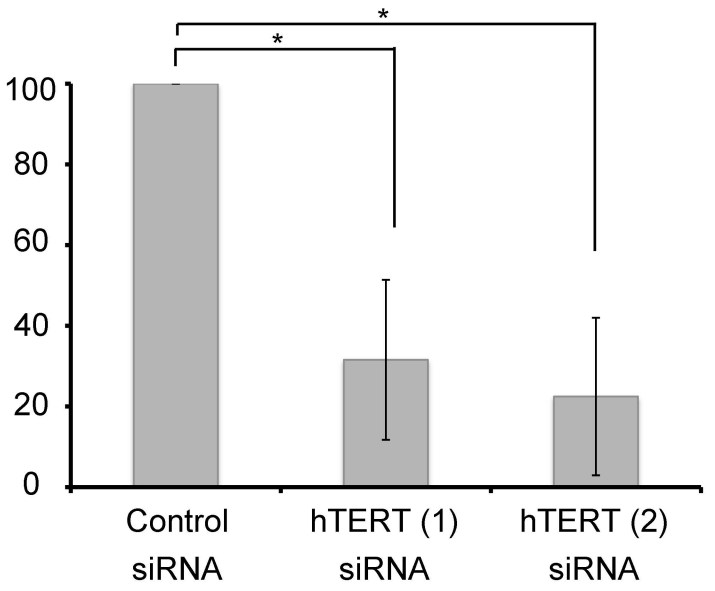

Fig. S1: hTERT is critical for *Listeria* infection. HeLa cells were treated with control, hTERT (1) or hTERT (2) siRNAs for 72 hours, counted and then infected with *L. monocytogenes* EGD. Five hours after the beginning of the infection, cells were washed, fixed and bacteria were labeled. Intracellular bacteria were quantified by immunofluorescence. Percentage of intracellular bacteria relative to control siRNA was determined. The experiment was performed three times and is shown as a mean +/- standard error of the means. *, $p < 0.05$.

The decrease in the number of intracellular bacteria in cells treated with hTERT siRNAs is more drastic compared to the decrease observed by CFU count (fig. 1C). This difference could arise from the technique used, as fewer cells were analyzed in the immunofluorescence approach.

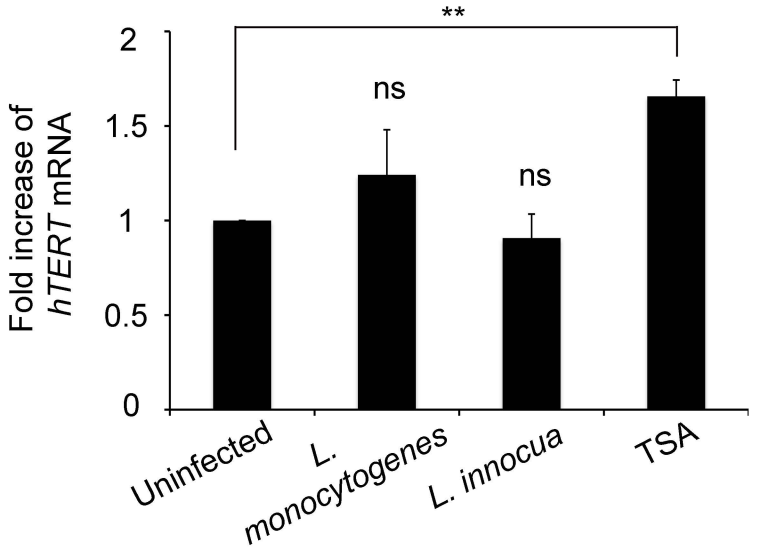

Fig. S2: *L. monocytogenes* does not affect htert mRNA levels 3h after infection. hTERT mRNA was extracted 3h after infection of HeLa cells with *L. monocytogenes* EGD or *L. innocua* or 24h following treatment with Trichostatin A. Reverse transcription was performed, followed by real time PCR. Expression levels were normalized to actin levels and are presented as levels relative to uninfected cells. Data are the average of three independent experiments and error bars represent standard errors of the mean (**, p = 0.0008).

