

**EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

# **YUCOMAT 2016**

Hunguest Hotel Sun Resort Herceg Novi, Montenegro,  
September 5-10, 2016  
<http://www.mrs-serbia.org.rs>

## **Programme and The Book of Abstracts**

Organised by:  
**Materials Research Society of Serbia**

Endorsed by:  
**Materials Research Society,  
European Materials Research Society  
and  
Federation of European Material Societies**

**Title:** THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
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**Publisher:** Materials Research Society of Serbia  
Knez Mihailova 35/IV, P.O.Box 433, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: +381 11 2185-437; Fax: + 381 11 2185-263  
<http://www.mrs-serbia.org.rs>

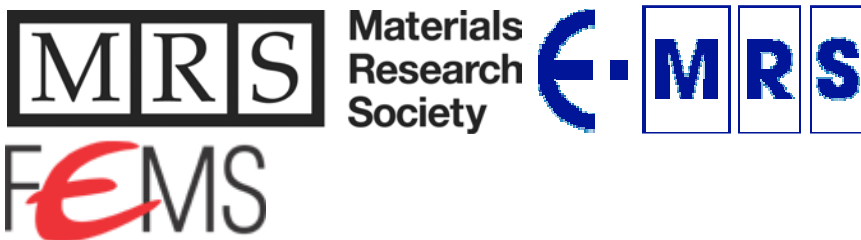
**Editors:** Prof. Dr. Dragan P. Uskoković and Prof. Dr. Velimir Radmilović

**Technical editor:** Aleksandra Stojičić

**Cover page:** Aleksandra Stojičić and Milica Ševkušić  
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**Acknowledgments:** This conference is held in honour of Prof. Dejan Raković's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday.



**Printed in:** Biro Konto  
Sutorina bb, Igalo – Herceg Novi, Montenegro  
Phones: +382-31-670123, 670025, E-mail: [bkonto@t-com.me](mailto:bkonto@t-com.me)  
Circulation: 220 copies. The end of printing: August 2016

P.S.B.5.

**Synthesis and characterization of Pd nanocatalyst at tungsten carbide based support for fuel cells application**

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Tungsten carbide was prepared by polycondensation of resorcinol and formaldehyde in the presence cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTABr) surfactant. Pd nanocatalyst at this support was synthesized by borohydride reduction method. The obtained materials were characterized by XRD, HRTEM, EELS, XPS and electrochemical measurements. TEM analysis revealed Pd nanoparticles size in the range of a few nanometers, even the clusters of Pd atoms. X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy was applied to determine surface composition of the substrates. The presence of palladium based species was revealed. The catalytic activity for the hydrogen oxidation reaction and oxygen reduction were investigated in 0.5 M HClO<sub>4</sub> by cyclic voltammetry and linear sweep voltammetry at the rotating disc electrode. The catalysts' activities were compared to the carbon supported Pd nanoparticles (Vulcan XC 72). WC supported Pd nanoparticles have shown higher CO tolerance, compared even to Pt based catalyst.

Acknowledgements: This work was financially supported by Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, Republic of Serbia, contract No. 172054.

The authors would like to acknowledge networking support by the COST Action MP1407.