Doris Wilflingseder, PhD, is University Professor of Infection Biology at the Medical University of Innsbruck. Moreover, she is affiliate professor of infectiology with a focus on host – pathogen interactions at the vetmeduni Vienna and the newly founded Ignaz-Semmelweis Institute, where she will start as appointed professor from July 2024 on. Her research focus is on establishing and optimizing immune-competent barrier models of various species in order to simulate the entry and primary infection of pathogens as close as possible to the real-life situation. A better understanding of microbial transmission in the natural versus human host in terms of a comparative infectiology will give new clues on the pathogenicity of microbes. She has authored 103 scientific publications, introduced teaching courses on alternatives to animal testing in the curricula of human and molecular medicine and continuously gained competitive third-party funding during