



Academician CRISTIAN SILVESTRU



ACADEMICIAN CRISTIAN SILVESTRU
ADVANCING MAIN-GROUP AND ORGANOMETALLIC CHEMISTRY
IN ROUMANIA AND BEYOND

In 2025, the Roumanian chemical community celebrates the 70th anniversary of Acad. Cristian Silvestru, Emeritus Professor of Inorganic and Organometallic Chemistry at “Babeş-Bolyai” University (UBB) in Cluj-Napoca and Member of the Roumanian Academy. His distinguished career, spanning more than four decades, has profoundly shaped the development of main-group organometallic chemistry in Roumania and has contributed substantially to the international visibility of this field.

Born on December 8th, 1955, in Baia Mare and raised in Cluj-Napoca, Cristian Silvestru pursued his B.Sc. and M.Sc. studies at UBB, followed by doctoral research under the supervision of Acad. Ionel Haiduc. He defended his Ph.D. thesis in 1990, marking the beginning of a rapid academic ascent. Over the years, he has built one of the most active and productive research groups in Roumania in main-group organometallic chemistry.

The scientific contributions of Acad. Cristian Silvestru cover a broad spectrum of topics, such as organometallic chemistry of heavy *p*-block elements, chirality of organometallic compounds, coordination chemistry of main group and transition metals with organophosphorus ligands, supramolecular architectures, and organometallic species with potential biological activity. He has published more than 250 scientific papers, reviews, and book chapters, and is the co-author of the monograph *Organometallics in Cancer Chemotherapy*.

His contributions have been acknowledged through numerous distinctions, such as the “Gheorghe Spacu” Prize of the Roumanian Academy, the “Gheorghe Spacu” Medal of the Roumanian Society of Chemistry, or the Gambrinus Fellowship of Technische Universität Dortmund. He is a member of the European Academy of Sciences as well as the European Academy of Sciences and Arts.

Acad. Cristian Silvestru has held visiting positions at prestigious institutions worldwide, during which numerous international collaborations were established. These collaborations have strengthened Roumania’s presence in international organometallic chemistry and facilitated student exchanges, joint publications, and long-term scientific partnerships.

Beyond his scientific achievements, Acad. Cristian Silvestru has played a significant role in academic leadership and national scientific policy. He has served as Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Director of the Chemistry Department, President of the CNATDCU Chemistry Panel, member of CNCS, and Roumania's representative in the EuChemS Division of Organometallic Chemistry. Acad. Cristian Silvestru founded the National Centre for X-ray Diffractometry (NCXRD) at Babeş-Bolyai University, the first facility of its kind in Roumania.

The Roumanian chemical community and the Editorial Board of *Revue Roumaine de Chimie* express their profound appreciation for his scientific achievements, institutional leadership, and dedication to the advancement of chemistry in Roumania. His work continues to inspire colleagues, collaborators, and students, and stands as a legacy to the enduring value of rigorous research and academic commitment.

The Editorial Board