

I PREFACE

Vorwort

The year 2019 was the first year of the two new EFRE projects dedicated to the CO₂ recycling into useful chemicals and even to some artificial food. These two EFRE projects ENZYMBIOKAT and ARTFOOD are part of our Institute's longtime legacy to introduce new methods, new catalysts to convert CO₂ into hydrocarbons since 2006 starting with the SolarFuel project. Especially the political opinion worldwide today is highly sensitized, also considering the intense media interest, the CO₂ recycling is a scientifically hot topic today and most probably stay longer there. We can safely conclude the year of 2019 as the tipping point of the public opinion and media interest for the topic of climate change and CO₂ accumulation in the atmosphere. The idea which we pursue for many years at our Institute is:

“Using CO₂ and renewable energies to create useful chemicals and fuels, thus using CO₂ in a cyclic economy”.

This is a highly sustainable answer against the burning of fossil fuels and accumulating CO₂ in the Earth's atmosphere. On the scientific side, generally the idea of using organic, bio-organic as well as enzymatic catalysts for CO₂ reduction is today heavily accepted in the literature and our papers create an impact on this new topic. We are intensively working on this topic with our partners, especially our partners from Czech Republic, Brno VUT and Olomouc RCPTM are acknowledged for intensive scientific collaborations resulting in beautiful, highest ranked publications in 2019.

2019 has been the 400 years anniversary of the most famous book of Johannes Kepler (1619). This book with the title “Harmonices Mundi” is the scientific foundation of the planetary motion in solar system. Celebrating this magnificent work of the “Name Patron” of our University, we organized a symposium with the title “400 Years of Kepler's Book: Freedom of Science Today” at the Johannes Kepler University. The full audio and video documentation (in German language) of this event is online at our homepage www.lios.at.

Finally, I wish, a healthy and happy and successful 2020 to all LIOS members, family and friends.

Linz, February 2020

Niyazi Serdar Sariciftci