

INTRODUCTION

The E.P.A., now with over 380 members in Western Europe and some East-European and non-European countries, was founded in 1970 under the aegis of the Council of Europe with the purpose of promoting cooperation between European photochemists in universities, research centres and industry through international contacts and exchanges. Since its foundation, E.P.A. has been an autonomous organization, and it has been recognized as an Associated Organization by I.U.P.A.C.

Although, and perhaps because, photochemistry has expanded rapidly, the exchange of information has sometimes been poor. During 1968 - 69 the Council of Europe asked Dr. M. Fischer to prepare a compilation of the European research groups concerned with photochemical problems. The booklet appeared in 1970 entitled "*European Research Resources: Photochemistry*". Two years later, the Standing Committee of E.P.A. asked me to prepare a new survey. This was considered important because of the rapid development of photochemistry and because the Association had members in a number of countries not included in the previous report. This job, apparently easy, has met with several difficulties, the greatest being the interdisciplinary character of the subject (and so the difficulty of knowing what to exclude) and delays in obtaining relevant information.

It was decided to proceed as follows: (a) only those laboratories *really* concerned with photochemistry were included (we tried to exclude all those which do photochemical work occasionally); (b) laboratories in each country were contacted on the basis of the suggestions given by the national representatives in the Standing Committee of E.P.A.; (c) special emphasis was given to unconventional apparatus and we have avoided mentioning the general analytical facilities and conventional photochemical equipment; (d) photochemical and photophysical laboratories are included; a few groups concerned with photobiology have been contacted (on the suggestion of the above representatives) because of their close affinity to photochemistry; (e) the survey tries to be exhaustive for Western-Europe, in so far as this is possible, and for non-European countries includes only those groups of E.P.A. members. Contacts with Eastern-European countries met with some difficulties. They were established through the National Academies of Sciences and through personal contacts. In this respect the survey is not yet exhaustive. Because of this, and for other reasons, the E.P.A. plans to publish supplements whenever necessary.

The laboratories are listed by country and for each country by group leaders' names in alphabetical order. Group leaders' names precede those of the research workers. It was recommended in the questionnaire that only names of permanent staff be mentioned.

A list of groups contacted, which did not answer their questionnaire, is included at the end, under the title "Other Photochemical Laboratories in Europe".

An alphabetical index of all photochemists mentioned in the directory concludes the booklet.

We apologize for any missing data (Christian names, academic titles, etc.) which were not reported in the completed forms, as well as for any other errors or omissions.

We hope that this survey will be useful, especially for young photochemists, to increase their knowledge of the photochemical resources in Europe and other countries. We also hope that it will encourage photochemists to increase contacts and to move from one laboratory to another, and convince them of the advantage of interchanges between different groups, especially between photophysical and photochemical laboratories.

We thank the Standing Committee and the Executive Committee of E.P.A. for their precious help and advice. We also thank Elsevier Sequoia in Lausanne and the Italian Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche in Rome for their financial support and Doctors G. G. Aloisi, G. Bartocci, G. Favaro and G. Tomlinson for their help in the preparation of the directory.

Suggestions for improvements of future editions of this directory will be welcomed.

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