## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ELECTROCHEMISTRY

REPORT for the ISE Sponsored Event Sofia Electrochemical Days 2024 (SED'2024) 02-06 July 2024, Varna, Bulgaria

The ninth edition of the Sofia Electrochemical Days (SED'24) was held from July 2-6, 2024.

The organizers from the Institute of Electrochemistry and Energy Systems at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IEES-BAS) welcomed, for the first time, representatives of the Bulgarian and international academic community to the Creativity House of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences near the beautiful Black Sea city of Varna. The traditional co-organizer of the conference was the University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy (UCTM), Sofia. The forum attracted a total of 100 participants from 12 countries: Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Israel, Italy, Poland, Portugal, North Macedonia, Romania, Slovenia, the Netherlands, and the USA.

The event was opened by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vania Ilcheva - Chairperson of the Organizing Committee, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Plamen Nikolov - Director of IEES-BAS, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dimitar Peshev - Deputy Rector of UCTM, Sofia. A congratulatory address was read on behalf of Prof. Dr. Vesela Tsakova, regional representative of the International Electrochemical Society for Bulgaria.

The five-day scientific program featured 45 oral presentations and 41 poster presentations regarding the latest achievements in the electrochemistry and materials science. The main topics were: advanced batteries and supercapacitors; hydrogen generation, storage, and conversion; materials for modern electrochemical applications; general electrochemistry, corrosion, and bioelectrochemistry; and innovative technological solutions for industry.

As a part of the scientific program, two special sessions were organized, where exhibitors and company representatives, whose developments are directly related to the thematic focus of the event, took advantage of the opportunity to present their latest products, tailored to current market needs.

The plenary lectures by distinguished scientists, including Corr. Mem. E. Slavcheva, Cor. Mem. T. Spassov, Prof. I. Valov, Prof. P. Piccardo, Prof. M. Manuela da Silva, Prof. L. Costa, and Prof. S. Bliznakov, were met with great interest. Fruitful scientific discussions were held, new contacts were established and future collaborations were planned.

SED'24 once again provided an opportunity for young scientists from Bulgaria and abroad to present their current work. In the frame of the Young scientists' session 12 talks and 19 posters were presented. The best oral and poster presentations were awarded by an International Scientific Jury.

The conference program was filled with many events facilitating the direct communication between the participants, including a "Welcome" cocktail in the spirit of Bulgarian folklore tradition, a visit to the oldest salt producing and urban center in Europe - Provadia-Solnitsata, and traditional farewell dinner.

The organizers would like to express their gratitude for the financial support of the International Society of Electrochemistry, which contributed to the fruitful implementation of the event and dissemination of the presented scientific results.

We look forward to future electrochemical conferences organized with the valuable support of the International Electrochemical Society.

Assoc. Prof. Vania Ilcheva, Chairperson of the Organizing Committee Prof. Antonia Stoyanova, Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee