Giovanni Maglia was born in Bologna (Italy). He attended the University of Bologna for his undergraduate studies in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and went to the University of Pennsylvania (USA) for his Masters thesis. He obtained his PhD from the University of Birmingham (UK) investigating the physical bases of the hydride transfer reaction catalyzed by dihydrofolate reductase. After a short spell at the university of Leuven (BE), he moved to the University of Oxford for his post-doctoral research on DNA nanopore sequencing. In 2010 Giovanni Maglia received an ERC starting grant to initiate his independent research at the University of Leuven (BE). From November 2011, he is associate professor of Chemical Biology at the University of Groningen (NL), and in 2016 he received a ERC consolidator grant. His research interests include nanopore biophysics, single-molecule enzymology, single-molecule proteomics and sensing, and designing artificial transmembrane machines.