

## Editorial

# Main group chemistry

During the last decades, the main emphasis of the research in molecular chemistry has been put on the synthesis of complex molecules on the organic side, and on transition metal chemistry and homogeneous catalysis on the inorganic side. Main group chemistry has been left in the background. Today the progress in the two former domains has more or less reached a plateau and further advances rely more and more on the new molecules and synthetic techniques that can be provided by main group chemistry. On the inorganic side, this is quite obvious. Advances in homogeneous catalysis rely on new ligands, especially for enantioselective synthesis. Some well-known examples are stable singlet carbenes, BINAP, DUPHOS, to cite only a few. In the field of molecular materials, the importance of TTF, polythiophenes, polypyrroles and so on is also well established. Thus, it seemed quite appropriate to

present to the organometallic community an updated panorama of the latest advances in main group chemistry. This special issue is conceived as the first of a series which is intended to appear on a regular basis. A fine balance between timely reviews and research papers has been achieved. The coverage is also quite broad, most of the main group non-metals and border-line elements being involved. We hope that this initiative will be welcomed by the organometallic chemists.

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