

Annual Report: CY2018 ChemPubSoc Europe

Growth, change, awards, and sponsorship

More scientists, more publications, more competition. As in the past, growth continued unabated worldwide in 2018 and is also reflected in the performance metrics of the ChemPubSoc Europe / Wiley-VCH publishing program, which now consists of 16 titles. The most recent product, *ChemSystemsChem*, was announced in Fall 2018. In 2018, the journals that are co-owned by ChemPubSoc Europe societies published nearly 9,000 articles (excluding contributions to the online publication *ChemViews Magazine*). Compared to the previous year, manuscript submissions grew by 12%, and the number of published articles rose by approximately 5%. A record number of full-text downloads, >8.9 million, was witnessed for the ChemPubSoc Europe journals, with increases in usage compared to the same time last year; notable among them ca. +20–30% for *ChemCatChem*, *ChemElectroChem*, *ChemMedChem*, and *ChemPlusChem*; and ca. +70% for *ChemistrySelect* and *ChemPhotoChem*. Approximately 3% of articles published in ChemPubSoc Europe's hybrid journals in 2018 were open access: ca. 10% at *ChemBioChem* and ca. 5% at *ChemCatChem*, *Chemistry—A European Journal*, *ChemMedChem*, and *ChemPhysChem*, respectively. ChemPubSoc Europe's gold open access journal, *ChemistryOpen*, experienced a ca. 47% growth in submissions compared to 2017.



Generational change

After the retirement of Peter Göllitz in November 2017, additional responsibility was taken on by Guido Herrmann (VP, Co-Managing Director Wiley-VCH, since April 1, 2017), Eva Wille (VP, Executive Director Wiley-VCH), Neville Compton (Editor-in-Chief of *Angewandte Chemie* and publisher for the GDCh journals), Haymo Ross (Editor-in-Chief of *Chemistry—A European Journal* and publisher of the ChemPubSoc Europe journals), Theresa Kueckmann (Editor-in-Chief of *Chemistry—An Asian Journal* and publisher for the Asian Chemical Editorial Society (ACES) journals), and Greta Heydenrych (development of new journals).

ChemPubSoc Europe appointed as Editors-in-Chief Kate Lawrence (*ChemElectroChem*), Anne Nijs (*EurJOC*), Ruben Ragg (*ChemBioChem*), and Preeti Vashi (*EurJIC*), who work in close collaboration with their Editorial Boards and, in particular, their Chairpersons. Chairpersons whose terms ended in 2018 are thanked for their valued, decades long services: Jan-Erling Bäckvall (*Chemistry—A European Journal*), Rainer Metternich (*ChemMedChem*), Christian Amatore (*ChemPhysChem*), Michel Orrit (*ChemPhysChem*), and Michael Grätzel (*ChemPhysChem*). To better serve a growing author base in Asia, the editorial offices in China were expanded with additional staff—all of whom are trained chemists and editors.

Inside the Editor's Black Box: Who's Who at ChemPubSoc Europe Journals in 2018



Caption: An overview of the responsible team leading each ChemPubSoc Europe journal.

2018 Milestones

The close cooperation of ChemPubSoc Europe and Wiley-VCH throughout 2018 is highlighted (non-exhaustively) in chronological order:

January: All Editors-in-Chief published their annual editorials in the 1st issues of the ChemPubSoc Europe journals. *EurJOC* sponsored the Portuguese Award for Best Young Organic Chemist 2017 at the 12^oENQO and 5^oENQT meetings in Coimbra, Portugal.

February: A meeting of the Editorial Boards took place for *EurJIC* and *EurJOC*. The first meeting of the newly established Council of ChemPubSoc Europe and meetings with representatives of the Italian Chemical Society (SCI) were held in Naples and Rome, respectively.

March: All ChemPubSoc Europe journals modified their guidelines. Submitted manuscripts that have already been posted on a preprint server (e.g. ChemRxiv) will no longer be directly rejected but rather evaluated by editors and considered for peer review. A reception was held at the ACS Spring Meeting in New Orleans.

The first meeting of early career researchers from ChemPubSoc Europe countries with editors of ChemPubSoc Europe journals was held in Weinheim, and chaired by the Editor-in-Chief of *ChemViews Magazine* Vera Köster. *EurJIC* provided sponsorship to the 15th European Workshop in Phosphorus Chemistry in Uppsala, Sweden, and ChemPubSoc Europe sponsored the GDCh Young Chemists Forum in Konstanz, Germany.

