I PREFACE

The year 2024 started with a visit to the Chemistry Department of the National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University in Hsinchu, Taiwan. There, we spend valuable and highly productive time with our partner Institutes of Prof. Chain-Shu Hsu and Dr. Chia Chih Chang (George) and their colleagues. The visit to TSMC headquarters was impressive in many perspectives. It is remarkable, what this small Island Republic has established in a very short time of 50 years getting to the top ten of the scientific and technological world ranking. Taiwan is not only scientifically but also culturally a very attractive place.

Visits and conferences in South Korea were also unforgettable. Since many our former students and post docs are now professors in South Korea at several universities all the way up to the chief executive positions in leading tech companies like Samsung, this visit became a family get together. Scientifically we have several collaborations with South Korean groups. Our Institute supports intensively the Europe-Korea Conference on Science and Technology (EKC) taking place again in Vienna at the 25-27 August 2025. Prof. Dong Patrick Whang is the organizer and a former LIOS member.

In these visits to Far East Asia within last year one prospect came clearly to see: The economical and technological development in these countries are much more advanced than in Europe. This is not a political judgement but a simple observation. Advancement in high tech electronic components, robotics all the way to electric cars and networked institutions is truly impressive. The high-speed train connections in Taiwan and Korea are desperately needed in Europe and USA to overcome the long-distance travels in a very time efficient way.

Last but not least, ICSM 2024 in Dresden was a very successful and enjoyable conference, where many friends, colleagues and former students got together in this most important meeting of our research field of organic conductors and semiconductors. Next ICSM 2026 will be organized by Brazilian colleagues in Rio.

In our research at the Institute the topics of metal-organic-frameworks (MOFs) especially their conductive derivatives are growing. The use of such open morphology nanostructures in electrocatalysis and photocatalysis to reduce CO_2 into artificial fuels is going to be advantageous.

Furthermore, bioelectronics is a very lively topic and we host/organize the International Winterschool on Bioelectronics (www.bioel.at) in Kirchberg Tyrol, Austria every year in March. This year 2025 will be the 10th anniversary taking place in 14-21 of March 2025.

The organic and perovskite photovoltaic materials science is continuing to be a major effort at LIOS and the publication of solar driven drones using perovskite photovoltaic elements (Nature Energy 2024 together with the Institute of Prof. Martin Kaltenbrunner) has attracted a lot of attention.

With many students accomplishing their bachelor, master and doctor degrees, our Alumni is growing stronger and stronger every year. The Linz Institute for Organic Solar Cells shall always be a host of highly productive research and education and collaboration. But most important of all, LIOS shall continue to be home for **Freude** (joy), to promote, exercise and seek for **Creativity.**

Linz, February 2025 Niyazi Serdar Sariciftci