## TWENTIETH YOUNG RESEARCHERS' CONFERENCE MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

November 30 - December 2, 2022, Belgrade, Serbia

# Programme and the Book of Abstracts

Materials Research Society of Serbia & Institute of Technical Sciences of SASA

2022

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### Aim of the Conference

Main aim of the conference is to enable young researchers (post-graduate, master or doctoral student, or a PhD holder younger than 35) working in the field of materials science and engineering, to meet their colleagues and exchange experiences about their research.

### Topics

Biomaterials Environmental science Materials for high-technology applications Materials for new generation solar cells Nanostructured materials New synthesis and processing methods Theoretical modelling of materials

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#### **Results of the Conference**

Beside printed «Programme and the Book of Abstracts», which is disseminated to all conference participants, selected and awarded peer-reviewed papers will be published in journal "Tehnika – Novi Materijali". The best presented papers, suggested by Session Chairpersons and selected by Awards Committee, will be proclaimed at the Closing Ceremony. Part of the award is free-of-charge conference fee at YUCOMAT 2023.

#### **Sponsors**



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#### 11-2

# TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles supported on natural zeolite clinoptilolite from Serbia for removal of bisphenol A from aqueous solution

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Bisphenol A (BPA) is a well-known emerging contaminant that pose a severe threat to human health due to its negative effect on the body's endocrine systems. BPA is widely used in the production of polycarbonate plastic and epoxy resins and therefore often detected in different water environments. Since the conventional wastewater treatments for BPA removal haven't been proven efficient it is important to find a green and efficient method for its complete elimination. Therefore, the aim of this work was to prepare a cost-effective hybrid photocatalyst based on TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles and natural zeolite clinoptilolite and study its photocatalytic performance toward BPA. The TiO2/clinoptilolite, containing 20 wt% of TiO<sub>2</sub>, was prepared using ultrasound assisted solid-state dispersion method and characterized using a multi-technique approach by combining X-ray powder diffraction, FTIR, UV Vis DRS spectroscopy, atomic force microscopy (AFM), BET measurements and laser diffraction. The study showed complete removal of BPA (5 mg/L) after 180 minutes of simulated solar irradiation using 2 g/L of hybrid photocatalyst, at pH = 6.4. The addition of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> led to a faster BPA removal after 120 minutes of irradiation. When BPA removal was tested in bottled drinking water a lower removal of 60 % after 180 minutes of irradiation was observed because of the presence of bicarbonate ions and its scavenger effect toward hydroxyl radicals. The reused photocatalyst showed good photocatalytic activity in repeated cycles (e. i. 70 % of BPA was still successfully removed at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle).