna under supervision of Prof. Dodts group. Currently, he is working on the development of tissue clearing techniques at the Technical University of Vienna and at the Center of Brain Research, Medical University of Vienna.

The award is named after Constantin von Economo, who was an Austrian psychiatrist and neurologist whose scientific research interests included mechanisms and treatment of Encephalitis lethargica, and the cellular architecture of the cerebral cortex amongst many others. The winner was selected by an international external committee (Daniela Pollack, Department of Neurophysiology and Neuropharmacology, Medical University of Vienna; Romana Höftberger, Institute of Neurology, Medical University of Vienna; and Henning Fenselau, MPI for Metabolism Research in Cologne, Germany).