April: A meeting of representatives of the scientific societies and the EU was held in Brussels; Wolfram Koch (Executive Director of the GDCh) represented the ChemPubSoc Europe journals. All ChemPubSoc Europe journal content and related services published with Wiley-VCH were migrated to the new, modern Wiley Online Library, powered by the Literatum / Atypon platform. A total of ca. 9 million articles were transferred, among them ca. 90,000 ChemPubSoc Europe articles. A record payment of royalties was made to ChemPubSoc Europe societies, which is indicative of the growing

size, relevance (quality), impact, and revenues generated by the 16 titles co-owned by the ChemPubSoc Europe societies. ChemPubSoc Europe, and several of its journals, sponsored symposia, meetings, and workshops in Wageningen (the Netherlands), Neuchatel (Switzerland), Bristol (UK), Genoa (Italy), and Rennes (France).

May: A particularly large number of workshops and lectures about publishing were held in Germany (e.g. at the annual general assembly of the German Bunsen Society for Physical Chemistry, as well as in China). *ChemMedChem* and *ChemBioChem* sponsored the DMCCB Basel Symposium in Switzerland.

June: The 23rd Annual Meeting of ChemPubSoc Europe, organized for the first time by the Swiss Chemical Society, was held in Bern. At this meeting, Jan-Willem Toering from the Koninklijke Nederlandse Chemische Vereniging (KNCV) was elected to become a fifth member of the ChemPubSoc Europe Council.



Caption (from left to right): back: G. Herrmann (Wiley-VCH / Wiley), Luis Oro (Spain), Günter Grampp (Austria), Jerzy Blazejowski (Poland), Wolfram Koch (Germany), Karen Proff (Wiley), Jan-Willem Toering (the Netherlands), Ola Wendt (Sweden), Ruben Ragg (ChemBioChem), Franco de Angelis (Italy), Vera Köster (ChemViews), Livia Simon Sarkadi (Hungary), Anne Nijs (EurJOC), Peter Göllitz (Editor Emeritus Angewandte Chemie), Haymo Ross (Wiley-VCH), Hannes Mikula (early career researcher, Technische Universität Wien), Christian Amatore (France), Peter Kündig (Switzerland); front: Pavel Drasar (Czech Republic), Yannis Vafaedis (Greece), Artur Silva (Portugal); seated: Monika Silz (Wiley-VCH), Karen Hindson (EurJIC), Eva Wille (Wiley-VCH), Iris Cornet (Belgium).

ChemPlusChem published a Special Issue in memory of the celebrated Italian-born Australian chemist Leone Spiccia. *EurJIC* and *EurJOC* published a joint double Special Issue to commemorate their 20th Anniversary, which contains more than 40 articles, and includes contributions from highly cited and prodigious authors, as well as former and current Board Members. *Chemistry—A European Journal* sponsored the 17th French American Chemical Society Symposium in Orléans, France. ChemPubSoc Europe sponsored seminars in Interlaken (Switzerland) and Lund (Sweden), as well as in Montpellier and Toulouse (France).

July: The ChemPubSoc Europe Fellows Class 2016/2017 was announced (https://www.chemistryviews.org/details/ezone/11083769/ChemPubSoc_Europe_Fellows_20162017.html). 37 Individuals were honored for their extraordinary commitment to scientific dissemination: K.-H. Altmann (Switzerland), D. Astruc (France), P. Bałczewski (Poland), V. Balzani (Italy), K. Binnemans (Belgium), E. Bouwman (the Netherlands), M. J. Calhorda (Portugal), B. L. Feringa (the Netherlands), F. Fülöp (Hungary), L. González (Austria), M. Grätzel (Switzerland), G. Grampp (Austria), K. Grela (Poland), D. Gryko (Poland), S. Hashmi (Germany), H. García (Spain), E. Hey-Hawkins (Germany), A. Jutand (France), C. O. Kappe (Austria), E. P. Kündig (Switzerland), N. Martín (Spain), E. W. Meijer (the Netherlands), C. Nájera (Spain), K. C. Nicolau (USA), P.-O. Norrby (Sweden), B. Olofsson (Sweden), S. P. Perlepes (Greece), R. Poli (France), M. Prato (Italy), J. Roithová (Czech Republic), W. Schuhmann (Germany), R. Šebesta (Slovakia), R. Sessoli (Italy), A. M. S. Silva (Portugal), L. Sun (Sweden), V. Van Speybroeck (Belgium), and D. Velič (Slovakia).

