

## Welcome to EuropaCat-XII!

### Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the International Scientific and Local Committees I congratulate you as participants in the XII European Congress on Catalysis "Catalysis: Balancing the use of fossil and renewable resources" which is held in Kazan (Russia) from 30th August to 4th September, 2015.

For more than two decades, the EuropaCat Congress has appeared the leading European catalytic event which since 1993 successfully served as a focal point for scientists in the front lines of innovative catalysis. EuropaCat XII is held in Kazan, which, together with Moscow and St. Petersburg, is one of the major historical centers of Russian chemistry. The Kazan University was renowned for organic chemists as long ago as in XIX century: Nikolay Zinin, Alexander Butlerov, Vladimir Markovnikov, Alexander Zaytsev and others. The Tatarstan Region is rich in traditional fossil raw materials, such as oil and associated petroleum gas; nowadays there is advanced chemical industry in Kazan with surroundings, which in many respects holds leading positions in Russia.

The catalysis expert community knows that the catalysis research has entered a new phase, marking the end of the era driven primarily by trial and error. Scientists have found a common molecular basis for the chemical processes for which catalysis is used. Catalysis research is now unified into a general scientific framework to allow heterogeneous, homogeneous and bio-catalysis to be studied using similar approaches. Another field of unification is the development of novel catalytic technologies for the conversion of both fossil resources, including heavy oil fractions, methane, ethane and C<sub>3+</sub> components in natural gas, and alternative resources such as biomass, carbon dioxide, and water. Hope that EuropaCat XII will focus particularly on balancing the production of energy and chemicals from fossil and renewable resources.

EuropaCat XII has attracted a huge global interest: 1200 delegates from 64 countries were registered and 1100 abstracts submitted. All submitted abstracts were peer-reviewed and, based on the evaluation, the oral and poster presentations were selected.

We approached prominent scientists to give plenary and keynote lectures. Plenary lectures are given by Dr. G. Bellussi, Prof. J.T. Hupp, Prof. G. Hutchings, Prof. Dr. R. Schlögl, and Prof. M. Skoglundh. We are also pleased to announce the Butlerov Honorary Lecture by Prof. V. Ananikov, the Michel Boudart Award Lecture by Prof. Dr. H.-J. Freund, and the François Gault Award Lecture by Prof. Dr. J. Lercher. The selection of the plenary and keynote speakers reflect the broad scope of catalysis – from theory to industrial practice.

The Congress program includes 8 plenary and 23 keynote lectures, 244 oral presentations, about 800 poster presentations and 126 short oral presentations within 12 microsymbiosia.

We expect that this meeting will provide a versatile platform for formal and informal discussions with colleagues both from academia and industry, and foster new collaborations and partnerships.

Welcome to Kazan and good luck in all the events of the EuropaCat XII!

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Chairman of International Scientific Committee,  
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