



## Chemistry for everyone

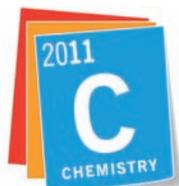
"I am very pleased that the UN has chosen 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry", says Wolfram Koch, Executive Director of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh, German Chemical Society) who represents EuCheMS in the IUPAC Management Committee of the International Year of Chemistry (IYC). "In 2003", Koch continues, "we celebrated a very successful 'Year of Chemistry' in Germany. Now, more than ever before, it is essential that everyone should consciously recognize and affirm the central role of chemistry in addressing the global challenges such as energy, food, health and climate change."

When adopting their resolution to proclaim 2011 as International Year of Chemistry by the end of 2009, the UN General Assembly placed UNESCO and IUPAC at the helm of the event.

IUPAC, represented by its President Jung-Il Jin, Vice President Nicole Moreau, Secretary General David Black and Executive Director John Jost, immediately called for a conference of a number of presidents and other representatives of EuCheMS member organisations. In early January the EuCheMS and IUPAC representatives met at the GDCh offices in Frankfurt, welcomed by the GDCh President Klaus Müllen.

A World Chemistry Leadership Meeting will be held during the IUPAC General Assembly in Glasgow this summer, and the major topic will be the International Year of Chemistry. A pre-launch publicity event will be held during the PACIFICHEM conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, in December 2010 while the official launch of the IYC will take place in Paris. A celebration of the IYC will be organised during the IUPAC Congress and General Assembly scheduled for San Juan, Puerto Rico in the summer of 2011. Finally, the closing ceremony is planned for December 2011 in Brussels.

The call for the UN resolution for IYC in 2011 was first submitted by Ethiopia, to cel-



## International Year of CHEMISTRY 2011

brate the achievements of chemistry and its contributions to the well-being of humanity. The IYC will also draw attention to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005 to 2014. Furthermore, IYC will celebrate the contribution of women to science, since it marks the 100th anniversary of the award of the Nobel Prize to Marie Skłodowska Curie. It is also appropriate that the predecessor of IUPAC, the International Association of Chemical Societies, was founded in 1911, another anniversary that can be celebrated in 2011 and of which IUPAC can be justly proud.

According to IUPAC Vice President Nicole Moreau the opening event will start in Paris in cooperation with UNESCO in January or early February 2011, and "will communicate the excitement of chemistry".

While IUPAC will take responsibility for some large global events, the success of the IYC depends heavily on the national chemical societies and on activities organised at the national and local levels. It is of great importance that all EuCheMS member organisations start collecting ideas, making plans and get active in order to make the IYC a success in their own country. Let's all work together to spread the excitement of chemistry throughout the EuCheMS community!

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[www.chemistry2011.org](http://www.chemistry2011.org)

## The European Chemist

"European Chemist" (EurChem) is a professional designation awarded by the EuCheMS European Chemist Registration Board (ECRB) to individual members of member societies. It was launched in 1992 by the European Communities Chemistry Council (ECCC) and was subsequently supported in principle at EU level. EurChem is a European designation comparable with for instance the European Engineer (EurIng) designation awarded by the European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI) and the Chartered Chemist (CChem) awarded by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC).

The EurChem designation is awarded to individuals in participating chemical societies on strict quality educational and professional requirements. Among other things, it

- recognizes professional experience in the practice and application of chemistry
- provides evidence of development beyond academic qualifications
- aims to enhance the mobility of professional chemists
- provides means of comparison of education and competence in chemistry
- is a common platform for chemistry professional qualifications within the EU.

EurChem has received support in principle from the European Chemistry Thematic Network (ECTN) and from the European Association of Institutions in Higher Education, with reference to the links with the Chemistry Eurobachelor and Euromaster schemes. The European Association of Institutions in Higher Education welcomed the collaborative scheme of the Chemistry Eurobachelor to EurChem as helpful and sensible.

All EuCheMS member societies are invited to contact Pavel Drašar to enquire how to participate in the work of ECTN or to revitalise their involvement. In this way, ECRB and the European Chemist designation can help to provide valuable support for chemists across Europe.

Pavel Drašar, ECRB chairman  
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[www.euchems.org/Qualifications](http://www.euchems.org/Qualifications)



## The 42nd IUPAC Congress

From 2 to 7 August 2009 scientists from around the world will come together for the 42nd IUPAC Congress in Glasgow, Scotland. The IUPAC Congress is one of the most important international chemistry conferences of the year and co-sponsored by EuCheMS. The programme for the Congress, to be held in Glasgow's iconic Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, features around 50 symposia demonstrating the impact of the chemical sciences and highlighting exciting innovations, with an overall focus on chemistry.