The 2017 results presented in the Journal Citation Report (JCR) generated by Clarivate Analytics revealed increases in impact factor for six members of the ChemPubSoc Europe journal family, with marked growth experienced by *ChemSusChem*, *ChemPlusChem*, and *ChemElectroChem* (https://www.chemistryviews.org/details/ezine/11072248/2017_Impact_Factors_of_ChemPubSoc_Europe_Journals.html). *Batteries & Supercaps* published its first issue online and *ChemCatChem* devoted a Special Issue to the Portuguese Conference on Catalysis. ChemPubSoc Europe sponsored book prizes for participants and prize winners at the 50th International Chemistry Olympiad—the world's most prestigious pre-university chemical competition—which was co-hosted by Slovakia and the Czech Republic in 2018. ChemPubSoc Europe also sponsored events in Italy (Bari, Ferrara, Florence, and Palermo), Hungary (Budapest), and Australia (Sydney).

August: At the 7th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress (7th ECC) in Liverpool, a reception was held in honor of the ChemPubSoc Europe Fellows with representatives of the 16 European chemical societies comprising ChemPubSoc Europe, plenary speakers, and young chemists. *Chemistry—A European Journal* published a 7th ECC Special Issue containing contributions from 14 of the keynote speakers. Silvia Osuna from the University of Girona received the 2017 Young Investigator Award (sponsored by *EurJOC*) and delivered her award lecture, and Allan Watson from the University of Strathclyde became the 2018 awardee. *EurJIC* sponsored a Special Lecture by Nobel Laureate Jean-Pierre Sauvage at the ICCS 2018 (Jul 30–Aug 4) in Sendai, Japan. The editorial and production teams of *EurJIC* and *EurJOC* launched new processes to drastically reduce publication times.

September: A *EurJOC*-sponsored lecture by Nobel Laureate Ben Feringa at 22-ICOS (Sep 16–21) took place in Florence, Italy. The 2018 *EurJOC* Lecture Award was conferred upon Guy Lloyd-Jones, University of Edinburgh, UK, who presented his lecture at ORCHEM in Berlin, Germany. Jun-Long Zhang from Peking University was the first winner of the ChemPubSoc Europe Early Career Award (established by *ChemPlusChem*) presented at the 10th International Conference on f-Elements (ICFE-10) in Lausanne, Switzerland. *ChemViews Magazine* announced the winners of their highly popular photo competition; four winners received book prizes for their artistic contributions (https://www.chemistryviews.org/details/ezine/2040195/Photo_Compensation_2018__The_Winners.html). ChemPubSoc Europe and its journals sponsored events in Spain (Zaragoza), Switzerland (Lausanne), Czech Republic (Zlín), Italy (Milano, Bologna, Florence, Turin, and Napoli), and Germany (Berlin, Garching, Halle, and Regensburg).

October: *EurJOC* published a Special Issue to showcase research taking place at Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry (IOCB) Prague. *ChemViews Magazine* announced the opening of the Element Video Competition in preparation for the IYPT2019, and reported on the 2018 Nobel Prize Laureates in diverse fields, including chemistry: Frances H. Arnold (a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *ChemBioChem*), George P. Smith, and Sir Gregory P. Winter. ChemPubSoc Europe sponsored events in Marseilles (France) and Basel (Switzerland).

November: *EurJOC* published a Special Issue to highlight research at the Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles (ICSN) Gif-sur-Yvette. *ChemistryViews* experienced a spike in usage exceeding 10,000 visitors.

December: The ChemPubSoc Europe publication competition pilot started; the GDCh aims to stimulate publication with this 2019 competition between its regional divisions. *EurJOC* published two Special Issues, one on "C-H Activation in Organic Synthesis" in conjunction with the European COST action CHAOS, and another to highlight research at the Institute of Organic Chemistry (ICHO) Warsaw. *ChemViews Magazine* reported on the findings of the 2nd Employment Survey for European Chemists (ESEC2) and highlighted notable chemistry-related events of 2018 in a quiz: https://www.chemistryviews.org/details/ezine/11120229/Chemistry_Highlights_of_2018.html.

And much more has happened...

...and has been achieved in 2018 by the ChemPubSoc Europe editorial offices. For example, many activities marked the 20th anniversary of *EurJIC* and *EurJOC* in both Europe and Asia. Celebrations for the 10th anniversary of *ChemCatChem* kicked off at the International Symposium on Relations between Homogeneous and Heterogeneous Catalysis (ISHHC18) in Sydney, Australia. There were also many feature articles, promotions, exclusive reports, and interviews published by *ChemViews / ChemistryViews*, not least monthly newsletters and notifications regarding the most-accessed ChemPubSoc Europe articles—all of which contributed to further international attention for ChemPubSoc Europe.

