

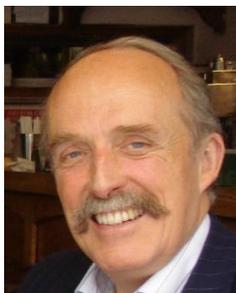


# CHEMISTRY in Europe

Newsletter for European Chemistry, published by EuChemS

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## EDITORIAL



### A reflection

The enduring memory I shall have from my 6 years on the Presidential Council of EuChemS will be the wonderful warmth shown to me by so many people as well as their friendship, help and support. As a “new boy on the block”, I knew very little, so the welcome and support I

received firstly from Ulrich Schubert, Franco de Angelis and Nineta Hrastelj was essential. Since then, I have visited many Divisional and Working Party conferences and Member Societies to talk about chemistry or EuChemS, to award prizes or just to be with you. Many more of you I have met at European Chemistry Congresses, General Assemblies and meetings of Division Chairs. Sometimes I have been able to celebrate important milestones with you, in others, I hope EuChemS has been able to offer support when times were difficult. Without exception, everyone has been extremely kind and welcoming, and it has shown me what wonderful people lead and work in chemistry in Europe. From the bottom of my heart, I thank all of you so much for your many kindnesses.

Looking back over my 6 years so many things have happened that it is very difficult to pick out a few which give me the most pleasure in which to have played a minor part. One of the first was attending the very sombre and sad 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first major use of chemical weapons in warfare in Ypres in April 2017 together with David Phillips, a past President of the RSC and Thomas Geelhaar, President of the GDCh. This led EuChemS to take a major interest in chemical weapons and the work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), leading to the Seville declaration on the use of chlorine in warfare, which was signed by 31 Presidents of Member Societies or their representatives.

More recently, the EuChemS Historical Landmarks are a wonderful innovation which have been greatly welcomed by the community. Jan Mehlich’s comprehensive on-line course on ethics for chemists, Good chemistry – methodological, ethical, and social dimensions, is a major contribution from a large number of people. Now that it has been piloted, I really urge all of you to use it in your teaching establishments because it contains so much that every chemist should know and act upon, but which they are not usually taught.

Read the full editorial online:

<https://www.euchems.eu/newsletters/chemistry-in-europe-2019-4/>

*David Cole-Hamilton*  
*EuChemS Vice-President*

## FOCUS

### General Assembly 2019 Bucharest

This year's annual meetings, the General Assembly, the Executive Board, and Professional Networks meeting were kindly hosted by the Romanian Chemical Society. They took place on the 3 – 4 October 2019 at the Politehnica University of Bucharest.

This year's General Assembly saw wide ranging discussions and developments. In the first instance, Floris Rutjes from the Royal Netherlands Chemical Society (KNCV) was elected as EuChemS President-Elect. Eckart Rühl, of the German Bunsen Society for Physical Chemistry was re-elected as EuChemS Treasurer. Two new members of the Executive Board were also elected: Ioannis Katsoyiannis (Association of Greek Chemists) and Rinaldo Poli (French Chemical Society). The new roles will officially begin in January 2020. The General Assembly also voted in favour of two new Supporting Members: the International Sustainable Chemistry Collaborative Centre (ISC3), and ChemPubSoc Europe. Find out more about the meetings [here](#).

*EuChemS Secretariat*



## POLICY

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### **EuChemS engages with the European Food Safety Agency**

On 17 and 18 October, EuChemS was invited as an academic stakeholder to join the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA)'s annual Stakeholder Forum in Parma, Italy. The yearly Forum provides an opportunity for its stakeholders, which are divided between various groups (Business groups, consumer organisations, NGOs, and academia, amongst others), to discuss with EFSA some of the issues encountered so far, and in particular, how to build better channels of interaction and engagement. In the context of the review of the General Food Law, EFSA has moreover been allocated new tasks and responsibilities – therefore requiring a new degree of transparency, oversight and stronger and more efficient engagement with its official stakeholders.

