

Subject: Contributed Talk at the EUROMAT 2021 Conference in Graz

Dear Colleague,

We are contacting you in the capacity of our role as the organizers of Symposium D1 within the next EUROMAT 2021 conference that will take place in Graz, Austria in September 2021 (<u>https://www.euromat2021.org/</u>). Symposium D1 is focused on "Advanced Microscopy in Materials Research" and you can find a description and a list of topics covered in the end of this email. We are very hopeful that this event will be live and in person, although there will be contingencies in place if it has to become a virtual event with either live presentations or, alternatively, pre-recorded lectures and a live Question and Answer session.

The aim of this symposium is to bring together leading experts using and developing advanced microscopy techniques. It covers many aspects of microscopy-based material characterization, including advances in methods and instrumentation, data analysis, sample preparation and novel ways to apply microscopy in materials science.

Our keynote speaker for this symposium is Prof Sara Bals from EMAT, University of Antwerp.

We are pleased to invite you to deliver a *Contributed Talk* in Symposium D1 related to your work on Advanced Microscopy in Materials Research. Do not miss the opportunity to present your work at EUROMAT 2021 and please submit your abstract, before January 31, 2021, on: www.euromat2021.fems.eu

We look forward to receiving your contribution.

Yours sincerely,

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Symposium D1: Advanced Microscopy in Materials Research Description:

Microscopy directly probes the structure of materials and has accelerated their development from lab-scale to the manufacturing level, so contributing to scientific progress, technological developments, and societal welfare for many decades. Advances in light, X-ray, electron and scanning probe microscopies facilitate the determination of materials structures and structureproperty relationships down to the (sub)-nanometre scale. Recent developments include the use of diffractive imaging methods; three dimensional, rather than solely two-dimensional imaging and analysis, empowered by the development of highly sensitive detectors and cameras, automated data



collection and data processing methods. Other major methodological advances allow us to achieve such high spatial resolutions while keeping an environment relevant for characterization. This is the case for recent advances when analysing the structure of molecules, macromolecular and soft material systems, where a relevant biological context needs to be preserved, e.g. by using cryogenic methods for sample preservation and correlative microscopy approaches whilst considering electron beam effects during observation. Another example is the increasing use of microscopies for the study of multiphase systems using in-situ and operando methods, as well as time-resolved dynamic microscopies. Indeed, the nanoscale mechanisms of structural and chemical transformations of materials can be studied by keeping their functional state (using in situ and operando platforms and detectors for gas/liquid microscopy and high pressure/temperature observations). This symposium invites contributions focusing on, but not limited to, all the aforementioned techniques and their variants, and on their application to the investigation of the synthesis, processing and functionality of advanced materials, both crystalline and amorphous, both hard and soft, in a wide-range of technologies. Methods and instrumentation for increased spatial, temporal and energy resolution, solutions for data storage and data analysis, as well as improvements in microanalysis for higher accuracy and lower concentration detection are also welcome. Finally, discussion of advanced sample preparation techniques is of interest for this symposium.

Topics to be covered by the symposium:

- High spatial resolution microscopy and diffraction in two and three dimensions
- Micro- and Nano-chemical spectroscopy
- Surface Microscopy and Spectroscopy
- In-situ, Operando and Dynamic Microscopy
- Soft Matter Microscopy