All editors-in-chief created groundbreaking Special Issues and Collections; for example, *Chemistry—A European Journal* started a new journal feature called “The Nobel Legacy”, which is a recurring series of invited Review-type articles connected to a particular Nobel Prize in Chemistry. *EurJIC* and *EurJOC* initiated a popular Institute Feature series, which began with two Special Collections highlighting Institut Català d'Investigació Química (ICIQ) and Leibniz-Institut für Katalyse (LIKAT), *ChemPhotoChem* introduced a Meet the Board series—opinion-style articles authored by Editorial Board Members and Chairs. Five of the ChemPubSoc Europe journals went to special lengths to support and celebrate the work of early career researchers in themed collections (several of which are ongoing): *ChemBioChem* (ChemBio Talents), *ChemCatChem* (Young Researcher Series), *Chemistry—A European Journal* (Young Chemists), and *ChemPlusChem* (Early Career Series). Preparations for the IYPT2019 were a focal point, and all Editors-in-Chief composed editorials in which they outlined their visions. Editorials were published in the first issue of each journal in 2019—all of which are freely accessible (see links at the end of this report).

Trends in publishing and a particular success story

Many, not least journalists, bloggers, librarians, and politicians, are not well-informed about modern international scientific publishing. Little is known about the daily interactions that publishers and editors have with reviewers and scientific societies, how quality in publishing is ensured, and how innovation—keywords are social media, altmetrics, ORCID, online archiving, and sharing—comes about. All of this creates a sound basis for scientific progress and has become standard in daily publishing work. It is also up to editors and societies to spread more knowledge about these topics and create more transparency. In 2018 new records were set, with editors traveling throughout Europe, Asia, and the Americas, to participate in almost 100 informative events. Working together with representatives of societies, it has been possible to transmit information about ChemPubSoc Europe globally.

Predatory publishers, lack of reproducibility, data sharing, and long publication times are much less of a challenge in chemistry than in other disciplines, such as the life sciences and some areas of the social sciences.

Research funders are pushing for a more rapid global transition from the reader pays subscription to an author pays Open Access business model. To this end, a number of European funding organizations formed cOAlition S in September and released “Plan S”, followed by a corresponding implementation directive in December. Plan S infers that, as of 1 January 2020, no publications resulting from projects funded by cOAlition S members may be published in hybrid journals. In hybrid journals, freely accessible and traditionally published contributions exist side by side; in fact, all ChemPubSoc Europe journals are hybrids, with the exception of *ChemistryOpen*. This topic has been a major concern for ChemPubSoc Europe's Council, editors, and Wiley-VCH in the last quarter.

ChemPubSoc Europe has released a statement regarding the workability of Plan S that may be accessed here:

https://www.chemistryviews.org/SpringboardWebApp/userfiles/chem/file/PDF_documents/2019/Statement%20of%20ChemPubSoc%20Europe%20on%20Plan%20S.pdf

For further information about Plan S, access the following link:

https://www.chemistryviews.org/details/ezone/11130977/ChemPubSoc_Europes_Feedback_on_Plan_S.html.

The discussions regarding Plan S reveal big contradictions. On the one hand, the measurement of performance of doctoral students and academics of all ranks, and that of institutes, universities, and other large institutions, relies increasingly on publications in high-impact journals. On the other hand, Plan S bans publication in these journals. Plan S demonstrates little faith in the ability of scientific societies and their publishers to continue to develop and experiment with new publishing models in the future. Such a transformative process that embraces the scientific world in its entirety cannot be mastered overnight. However, a milestone was reached at the very beginning of the New Year: after several years of intense negotiations and considerable time investment in 2018, a "Publish and Read" deal was announced on January 15, 2019 between Wiley (as the first publisher) and the German DEAL consortium. What was agreed upon is a national license for approximately 700 academic institutions in Germany, with a duration of three years.

In summary: 2018 was a good year for the ChemPubSoc Europe journals and magazine, and in the New year, the IYPT2019, all titles are geared up for further growth and development. Numerous projects are underway that intend to support and strengthen chemical communities across Europe and abroad.

Issue 1 Editorials for 2019:

Batteries & Supercaps

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/batt.201800106>

ChemBioChem

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cbic.201800786>

ChemCatChem

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cctc.201801855>

ChemElectroChem

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/celec.201801730>

Chemistry—A European Journal

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/chem.201806058>

ChemistryOpen

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/open.201800263>

ChemistrySelect

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/slct.201803846>

ChemMedChem

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cmdc.201800797>

ChemPhotoChem

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cptc.201800221>

ChemPhysChem

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cphc.201800994>

ChemPlusChem

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cplu.201800583>

ChemSusChem
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cssc.201802853>

ChemSystemsChem
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/syst.201800001>

European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry (EurJIC)
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ejic.201801458>

European Journal of Organic Chemistry (EurJOC)
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ejoc.201801851>

Notable Special Issues of 2018:

ChemBioChem
 Issue 4: Biocatalysis. Guest Editors: László Poppe, Beáta Vértessy.
 Issue 12: Optogenetics. Guest Editor: Alexander Deiters.