We are delighted to have Fraser Stoddart, Harold Kroto and Richard Zare among the plenary speakers. In addition to our invited speaker line-up, we have already received over 700 submissions for oral presentations from authors in 62 countries. With around 15 parallel sessions each day, plus poster sessions and satellite meetings, all delegates will be able to choose from a wide range of topics.

A discounted rate is available to members of EuCheMS member societies: use the promotional code "001\_EUC". Registration is now open online. Book your place by 5 June to receive the early bird discount.

A major exhibition and poster display will act as the focal point of the Congress and we invite you to submit abstracts by 5 June 2009. We look forward to welcoming you to a world class event in one of Europe's most exciting cities.

*Paul O'Brien, Chairman  
John Evans, Scientific Chairman  
www.iupac2009.org*

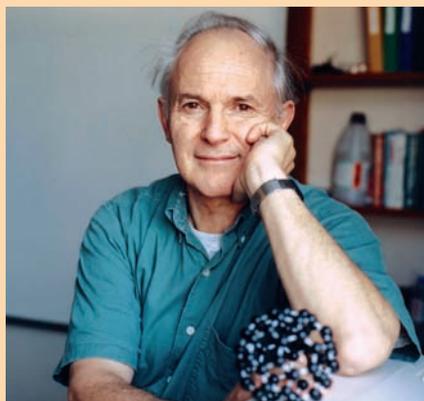


Photo: University of Florida

Harold Kroto will give a plenary lecture.

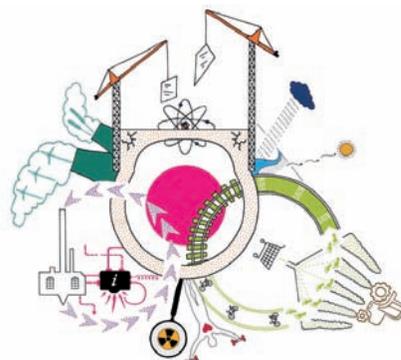
## Global challenges – chemical science solutions

The recent Roadmap project by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) has identified the vital roles that chemical sciences will play in addressing global issues facing society. The RSC is grateful for the many valuable contributions from members of EuCheMS member societies, including Giovanni Natile as former EuCheMS President. The following have been clearly identified as being critically dependent on chemical sciences:

- advances in more sustainable energy production, storage and supply
- increased food production on less arable land and clean drinking water for all
- advanced diagnostics and novel disease prevention therapies
- designing processes and products that preserve resources

Other key areas include development of functional materials for homes and buildings and lightweight, energy-efficient vehicles to reduce greenhouse gases.

However, progress is not solely dependent on research and technical advances,



but also on innovation framework conditions. Success will depend on the interplay between financial resources, the supply of an appropriately skilled scientific workforce, the regulatory environment, cultural factors and engagement with key stakeholders. The RSC is looking to continue to work with EuCheMS and the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry to tackle the challenges of the future.

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[www.rsc.org/roadmap](http://www.rsc.org/roadmap)*

## Chemistry and the Bologna process

A conference on the current status and further needs of the Bologna process in chemistry will be held in Dresden, Germany, on 8 to 10 September 2009, organised by the European Chemistry Thematic Network (ECTN). It is planned to summarize the achievements of ECTN and to look ahead to the possible impact on chemistry of the Bologna process beyond 2010.

The first conference day, 9 September, will deal with "Bologna process stocktaking", while day two will be devoted to "ECTN and Bologna 2020". Contributions on the first day comprise a survey on the Bologna process in chemistry, views on Bologna from an insider's and from a US perspective, a critical assessment of European quality labels, as well as employability, entrepreneurship and new teaching methods.

Contributions to the second day look to the Bologna process beyond 2010, to consequences for the third cycle of higher education in chemistry and to the European Research Council and its focus on chemical research. The competitiveness of the chemical industries in the EU will be surveyed, also the relation between university education and strengthening the European chemical industry.

The scientific programme is complemented by an attractive social programme and post-conference tours. The deadline for registration is 1 June.

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## Euroanalysis 2009

The Euroanalysis conferences organised by the EuCheMS Division of Analytical Chemistry have become the premier meetings for discussion and presentation of analytical chemistry in a global sense, covering the latest advancements in analytical techniques, methodologies and applications. Euroanalysis' aim is to bring together analytical chemists from various fields in order to stimulate communication and to strengthen networks in analytical sciences.

