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Esma Ismailova is an Associate Professor in the Bioelectronics department (BEL) at the École Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Saint-Étienne, in France. She completed her PhD in Chemistry and Physics at the University of Strasbourg, working on the synthesis of chemically amplified photoresists used in microelectronic circuits' fabrication, sponsored by STMicroelectronics in France. She then joined the Laboratory for Organic Electronics at Cornell University, USA as a postdoctoral researcher developing conducting polymer-based devices at the interface between biology and electronics.

Since 2012, her research interest focuses on the design and fabrication of novel organic electronic devices for healthcare. In 2015, she started the Bioelectronic textiles research group at BEL, and she is one of the first organizers of Electronic Textiles Symposia for the Materials Research Society in USA (2016, 2018, 2019) and Europe (2017).