

Decision of the Jury

The jury of the José Luis Rubio de Francia's Award 2012 is pleased to recommend unanimously **María Pé Pereira** as a recipient for the prize.

María Pe Pereira (Burgos, 1981) has done some outstanding mathematical contributions to singularity theory, especially in connection with the celebrated Nash problem on arcs for surface singularities. The Nash problem, posed by John Nash in 1968, has been one of the central problems in singularity theory over the last 40 years. In her Ph.D. thesis, in 2011, Maria Pe constructed a unified proof for all quotient singularities of a positive solution to Nash's problem on arcs. Her thesis contained new techniques and insights that could be used in a more general context. Subsequently, Pe Pereira and her Ph.D. advisor Javier Fernandez de Bobadilla solved in its full generality the Nash problem on arcs in the paper "Nash problem for surface singularities" published in *Annals of Mathematics* in 2012. A crucial part in the solution of the problem was the study that Pé Pereira had previously carried out in her PhD thesis.

These results are considered by established peers working within this area to be outstanding achievements, a view which is undoubtedly reflected in the fact that the conjecture withstood its final resolution for over 40 years, despite being a very active area of research.