

# **EUCHEMS - EUROPEAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**

## **Activities' Report - Year 2024**

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### **1. Introduction**

The mission of the European Chemical Society (EuChemS) is to stimulate scientific discussion at all levels by providing European chemists with a single qualified voice with which to authoritatively engage with policy makers of our continent and with representatives of civil society and European industry on any issue concerning chemistry. By promoting chemistry and providing scientific and expert advice, EuChemS aims to contribute to the solution of today's major societal challenges. According to the most recent data as of 31 December 2024, EuChemS brings together and represents the interests of over 130,000 European chemists from 35 countries and 49 European scientific organisations, of which 41 national scientific societies and eight other organisations that adhere to EuChemS as "Supporting Members". With this latter legal status, since January 2020, the CNR has also been part of this organisation.

### **2. Main activities carried on by (Union name) during 2024 relevant for Italy and for CNR**

In 2024, EuChemS continued its international networking and coordination activities, consolidating its role as a high representative of European Chemistry. 2024 was the year of the Euehems General Conference, held in Dublin in July, which saw the participation of around 1500 delegates, an impressive number of European chemists involved in all sectors of chemical sciences but with a particular focus on sustainability, innovation and collaboration. More than 750 authors of the Congress were Italian and, of these, almost 200 presented their activities in the form of oral communication or poster. As for the CNR, the number of authors of communications or posters of the congress was almost 50 units and of these, about ten, gave oral scientific communications. These numbers show a notable interest of the Italian scientific community in general and of the CNR in particular, for the activities of EuChemS.

In 2024, EuChemS gave its patronage to more than 40 scientific events held in Europe and which covered a wide range of topics specific to Chemical Sciences. As evidence of its lively participation in the activity of EuChemS, in Italy, in particular, it has sponsored various training schools for young PhD students and research fellows: the "International School on Process Chemistry" of Gargnano, the "International School on photo and biocatalysis" of Padua, the "International Summer School on Organic Chemistry of Gargnano, the "International School on Mass Spectroscopy" of Erice, the "Spectroscopy and Electrochemistry Summer School" of Venice, the "Ischia Advanced School of Organic Chemistry" of Ischia, the "STEM-CPD Summer School" of Palermo.

### **3. Activities carried on by (Italian Delegate name) within the Union during 2024 and impact on the Italian scientific community**

The CNR representative in EuChemS participated in the Euehems General Conference held in Dublin in July. He also participated in the EuChemS General Assembly held in October in Berlin at the headquarters of Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH. During the assembly, some resolutions were adopted including the admission of new members, the Chemical Society of Moldova and the Society of Physical Chemistry of Serbia, the transformation of the Working Party on the History of Chemistry into the Division of History of Chemistry.

#### **4. Evaluation of the participation in terms of benefits and membership cost**

EuChemS plays a linking role between all European chemical societies and the participation of the CNR within the organization guarantees the integration of the Institution in the most significant group of chemists in Europe. On the other hand, it is also a strategy of the DSCTM to be open to the international scientific community and to collaborate with the European Chemical Societies and in particular with the Italian Chemical Society (SCI), an effective member of EuChemS. In this context, the Presidency of EuChemS, which since 2024 has been entrusted to an Italian, Prof. Angela Agostiano, will be able to further promote the collaboration and integration of the Italian scientific community, and in particular of the CNR, within EuChemS. The presence of the Institution will therefore be essential to seize all the opportunities for close sharing that will arise during the period of the Italian Presidency.

#### **5. Evaluation of Italians' attendance and how to improve interest and involvement**

The general assessment of the participation of the CNR in the activities of EUCHEMS is certainly positive and, as explained above, it assumes a strategic value for the chemistry of the CNR especially thanks to the Italian leadership of EuChemS which will certainly favor a greater integration and collaboration.

#### **6. Italian experts with important roles within the Union or within related Commissions and Programs (if known)**

Italy has also maintained an important presence in terms of quality and quantity within the European Chemical Society in the past year. First of all, the role of President, as mentioned above, was entrusted to Prof. Angela Agostiano, full professor of chemistry at the University of Bari and former President of the Italian Chemical Society (2017 – 2019). Prof. Agostiano has also held important roles in the CNR, having been responsible for the secondary branch of the Institute for Chemical-Physical Processes (IPCF – CNR) in Bari for several years. Dr. Nicola Armaroli, Research Director of the Institute for Organic Synthesis and Photoreactivity (ISOF – CNR) in Bologna, holds a leading role within the Association, being an elected member of the Executive Board of EuChemS, where he acts as head of the Task Group on the Circular Economy. Also elected to the Executive Committee was Dr. Alexandra R. Alburnia, Senior Group Expert in Innovation and Technology at Borealis, with more than 20 years of experience in the polymer science sector.

In addition, there are numerous participations of Italian chemists in the various Divisions and Working Groups. Among these I would like to point out: Antonella Rossi (UNI Cagliari) as treasurer of the Chemical Education Division, Maurizio Peruzzini (CNR, Florence) as secretary of the Chemistry and Energy Division, Francesco Peri (UNI Milano Bicocca) as President of the Division of Biological Chemistry and Chemistry for Life Sciences, Roberto Gobetto (UNI Torino) as treasurer of the Division of Inorganic Chemistry, Giovanni Marletta (UNI Catania) as President of the Division of Physical Chemistry. In addition, in each Division there is a delegate for Italy: Luigi Mondello (UNI Messina) for the Division of Analytical Chemistry; Antonella Rossi (UNI Cagliari) for the Division of Chemical Education, Nicola Armaroli and Maurizio Peruzzini (CNR), Sandra Rondinini (UNI Milano) for the Division of Chemistry and Energy, Antonio Marcomini (UNI Venezia) for the Division of Environmental Chemistry; Jussara Amato (UNI Naples) for the Division of Biological Chemistry and Chemistry for Life Sciences, Michele Pavone (UNI Naples) and Marco De Vivo (IIT) for the Division of Computational and Theoretical Chemistry, Luigi Vaccaro (UNI Perugia) for the Division of Green and Sustainable Chemistry, Marco Arlorio (UNI Alessandria), Gianni Galaverna (UNI Parma) for the Division of Food Chemistry, Vincenzo Schettino (UNI Florence) for the Division of History of Chemistry, Roberto Gobetto (UNI Turin) for the Inorganic Chemistry Division; Flavia Groppi (UNI Milan) for the Nuclear Chemistry and Radiochemistry Division; Andrea Pace (UNI Palermo) for the Organic Chemistry Division; Alceo Maccioni (UNI Perugia) for the Organometallic Chemistry Division; Giovanni Marletta (UNI Catania) for the Physical Chemistry Division; Salvatore Coluccia

(UNI Turin) for the Solid State and Materials Chemistry Division; Silvia Prati (UNI Bologna) for the Working Party on the Chemistry of Cultural Heritage, Luigi Campanella (UNI Rome) for the Working Party on Ethics in Chemistry; Francesco Delogu (UNI Cagliari) for the Working Party on Mechanochemistry.

## **7. Notes (if any)**

## **8. Conclusions**

Based on the above considerations, we fully believe that the participation of CNR in EuChemS is highly positive. Therefore, we recommend that our institution's membership in this important international organization be maintained active.

Sesto Fiorentino, 19.06.2025

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Dr. Alessandro Mordini