



# International Society of Electrochemistry

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Dear friends and colleagues, dear ISE community,

It is my pleasure to give you a summary of the activities and innovations of the past year, which was the second and final year of my term as ISE President.

2024 may have looked from the outside as an ordinary year. The activities of ISE ran without external restrictions. We have organized three Topical Meetings in Šibenik/Croatia, Stresa/Italy and Manchester/United Kingdom, which were highly attended. The Annual Meeting, held in Montreal, Canada was filled with lively discussions among nearly 1000 colleagues from all continents. It was the first where ISE complemented the traditional meeting structure of scheduled papers and posters with novel formats proposed and implemented by each Division. Despite minor teething problems, the experiment was successful and will be continued in the form of an Electrochemical Forum at the annual meeting in Mainz. As these special sessions are designed to be bottom up, I invite you all to get in touch with the chairs of your division and discuss your ideas with them.

Although the Society's operations may appear unchanged, the ISE has to operate in a world that is becoming more complicated every year. An increasing number of our colleagues face difficulties in obtaining travel permits, some of our colleagues live and work in countries and regions affected by regional conflicts, and many of them have been forced to leave their permanent posts to seek relief from wars or natural disasters. I want to assure you that the ISE is determined to support all electrochemists and will continue to work to help all of them to remain active members of the scientific community. So please let us know if you are experiencing difficulties or know of colleagues who are. We will try to help as much as we can.

While the conferences are the most visible part of our activities, they are certainly not the only focus of the work of the Executive Committee (EC). The EC is committed to looking ahead to ensure that the ISE remains active and attractive in the future. Echoing the famous quote by A.N. Whitehead "The art of progress is to preserve order in the midst of change, and to preserve change in the midst of order", the EC has extended the contract with FontisMedia - the provider of ISE office and conference organization services. This new contract ensures the necessary stability of operations on the one hand and defines measures for a modernized infrastructure on the other. The first result of these modernization measures is a new ISE website, which will go online shortly.

Those of you who could attend the general assembly in Montreal already know that Prof. Robert Hillman's term as Editor in Chief (EiC) of *Electrochimica Acta*, our society journal, ended end of December 2024 after ten years. In recognition of his outstanding service as Editor in Chief over all these years, but also as Secretary General and ISE president, the EC appointed him an honorary member. I would like to thank him once again, on behalf of the entire EC, for the outstanding work he has done for *Electrochimica Acta*, keeping the journal the #1 of the electrochemical journals that cover the entire breadth of electrochemistry.

When one leaves, another comes. I would like to welcome Prof Elena Savinova as the new EiC of Electrochimica Acta. I am very grateful that she has accepted the offer. I am convinced that she is an exceptionally suitable person to take the journal forward and I wish her the best of luck with all her planned innovations for the journal. I hope that you will follow her endeavors and that you are convinced that you should send your best work to Electrochimica Acta for mutual benefit. Also the term of many of the associated editors ended. I would like to thank each of them for their work and dedication, and I would like to welcome those who joined the team of associated editors in January. Finally, I am happy to report that the EC is currently negotiating a continuation of the current Agreement with Elsevier S.A., the Publisher of Electrochimica Acta. This renewed Agreement will ensure the stability of Society publications in the long run.

The EC was involved in many other activities necessary for the smooth functioning of the Society - overseeing the completion of the electronic vote on the ISE Code of Conduct, which was overwhelmingly approved, the election of new Board members, the election of new Division Chairs and Regional Representatives, the selection of award winners, the appointment of ISE Fellows, and much more. A detailed report on all the activities of the EC can be found [in the annex to this letter](#).

Last but not least, I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the many activities of the Society and I would like to thank all members for their support during my term of office. It has been a great honour to serve the ISE as President. I now hand over to Plamen Atanassov, whom I wish every success in leading the Society for the next two years.

I wish you all a healthy, peaceful and happy New Year and look forward to meeting you at future ISE meetings.

Sincerely yours,  
Katharina Krischer  
ISE president 2023-2024

## **Annex: Detailed ISE report 2024**

### **Scientific Meetings**

The ISE has organized four meetings on two continents in 2024. With the Annual Meeting taking place in North America (75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Montreal, Canada), the Topical Meetings were held in Europe (Šibenik, Croatia; Stresa, Italy and Manchester, United Kingdom).

### Topical Meetings

In the best ISE tradition, the topical meetings covered a wide range of the electrochemical topics ranging from marine electrochemistry to electrochemical nanomaterials. The overall attendance at all topical meetings reached almost 1000 participants which facilitated fruitful scientific discussions.

