



Dr. Vaidas Palinauskas – chief researcher at the Nature Research Centre. In 2009 defended his doctoral dissertation: „ Experimental investigation of avian malaria parasites (*Plasmodium*, Haemosporida): linkage of traditional and molecular data“. Research areas: specificity and virulence of malaria parasites and other haemosporidians in the vertebrate host and vector; genetic divergence, molecular and evolutionary biology of haemosporidians, the development of new molecular methods, and research on the factors influencing transmission of parasites. Research results are published in 72 scientific articles in journals belonging to the *Web of Science* database (45 first quartile Q1 and 19 second quartile Q2) and in monograph published by *Springer Press*. He has made presentations, three of them as an invited speaker, at international conferences in Bulgaria, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, and the USA. Active collaborations are with researchers from France, Spain, Sweden, and the USA. He has led and is still leading three national projects coordinated by the Research Council of Lithuania (MTEP grant and Research groups) and participated in two international projects: “Horizon 2020” and “WellcomeTRust/India Alliance”. Participated in traineeships in the Czech Republic, Japan, Sweden, the UK, and the USA. Also conducted training and seminars for students and young researchers in Colombia, Estonia, France, India, and Spain. Supervised the diploma theses of bachelor (8), master (4), and Ph.D. (2) students. Together with other members of the organizing committees, has organized 9 international scientific conferences in Bulgaria, Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden. He is currently a member of the World and European Society of Parasitologists and since 2017 has been vice president of the Scandinavian-Baltic Parasitological Society. Since 2020 he is a member of the Scientific Council of the Nature Research Centre. He received seven international and Lithuanian awards for scientific activities.