The October meeting was the third EFSA stakeholder forum, and its focus was on risk assessment processes.

EuChemS has moreover been quick to identify and point out the issue of scientific uncertainty as a key topic to be further addressed in risk assessment processes. To that end, EuChemS responded to a public consultation launched by EFSA, where we highlighted the need for a clearer distinction to be made between measurement uncertainty (associated with scientific processes) and uncertainty caused by other sources (such as through government actions (or lack of actions)). We also encouraged EFSA to align their terminology with existing international terminology.

You can read the full article online:

<http://bit.ly/2NU8liu>

*Nineta Hrastelj*  
Secretary General

## RESEARCH

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### **Bonding for impact**

The engagement of young chemists from various societies and organisations has considerably grown in the last years and more and more young researchers are willing to volunteer around the globe. Beyond the growth of the European Young Chemists' Network (EYCN) itself, which has seen a significant increase in the number of its contributing societies (from 20 to 30 since 2016), and consequently a higher number of involved delegates, the EYCN also supported the foundation of two new European young networks

Firstly, the European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry - Young Scientists Network (EFMC-YSN), which aims to inspire, connect, and provide opportunities for early career medicinal chemists and chemical biologists, had its kick-off meeting in February 2019. Secondly, the Young European Catalysis Network (YEuCat) founded in 2018....

You can read the full article online: <http://bit.ly/2rebVBw>



*Maximilian Menche*  
Secretary of the EYCN

## Analytical science on the Bosphorus, where Europe meets Asia

In the first week of September, Istanbul witnessed the meeting of chemists working in all fields of analytical sciences from Europe and the rest of the world. With a broad number of topics and a variety of sessions, the event confirmed the success of the Euroanalysis conferences.

You can read all about the event here:

<http://bit.ly/2rebVBw>

*Slavica Ražić*  
 Chair of DAC-EuChemS  
*Sibel A. Ozkan*  
 Chair of Euroanalysis XX

## 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment

The Association of Greek Chemists (AGC), through the Regional Division of Central and Western Macedonia and the Division of Chemistry and Environment (DCE) of the European Chemical Society (EuChemS) successfully organised the 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Chemistry and Environment (ICCE 2019) between 16 and 20 June 2019 in Thessaloniki, Greece...

You can read the full article online: <http://bit.ly/2rebVBw>

*Ioannis Katsoyiannis*  
 Chair of the EuChemS Division of Chemistry and the Environment  
*Victoria Samanidou*  
 Chair of AGC, local branch of Central and Western Macedonia

## MEMBERS' PERSPECTIVES

### Centennial celebrations of the Polish Chemical Society

The Polish Chemical Society is one of the largest scientific societies in Poland and provides opportunities for chemists to make networks and invests in the development of high-quality education in chemistry. It takes care of the chemical nomenclature correctness and adjusts the language of chemistry to new developments, facilitates discussions regarding chemical sustainability and supports young chemists in their studies and early careers...

You can read the full article online:

<http://bit.ly/2Cp0jxO>

*Izabela Nowak*  
 President Polish Chemical Society

### Chinese Chemical Society and Chemical Society of Japan join the ACS, RSC and GDCh as co-owners of ChemRxiv

On 23 August, the American Chemical Society, the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (German Chemical Society) and the Royal Society of Chemistry announced their partnership with the Chinese Chemical Society (CCS) and the Chemical Society of Japan (CSJ) as co-owners to support the strategic and financial development of ChemRxiv...

You can read the full article online: <http://bit.ly/2Cp0jxO>

*Karin J. Schmitz*  
 GDCh

## MEET...



Celine Marmion is the President of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland. She is a Senior Lecturer in Chemistry, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland



Nasos Papadopoulos is the President of the Association of Greek Chemists. He is Professor in Inorganic Chemistry, Department of Nutritional and Dietetic Sciences, I.H.U., Greece