The 36<sup>th</sup> Topical Meeting of ISE took place in Šibenik, Croatia, between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of May. Its Topic focused on three main themes: Electroanalysis of marine pollutants, Electrochemistry in water treatment and soil remediation and on Corrosion in different environments. The meeting attracted an attendance of 118 participants, a number reflecting the scope of the topic. The conference featured six Keynote Speakers (Mary-Lou Tercier-Waeber, University of Geneva; Dario Omanović, Ruder Bošković Institute; Eileen Yu, Loughborough University, Ignasi Sires, University of Barcelona; Tadeja Kosec, Slovenian National Building and Civil Engineering Institute, Ljubljana; Deepak Pant, Flemish Institute for Technological Research, Mol) and eight Invited speakers. The keynote and invited lectures provided the framework for oral and poster presentations which outlined the recent progress in the field.

The 37<sup>th</sup> Topical Meeting was organized in Stresa, Italy between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June. The meeting's main themes concentrated on Electrochemical Conversion and Storage namely on lithium and post lithium batteries and on hydrogen production and conversion technologies. The meeting attracted 518 participants making the meeting the largest topical meeting in ISE history. The meeting in Stresa also reflected the societal importance of energy-related electrochemistry as half of the registered participants were students. The scientific program was organized into four parallel sessions. The meeting featured four keynote lectures and 24 invited talks introducing oral and poster presentations. The keynote lectures were delivered by Yi Cui (Stanford University), Maria Rosa Palacin (ICMAB-CSIC), Radenka Maric (University Connecticut), Marian Chatenet (University Grenoble).

The 38<sup>th</sup> Topical Meeting was organized in Manchester, United Kingdom, between 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of September. The meeting concentrated on four main topics – Nanomaterials for Energy Storage, Nanomaterials for Electrocatalysis, Nanomaterials for Electroanalysis and Electrochemical Interfaces at the Nanoscale. The meeting was attended by 264 participants reflecting the popularity of the field. The scientific program was highlighted by four keynote lectures delivered by Clare Grey (Cambridge University), Patrice Simon (Universite Paul Sabatier, Toulouse), Radha Boya (University of Manchester) and Kristina Tschulik (Bochum University). Keynote lectures were complemented by 26 Invited lectures introducing contributed talks and posters.

Special thanks go to Slađana Strmečki Kos, , Riccardo Ruffo, Chiara Ferrara, Robert Dryfe, Angel Cuesta and Mark Symes, respectively, and their organizing teams, for all the efforts that they put into preparation of these three very successful Topical Meetings.

### Annual Meeting

The 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry took place in Montreal, Canada, between August 18<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. The main theme of the Meeting was “Electrochemistry – Science and Technology for a Sustainable and Better Planet”. The scientific program comprised six Plenary Lectures delivered by Rudolph A. Marcus (California Institute of Technology, USA), Gerardine Botte (Texas Tech University, USA), Kisuk Kang (Seoul National University, Korea), Alexander Kuhn (University of Bordeaux, France), Mary P. Ryan (Imperial College, UK) and David Wilkinson (University of British Columbia, Canada). The contributed papers were presented in 17 individual Symposia and encompassed 49 Keynote, 89 invited, more than 700 oral presentations and 234 poster presentations.

Two Tutorial lectures were held during the Annual Meeting. These workshops dealt with “Modelling of Electrochemical Systems” given by Dean R. Wheeler (Brigham Young University, USA) and with “Hyphenated Techniques in Electrochemistry” delivered by Ian Burgess (University of Saskatchewan, Canada) and Jakub Drnec (European Synchrotron Radiation Facility, Grenoble, France).

The 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was attended by more than 970 participants, which is a respectable number for an Annual Meeting held in North America. The success of the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is owed to the extraordinary effort of the co-chairs of the Organizing Committee, Daniel Bélanger and Steen Schougaard (University of Quebec in Montreal), dedication of all the Symposia organizers and of course all the participants, and thanks to the efforts of Raphael Berger, Gill Bourgeois and Maeve Tsu from our conference organization provider, FontisMedia.

The ISE plans to organize two Topical Meetings in 2025: 39<sup>th</sup> Topical Meetings in Natal, Brazil (23<sup>rd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> March 2025), 40<sup>th</sup> Topical Meeting in Changchun, China (15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> August 2025). The 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will take place in Mainz, Germany between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Detailed information on all ISE meetings is available on the websites of each meeting, accessible from the ISE homepage.

### Sponsored Meetings

In 2024, ISE also continued its unwavering support of the electrochemical community by sponsoring scientific meetings organized all over the world. The ISE has supported 42 meetings in total, a number which is the highest in the past 6 years.

