



16th Czech–Slovak Spectroscopic Conference, May 2018

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Dear readers,

You are opening the first page of the Chemical Papers' conference issues. Publishers of scientific journals normally dedicate some issues to conferences and present selected contributions by participants of scientific meetings. It is a common practice; however, in the case of Chemical Papers and the 16th Czech Slovak Spectroscopic Conference <http://16cssc2018.spektroskopie.cz/>, there are several remarkable facts that should be mentioned. The Czech and Slovak spectroscopic community created the Czechoslovak Spectroscopic Society in 1949, just 70 years ago. Since its inception, its members have regularly organized the Czechoslovak Spectroscopic Conference, a conference with international participation. The 16th Czech–Slovak Spectroscopic Conference, to which this issue of Chemical Papers is dedicated, took place in the year of the centenary of the foundation of the common state of Czechs and Slovaks. After the transition period (1993–2007), when the successor societies, the Slovak Spectroscopic Society <http://www.spektroskopia.sk/>, and the Ioannes Marcus Marci Spectroscopic Society <http://www.spektroskopie.cz/> organized their spectroscopic congresses separately, the period began joint biennial. In 2008, the first conference organized together by both national societies was a meeting in Častá-Papiernička, Slovakia. Czech–Slovak spectroscopic event took place in Litomyšl (Czech Republic) in 2010, Slovak–Czech meeting in Tatranská Lomnica (Slovakia) in 2012, and the next Czech–Slovak Conference in Prague in 2014. The last but one conference took place in a picturesque landscape under the Low Tatras in the historic township of Liptovský Ján. The 16th Czech–Slovak Conference was held in the pleasant environment of the spa town of Luhačovice, which is located in Moravia, almost in the middle between Bohemia and Slovakia. The symbolic relation between two nations

is the distinctive, unique, and world-famous architecture of spa buildings from the early twentieth century, designed by Slovak architect Dušan Jurkovič.

Spectroscopic conferences have always been a place where distinguished scientists were awarded the Ioannes Marcus Marci Medal. This was also the case in 2018, when the laureates were Alessandro D'Ulivo, Norbert Jakubowski, Josef Komárek, Margaretha de Loos-Vollebregt, Marcel Miglierini, Juergen Popp, and Renato Zenobi. The international character of the conference was also given by the presence of invited speakers from abroad. Spectroscopic conferences organized by both national societies include a wide range of spectroscopic methods and analytical topics. Part of the conference was also a Microsymposium Challenges in Raman Spectroscopy dedicated to the memory of doc. Dr. Bohuslav Strauch, deceased in 2017. Slovak–Czech/Czech–Slovak Spectroscopic Conferences belong to smaller scientific meetings, yet it managed to collect a set of high-quality contributions and create a conference issue of Chemical Papers. It is the first time in the history of Czech–Slovak spectroscopic scientific meetings that a conference issue has been created in an international journal. For this, we would like to thank the authors and guest editor Petr Táborský (Masaryk University). Dear readers, the conference issue provides an overview of only a small part of the scientific and research activities of our spectroscopic community, yet I believe that it will bring you original information.

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Chairman of Ioannes Marcus Marci Spectroscopic Society

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