Euroanalysis 2009 will be the fifteenth event within this series and will take place in Innsbruck, Austria, 6 to 10 September 2009. The venue will be the convention center Congress Innsbruck, which is close to the famous old town. The conference will highlight current trends in all areas of analytical chemistry and demonstrate the key role of analytics for progress in science and technology according to its motto "The impact of analytical chemistry on quality of life". Furthermore, a special session will be devoted to education in analytical chemistry.

The scientific program will be complemented by an exhibition on analytical in-



Innsbruck, Austria

Photo: TVB Innsbruck

strumentation and services. Furthermore, half-day and full-day short courses will be offered in the areas of sample preparation, near infrared spectroscopy, quality of measurements, pattern recognition and experimental design. Deadlines for abstract submission are 30 April for oral contributions and 31 May for poster contributions.

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*Wolfgang.Buchberger@jku.at*  
*www.euroanalysis2009.at*

## Portrait: Division of Nuclear and Radiochemistry

The Division of Nuclear and Radiochemistry was established in October 2006 following a period of seven years as a Working Party (WP). The Division currently has representatives from 23 national member societies of whom 20 have been formally appointed. It is chaired by Heinz Gaggeler (Bern, Switzerland) with Jan John (Prague, Czech Republic) as secretary.

The WP first met during the 5th Nuclear and Radiochemistry Conference (NRC 5) in Pontresina, Switzerland. This conference series, held every four years, had already been established as a result of collaboration between radiochemists from national chemical societies.

The first meeting of the WP quickly established a website and supported the continuance of the Newsletter for Radiochemists in Europe. The Division aims to cover all aspects

of chemistry with radioactive isotopes. The NRC series has continued with a successful NRC 7 held in Budapest in 2008 and NRC 8 planned for Italy in 2012. The Division has incorporated the Radiochemical Conferences held in the Czech Republic every four years, thus establishing a conference covering all aspects of nuclear and radiochemistry every two years. The next conference will be the Radiochemical Conference on 18 to 23 April 2010 in Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic. Links have been forged with other EuCheMS Divisions and with the International Atomic Energy Agency and other outside organisations.

*Heinz Gaggeler, Jan John, Tony Ware*  
*TonyWare@compuserve.com*  
*www.euchems.org/Divisions/NRC*

## The European Physical Society

The European Physical Society (EPS) was founded in 1968 and recently became an associated organisation of EuCheMS. Its principle task is to promote physics and physicists in Europe. EPS represents 40 member societies with in total more than 100 000 physicists.

The scientific topics of physics are organised in eleven divisions and six groups. They organise conferences and award prizes. They also have the task of addressing other issues of importance to physics, including the promotion of women in physics. EPS is financed by its member societies. Further income comes from the organisation of conferences and by publications. Beyond the core business, EPS is engaged in the following major activities:

- Publications: EPS brings together major publishers in Europe. *Europhysics News*, the society bulletin of EPS, is published six times a year ([www.europhysicsnews.org](http://www.europhysicsnews.org)).
- Education: EPS is piloting an EU-wide study on the implementation of the Bologna structures in physics. EPS also supports physics olympiads and masterclasses. The EPS Forum "Physics and society" is presently concerned with the school and teacher situation.
- Energy: EPS recently founded an Energy Working Group. A group of about ten national teams has been established.
- EU politics: EPS is developing working relationships with members of the EU parliament, specifically from the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy. EPS also is in contact with the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and received the EESC prize "for contributions to the development of a European civil society".

EuCheMS and EPS recently decided to jointly organise European Energy Conferences (see page 4). Looking to the future, joint scientific divisions at the interface of chemistry and physics may be envisaged, leading to cooperation to increase the impact of our influence in politics, e.g. concerning the preparation of the eighth EU Framework Programme.

*Fritz Wagner, EPS President*  
*fritz.wagner@ipp.mpg.de, www.eps.org*



## European Energy Conference 2010 in Barcelona

EuCheMS is working in partnership with the European Physical Society, the European Materials Research Society and the European Science Foundation to launch a European Energy Conference, with the aim of bringing a new dimension to energy research. The first conference will be held in Barcelona, Spain, in 2010. By working together, the chemistry, materials science and physics communities will create a single European forum within which scientists from academia, industry and government can effectively address fundamental research issues.