### **ISE Fellows and Honorary Membership**

As in the previous years the EC appointed four outstanding electrochemists as ISE Fellows. Deborah Jones (CNRS in Montpellier, France), Eric Bakker (University of Geneva, Switzerland), Paul Kenis (University of Illinois, USA) and Michel Eikerling (Forschung Zentrum Juelich, Germany) were awarded this prestigious recognition of scientific excellence. Although the ISE receives numerous nominations every year, we would like to encourage all ISE members to nominate excellent scientists for this recognition, with particular attention to so far underrepresented groups, notably excellent female electrochemists. Details for preparing your nomination can be found here: <https://www.ise-online.org/fellows.php>.

The Executive Committee has also appointed a new Honorary Member of the ISE in 2024. Arthur Robert (Rob) Hillman was handed this highest mark of appreciation for his decades long dedication to the ISE in capacity of Secretary General, ISE President and, eventually, as the Editor in Chief of the Society's journal *Electrochimica Acta*.

### **Awards**

Twelve ISE Prizes were awarded in 2024 and the winners along with their citations were announced on the ISE webpage.

- The *Electrochimica Acta* Gold Medal was awarded to Hubert Girault of the EPFL, Sion, Switzerland.
- The ISE-Elsevier Prize for Experimental Electrochemistry was awarded to Peng Chen of the Cornell University, USA
- The Bioelectrochemistry Prize of Division 2 was awarded to Fred Lisdat, Technical University Wildau, Germany.
- The Brian Conway Prize for Physical Electrochemistry was awarded to Di Wei, Beijing Institute of Nanoenergy and Nanosystems, China.
- The Jaroslav Heyrovsky Prize for Molecular Electrochemistry was awarded to Cyrille Constantin, Université Grenoble Alpes, France.
- The Tajima Prize was awarded to Yi-Chun Lu, Hunan University, China.
- The ISE Prize for General Electrochemical Materials Science was awarded to Nerea Casado, University of the Basque Country, Spain.
- The Zhaowu Tian Prize for Energy Electrochemistry was awarded to Federico Calle Vallejo, University of Basque Country, Spain.
- The ISE-Elsevier Prize for Green Electrochemistry was awarded to Yudong Xue, EPFL Sion, Switzerland.
- The ISE-Elsevier Prize for Applied Electrochemistry was awarded to Edison Huixiang Ang, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.
- The Early Career Analytical Electrochemistry Prize of ISE Division 1 was awarded to Muamer Dervisevic, Monash University, Australia.
- The Oronzio and Niccolò De Nora Foundation Young Author Prize 2023 was awarded to Marco Mazzucato, University of Padova, Italy.

Nominations and applications for the 2025 ISE Prizes will be invited and must be submitted to the ISE Office between March 1st and May 1st, 2025.

Three *Electrochimica Acta* Travel Awards for Young Electrochemists, sponsored by Elsevier, and seven ISE Travel Awards, aimed at encouraging the participation of young scientists in the 75<sup>th</sup> ISE Annual Meeting, were awarded to Yudong Xue, Zachary Gossage, Mattia Belotti, Giampaolo Lacarbonara, Kelechi Nwambaekwe, Gullit Deffo, Jamie Trindell, Fitri Nur Indah Sari, Julia Fernández Vidal and Michaela Plevová. The same number of Travel Awards will be awarded in 2025.

## **Society Journal**

The Board of Editors of *Electrochimica Acta* underwent a reconstruction during the past 12 months when the team of Rob Hillman (Editor-in-Chief), consisting of Sotiris Sotiropoulos (Special Issues Editor), Philippe Allongue, Gary Attard, Nick Birbilis, Aicheng Chen, Elena Ferapontova, Laurence Hardwick, Deborah Jones, Robert Kostecki, Rüdiger Kötz, Pawel Kulesza, Shi-Gang Sun and Jiang-Ping Tu was complemented by Elena Savinova, Tim Albrecht, Lital Alfonta, Shushmee Badhulika, Chang Hyuck Choi and Minghua Zhou.

The Impact Factor of the Society journal slightly dropped to 5.5 from 6.9 of the last year. This decrease, however, does not affect the position of our journal which remains in the first quartile of electrochemistry journal and serves as an authoritative source of publication in all fields of electrochemistry. The strong position of the journal in the electrochemical community is also attested by the large number of colleagues accepting reviewer assignments as well as by a large number of article downloads. *Electrochimica Acta* published two types of Special Issues in 2024 when topically oriented Special Issues were complemented with Special Issues dedicated to collections of papers from meetings. It needs to be noted, however, that despite retaining the quality of the published papers the volume of the work submitted to the journal remains similar to that experience in 2023 which is lower than in pre-pandemic era. As in the previous year, *Electrochimica Acta* continues its participation in Cassyni project, in which selected papers published in the journal gain further visibility through online video seminars where the audience can meet the authors and discuss the research summarized in the paper.

