



Società Chimica Italiana and Elsevier are pleased to announce the winners of the first edition of the *Reaxys-SCI Small Research Grants*, the initiative aimed at awarding the 3 best proposals submitted by post-doc researchers counting 2-6 years after PhD completion in particular field of chemical and medicinal chemistry. For this first edition, 51 proposals were submitted and were evaluated by a panel of experts in the chemical science.

The 2019/2020 awardees are:

<p><b>Mirko Magni</b> <i>Università degli Studi di Milano</i></p> <p><b>ReZinCo</b> <i>Recovery of Zinc as Coating</i></p> 	<p><b>Giorgio Olivo</b> <i>Sapienza – Università di Roma</i></p> <p><b>S-ReCHOx</b> <i>Supramolecular catalysis for Remote C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Oxidation</i></p> 	<p><b>Carla Rizzo</b> <i>Università degli Studi di Palermo</i></p> <p><b>SUPRA-CAGES</b> <i>SUPRAMolecular Catalytic GEIS</i></p> 
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The award consists of 5 k€/project to support the candidate's research and dissemination activity. The awardees will present their projects in the 2021 edition of Società Chimica Italiana national conference.

“We are proud of this new, joint initiative with Elsevier; our solid collaboration gathers many opportunities for excellent early-career researches of our community”, says Prof. Gaetano Guerra, President of Società Chimica Italiana.

“Elsevier and Società Chimica Italiana work together to accelerate innovation by promoting collaboration between industry and academia. The Reaxys SCI Small Research Grant is an excellent example of such a collaboration and the aim of the grant is to support Italian chemists with their ongoing research”, says Dr. Ivan Krstic, Director Chemistry Solutions at Elsevier.

The short abstracts of the three awarded projects are reported in *Appendix 1*, while the panel members are listed in *Appendix 2*.

## APPENDIX 1

**ReZinCo** was born from an idea to recover zinc in the steelmaking dust, resulting from the recycling of galvanized scrap, through a more sustainable and green process. The project aims to study the feasibility of an integrated process that, starting from galvanized steel scrap, results directly into new finished galvanized products. The challenge is to combine an aqueous leaching treatment of steelmaking dust with an electrochemical process to deposit a zinc layer endowed with high corrosion resistance through a still immature technology: the cathodic plasma electrolytic deposition.

**S-ReCHOx** project proposes a strategy for the predictable oxidation of remote, non-activated C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H bonds, which are essentially indistinguishable with current synthetic methods. Key to this elusive selectivity is substrate recognition to place remote C-H bonds close to the active site of a supramolecular Mn catalyst, enabling their selective oxidation. Elucidation of binding geometry will provide a rational model to predict and modulate site-selectivity, unlocking effective late-stage C-H oxidation.

**SUPRA-CAGES** promotes the slogan “be efficient, be green”. The aim of the proposal is to develop new catalytic systems in supramolecular gels based on green solvents such as ionic liquids and deep eutectic solvents. Performing organic reaction in ionic liquid gels or eutecto-gels allow having catalyst and solvent in one system, recovering products and reusing the system for several catalytic cycles. These supramolecular and confined reaction media could offer the possibility to work in mild conditions without leaching issues.

## APPENDIX 2

### Award management

- Prof. Federico Bella, *Politecnico di Torino*
- Dr. Elena Herzog, *Elsevier*
- Dr. Marta Da Pian, *Elsevier*
- Dr. Friedrich Kroll, *Elsevier*

### Scientific panel

- Dr. Luca D'Andrea, *Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche*
- Prof. Maria Valeria D'Auria, *Università degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II"*
- Prof. Angela Dibenedetto, *Università degli Studi di Bari "Aldo Moro"*
- Dr. Simelys Hernandez, *Politecnico di Torino*
- Prof. Alexei Lapkin, *University of Cambridge*
- Prof. Timur Madzhidov, *Kazan Federal University*
- Prof. Guillermo Restrepo, *Universität Leipzig*
- Prof. Gianluca Sbardella, *Università degli Studi di Salerno*