ChemCatChem
 Issue 8: Supported Molecular Catalysts. Guest Editors: Mario Pagliaro, Bert F. Sels.
 Issue 12: Portuguese Conference on Catalysis. Guest Editors: Armando Pombeiro, Anthony Burke.

ChemElectroChem
 Issue 6: Alan Bond Festschrift. Guest Editors: Lisandra Martin, Anthony O'Mullane, James Rusling, Fritz Scholz.
 Issue 14: Non-Precious-Metal ORR Electrocatalysis. Guest Editors: Kaido Tammeveski, Jong-Sung Yu, Zhongwei Chen.
 Issue 20: Single-Entity Electrochemistry. Guest Editors: Lane Baker, Yi-Tao Long, Patrick Unwin.

Chemistry—A European Journal
 Issue 20: ECOSTBio – Spin States and Reactivity. Guest Editors: Kallol Ray, Carol Duboc.
 Issue 46: 7th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, Liverpool.
 Issue 47: Young Chemists.
 Issue 69: Renewable Energy. Guest Editors: Wee-Jun Ong, Liming Dai, Xinliang Feng.

ChemMedChem
 Issue 6: Cheminformatics in Drug Discovery. Guest Editors: Andreas Bender, Nathan Brown.

ChemistryOpen Special Collections
 Translational Chemistry: Guest Editors: Carlos Lodeiro, José Luís Capelo.
 Chemosensors. Guest Editor: Tony James.
 Computational Chemistry. Guest Editors: Matthias Bickelhaupt, Miquel Solà, Frank De Proft.

ChemPhotoChem
 Issue 3: Artificial Photosynthesis. Guest Editors: Anthony Harriman, Haruo Inoue, Licheng Sun.
 Issue 7: Singlet Oxygen. Guest Editors: Cristina Flors, Axel Griesbeck, Georgios Vassilikogiannakis.
 Issue 10: Flow Photochemistry. Guest Editors: Timothy Noël, Kevin Booker-Milburn.

ChemPhysChem
 Issue 4: Reactions in Confined Spaces. Guest Editors: Susumu Kitagawa, Michael Tsapatsis, Bert Weckhuysen.
 Issue 10: Neurochemistry: Methods and Applications. Guest Editors: Insung S. Choi, Andy Ewing, Bill Green, Orit Shefi.
 Issue 16: Smart Materials. Guest Editors: Yujun Feng, Dirk W. Grijpma, Andreas Lendlein, Yuanjin Zhao.

ChemPlusChem

Issue 4: Advanced Optoelectronics. Guest Editors: Pedro Coto, Rubén Costa.

Issue 7: Leone Spiccia Memorial Issue. Guest Editors: Philip C. Andrews, Lisandra L. Martin, Alexandr N. Simonov.

Issue 10: Future Energy Technology. Guest Editors: François Aguey-Zinsou, Zaiping Guo, Yun Hau Ng, Da-wei Wang.

ChemSusChem

Issue 12: Interfacing Theory and Experiment. Guest Editors: Martin Korth, Andrea Balducci.

European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry (EurJIC)

Issue 3-4: Molecular Magnetism (Cluster Issue). Guest Editors: Boris Le Guennic, Guillaume Chastanet, Sébastien Pillet, Rodolphe Clérac.

Issue 20-21: 20th Anniversary (Celebrating the Past, Present and Future).

European Journal of Organic Chemistry (EurJOC)

Issue 20-21: 20th Anniversary (Celebrating the Past, Present and Future).

Issue 27-28: Organofluorine Chemistry in Europe.

Issue 37: Institute Feature: IOCB Prague. Guest Editors: Michal Hocek, Zdeněk Hostomský.

Issue 42: Institute Feature: ICSN Gif-sur-Yvette. Guest Editor: Angela Marinetti.

Issue 44: C-H Activation in Organic Synthesis. Guest Editors: Tatiana Besset, Gerard McGlacken, Michael Schnürch.

Issue 47: Institute Feature: ICHO Warsaw. Guest Editor: Daniel Gryko.

Report compiled by Kim Meyer (19.02.2019)