## **Executive Committee**

Elections were held in spring 2024, to refill two positions on the Executive Committee in accordance with the ISE Constitution and Bylaws. Andrea Russell was elected as the new ISE President Elect. Andrea replaces on the Executive Committee Marc Koper, who served as Immediate Past President in 2023 and 2024.

Enrique Herrero was elected as a Vice President for the term 2025-2027. He replaces on the Executive Committee Elena Ferapontova.

The elections of the Treasurer (2026-2028) and one Vice-President (2026-2028) will take place during the spring of 2025. The Nominating Committee (NC) will select the candidates. The NC is chaired by the ISE president - Plamen Atanassov; the other members are Lital Alfonta, , Krzysztof Fic, Jose Zagal and Katharina Krischer (as the Immediate Past President).

The Executive Committee continued its efforts on modernizing the Society. LinkedIn became the main social media platform for ISE. The content prepared by the Social Media officers attracted 570 followers and based on the experienced numbers of views as well as individual visitors the ISE presence on LinkedIn will play an important role in the ISE communication..

The EC also finished internal discussion of the Code of Conduct for participants at ISE Meetings and events aiming at improvement of the inclusiveness of the ISE for the electrochemical community. A draft of the Code of Conduct was consulted was subject of a membership vote which has been concluded in December. I'm happy to inform you that the Code of Conduct was approved by overwhelming majority and will come into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

## **Divisions**

The Division Officers, supported by Division members, play a central role in the life of the Society, by promoting scientific activities in their respective fields, preparing and implementing the scientific programs of the symposia of meetings of the Society, and organising divisional activities at Annual Meetings. In accordance with the two-year cycle, there were elections of new Division officers selecting new Chair elects (serving 2025-2026) in all Divisions. The following colleagues were elected as new Chair elects: Emilia Witkowska Nery (Division 1), Donal Leech (Division 2), Sara Cavaliere (Division 3), Samantha Gateman (Division 4), Ignacio Sires (Division 5), Eva Nichols (Division 6) and Julia Leibhauser Kunze (Division 7). I would like to thank all Division Officers who served in 2024 namely the Officers leaving their Office - Luigi Falciola, Elisabeth Lojou, Andrea Balducci, Vincent Vivier, Manuel Rodrigo, Magdalena Hromadova and Shen Ye for their service to the Society.

## **Regional Sections**

In the calendar year 2024, the ISE had 43 recognized Regional Sections. The reports on the activities of most Regional Sections are available on the website of the Society.

Also many new Regional Representatives for the term 2025-2027 were elected this fall. Andrea Auer (Austria), Deepak Pant (Belgium), Steen Schougaard (Canada), Ana Maria Mendez-Tores (Chile), Jaana Lilloja (Estonia), Christian Durante (Italy), Marta Costa Figueiredo (Netherlands), Oleg Kozaderov (Russia) and Chularat Wattanankit (Thailand) will start their first term as Regional Representatives in 2025. Tomáš Navrátil (Czech Republic), Antonis Karantonis (Greece), Micheal Scanlon (Ireland), Krzysztof Fic (Poland), Matthias Arenz (Switzerland), Bjorn Wickland (Sweden) and Volodymyr Khomenko (Ukraine) were re-elected and will serve their second term as Regional Representatives in 2025. Active participation of the Regional Representatives in the life of the Society, especially in recruiting new members and in maintaining and strengthening the links between the ISE and the local electrochemical communities, is of primary importance. At the same time, I would like to thank all Regional Representatives whose tenure finishes at the end of the year.

## **Committees**

The term of Jaeyoung Lee as member of the Scientific Meetings Committee (SMC) ended on 31st December 2024. Vincent Vivier agreed to replace him and will serve on the SMC for the next 3 years (2025-2027). Rakel Wreland Lindstrom will chair the SMC in 2025, the final year of her term.

In the Fellows Nominating Committee (FNC), Jose Zagal was appointed to replace Philippe Hapiot, whose regular five-year term ended on 31st December 2024. Maria Forsyth will chair the committee in 2025.

## **Membership**

Despite expectation the ISE recorded only 2961 active members (including 15% students and 4% retired members) in 2025. This year by year drop in membership was caused by expiration of the free memberships awarded during pandemic. The ISE membership includes members from 70 countries and regions. The membership fees for 2025 have been maintained at the 2024 level, i.e. 50 € for ordinary members and 15 € for young and emeritus members. ISE will continue to

improve service to its members through various online and on-site activities going beyond traditional meetings.