

Prof. David Cole-Hamilton **EuCheMS President** Please reply to Dr. Nineta Hrastelj Majcen nineta.majcen@euchems.eu

Professors D. Tildesley and Sir John Holman and Dr. Robert Parker, Royal Society of Chemistry, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1V OBN Dominic.tildesley@epfl.ch; president-elect@rsc.org; parkerr@rsc.org

25th June. 2016

Dear Dominic, Sir John and Robert,

RSC Membership of EuCheMS

We, the Senior or long-standing members of the EuCheMS Executive Board are writing to you in your capacities as President, President Elect and CEO of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

We were very disappointed by the result of the UK referendum on EU Membership. However, as you know, EuCheMS membership is drawn from the whole of geographical Europe and we have several member societies from countries that are not members of the EU, but are geographically or philosophically linked within Europe.

EuCheMS has benefitted very greatly from the influence of the RSC from its foundation and especially in recent years when your society has successfully nominated and supported the President, has contributed to many consultations and workshops, has provided Committee members for all our Divisions and Working Parties (often the Chairs) and has successfully bid to host the 7th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, to be held in Liverpool in 2018.

We believe that EuCheMS will continue to be of very great importance to the RSC since it will provide one of very few mechanisms by which the RSC will be able to influence European policy concerning chemistry, which is important because all EU legislation will still have effects on countries wishing to trade with the EU in the chemicals area. We also hope that the UK will be involved in some way with the European Research Area and EuCheMS would again allow the RSC to exercise some influence.

We very much hope that the RSC will continue to play a key role in the further development of EuCheMS.

If it would be helpful for our President, David Cole-Hamilton, or another senior member of EuCheMS to address the RSC Council, we would be very happy to arrange that.

With all good wishes, Yours Sincerely,

David Cole-Hamilton **EuCheMS President**

Nineta Hrastelj Majcen **General Secretary**

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Professor Sir John Holman CChem FRSC President

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7 July, 2016

Dear David, Nineta, Franco, Wolfram, Ulrich,

Thank you for your letter encouraging RSC's continuance in EuCheMS.

The Council of RSC spent a significant part of its time today discussing the implications of the referendum outcome and our way forward in influencing positive outcomes for science and, more specifically, chemistry going forward. We have reaffirmed that we are committed to being a diverse organisation and community, with people from across the world working together to achieve our mission of advancing excellence in chemistry. We will continue to respect one another for our skills and knowledge, value the contribution each of us makes, and remain supportive of each other. The referendum result brings with it great uncertainty to the future of the UK, including the future of the UK's education, research and innovation system. However, science remains vital to the UK and is one of its great strengths – whatever the future holds we will be working to ensure it continues to be. We are engaging with post-referendum developments closely and working in partnership with our fellow learned societies, to understand and respond to the impacts on and opportunities for the scientific community.

Our long-term commitment to chemistry in Europe remains as strong as ever and we will do everything in our power to continue to strengthen it. Far from closing doors to collaboration, we want to open them still further. We can happily also confirm that our commitment to EuCheMS remains as strong as ever.

With best wishes,

Professor Sir John Holman, President,

Royal Society of Chemistry

Professor Dominic Tildesley, Immediate Past-President, Royal Society of Chemistry Dr Robert Parker, Chief Executive, Royal Society of Chemistry

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