Although focused primarily on energy research and technology, this new conference series will provide opportunities to explore political, economic, social and environmental aspects. There will be an interdisciplinary approach to the scientific themes at the conference which are expected to include:

- limits in a material world
- mastering high temperatures/separation technologies
- new materials, material stability
- energy carriers and energy distribution
- environment as sink and source, lifecycle analysis
- diagnostics

The EuCheMS representatives in the Conference Programme Committee are Elio Giamello, Societa Chimica Italiana, Jeff Hardy, Royal Society of Chemistry, and Hermann Pütter, Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker.

*Evelyn McEwan, McEwanE@rsc.org*

## Pollutants in marine organisms

The 15th International Symposium on Pollutant Responses in Marine Organisms (PRIMO-15) will be held in Bordeaux on 17 to 20 May 2009. The meeting will bring together international scientists and stakeholders from industry, academy and governmental institutions in order to present and discuss recent advances in aquatic ecotoxicology, including freshwater and global ecosystem studies.

*pg  
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## Events

**7 – 10 June 2009, Weingarten, Germany**

5th EChemS Meeting: Electrochemistry in Functional Molecules and Materials

[www.echem.uni-tuebingen.de/echems5](http://www.echem.uni-tuebingen.de/echems5)

**14 – 17 June 2009, Stockholm, Sweden**

12th International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment

[www.chemsoc.se/sidor/KK/icce2009.htm](http://www.chemsoc.se/sidor/KK/icce2009.htm)

**22 – 25 June 2009, Goteborg, Sweden**

XVIII EuCheMS Conference on Organometallic Chemistry

[www.chemsoc.se/sidor/KK/com18/index.htm](http://www.chemsoc.se/sidor/KK/com18/index.htm)

**5 – 8 July 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark**

EuroFoodChem XV: Improved Food Quality based on Analytical Chemistry, [www.eurofoodchemxv.life.ku.dk](http://www.eurofoodchemxv.life.ku.dk)

**12 – 16 July 2009, Prague, Czech Republic**

European Symposium on Organic Chemistry (ESOC)

[www.esoc2009.com](http://www.esoc2009.com)

**2 – 5 August 2009, Sopron, Hungary**

7th International Conference on the History of Chemistry, [www.chemhist2009.mke.org.hu](http://www.chemhist2009.mke.org.hu)

**2 – 7 August 2009, Glasgow, Scotland**

42nd IUPAC Congress: Chemistry Solutions

[www.iupac2009.org](http://www.iupac2009.org)

**30 August – 2 September 2009, Frankfurt, Germany**

GCDh Chemistry Forum: Chemistry for a Better Life [www.gdch.de](http://www.gdch.de)

**1 – 4 September 2009, Como, Italy**

Italic 5: Science & Technology of Biomasses [michem.disat.unimib.it/italic5](http://michem.disat.unimib.it/italic5)

**3 – 5 September 2009, Frankfurt, Germany**

3rd European Conference on Chemistry in Life Sciences, [www.gdch.de/3eccclsc](http://www.gdch.de/3eccclsc)

**6 – 10 September 2009, Innsbruck, Austria**

EuroAnalysis 2009, [www.euroanalysis2009.at](http://www.euroanalysis2009.at)

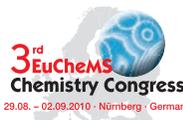
**6 – 11 September 2009, Haifa, Israel**

European Symposium on Organic Reactivity (ESOR) [www.congress.co.il/esor09](http://www.congress.co.il/esor09)

## EuCheMS Congress 2010

With 7 plenary speakers and 21 conveners having confirmed their invitations, the preparations of the 3rd EuCheMS Chemistry Congress in Nürnberg 2010 are well under way. Together with Chair François Diederich and Co-chair Andreas Hirsch, the conveners will make up the scientific committee and shape the programme according to the chemical communities' needs. Suggestions are welcome.

*Gerhard Karger, g.karger@gdch.de  
[www.euchems-congress2010.org](http://www.euchems-congress2010.org)*



## FIGIPAS 2009

FIGIPAS 2009, the prestigious meeting in inorganic chemistry, will be held in Palermo, Italy, on 1 to 4 July. The focus in 2009 will again be interdisciplinary, covering areas of inorganic chemistry and also highlights from neighbouring disciplines. The programme consists of 8 plenary and 16 session lectures as well as of 32 oral communications and two poster sessions. The organisers aim for a good balance of younger and more experienced scientists discussing all aspects of inorganic chemistry.

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[www.figipas.org](http://www.figipas.org)*

## EuCheMS Newsletter

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