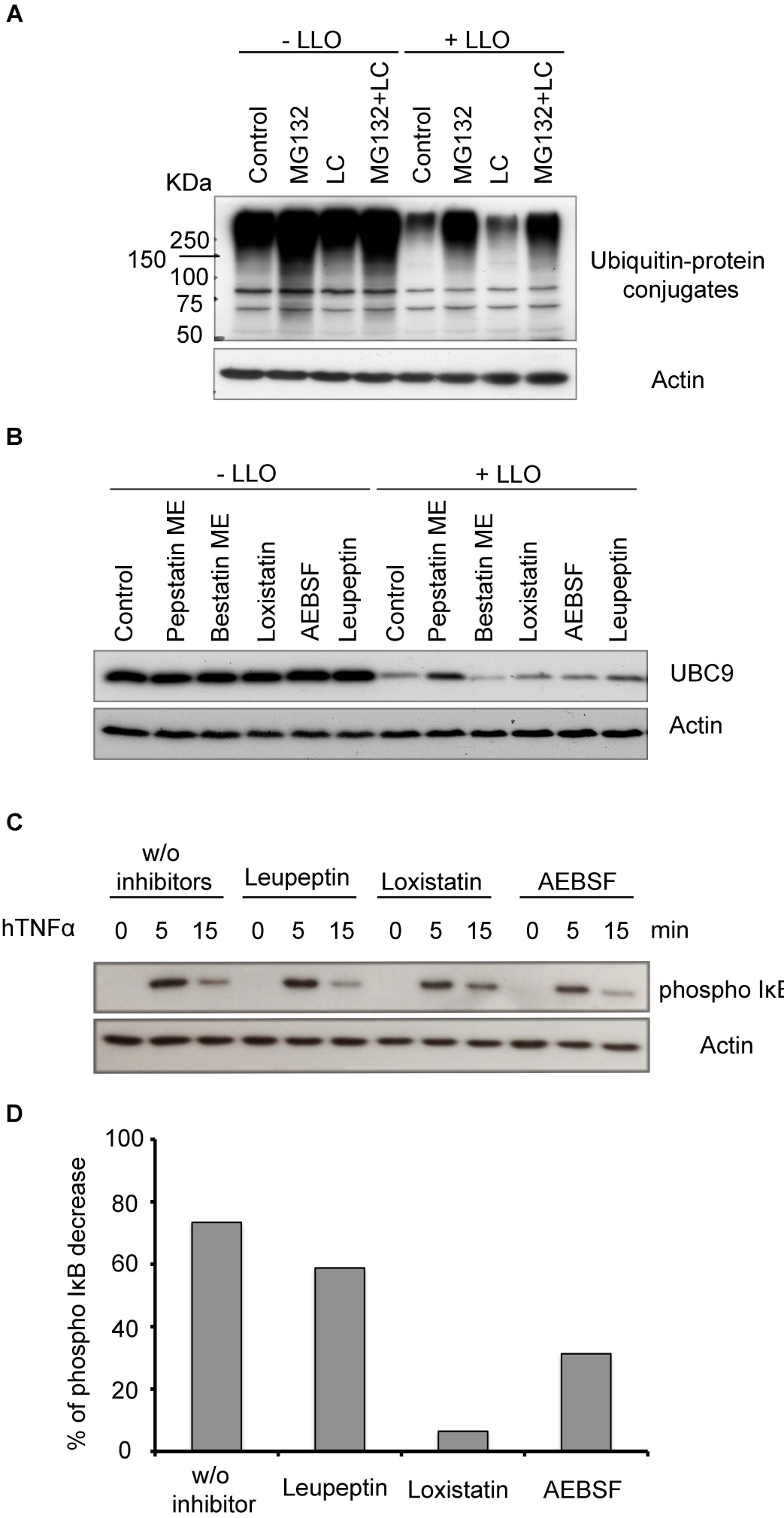
A
- LLO
+ LLO
Control
MG132
LC
MG132+LC
Control
MG132
LC
MG132+LC
KDa
250
150
100
75
50
Ubiquitin-protein conjugates
Actin
B
- LLO
+ LLO
Control
Pepstatin ME
Bestatin ME
Loxistatin
AEBSF
Leupeptin
Control
Pepstatin ME
Bestatin ME
Loxistatin
AEBSF
Leupeptin
UBC9
Actin
C
w/o inhibitors
Leupeptin
Loxistatin
AEBSF
+ hTNFα
0 5 15 0 5 15 0 5 15 0 5 15 min
phospho IκB
Actin
D
% of phospho IκB decrease
100
80
60
40
20
0
w/o inhibitor
Leupeptin
Loxistatin
AEBSF

Fig. S3: Evaluation of protease inhibitor activities. (A) HeLa cells were pre-treated with the proteasome inhibitors MG132 or Lactacystin (LC) or with both for five hours. LLO was then added in the medium for 20 min. Ubiquitin-protein conjugates and actin were revealed with anti-ubiquitin (FK2) and anti-actin respectively. (B) HeLa cells were pre-treated for 1.5h with the indicated protease inhibitors (pepstatin methyl-ester; Bestatin methyl-ester; loxistatin; AEBSF and leupeptin) before being exposed to LLO for 20 min. Cell extracts were probed with anti-UBC9 and anti-actin. (C) HeLa cells were pre-treated for 1.5h with the indicated protease inhibitors before being exposed to human TNFα for 5 and 15 min. phospho IκB and actin were revealed by western blot. (D) phospho-IκB levels shown in (B) were quantified and normalized to actin. The phospho-IκB decrease represented the difference between 5 min and 15 min levels.