



**FIGURE 2.** Ribozymes for detection of protein interactions. (A) Inhibited ribozymes. A catalytically active ribozyme is switched off by the target protein (yellow) via interaction with a protein-binding RNA domain (blue). The complex of protein-responsive ribozyme and the target protein (middle) represents a sensor for interaction partners of the protein. Upon addition of a protein binder (red), which competes for binding with the ribozyme, the latter is set free and catalytic activity is switched on. (B) Induced ribozymes. Opposite catalytic activities are obtained by using a ribozyme that is catalytically inactive and is induced by the cognate protein. The first approach has the advantage of a positive readout if the experiment aims for identification of an interaction partner of the target protein. The second setup is preferred if detection of the target protein alone is desired, because a signal is generated upon presence of the target protein.