

The **25th** International Conference on

High Resolution Molecular Spectroscopy



Bilbao 2018, September 3rd–7th, Bizkaia Aretoa

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SECOND CIRCULAR: MARCH 2018

The **25th International Conference on High Resolution Molecular Spectroscopy**, representing the next meeting within the *Prague Spectroscopy Conference series*, will be held at the “[Bizkaia Aretoa](#)” or Biscay Hall, a new building designed by the Pritzker prize winning architect Alvaro Siza. The Biscay Hall is located in the Bilbao city center, in the vicinity of the Guggenheim Museum and close to other major city sights. The building comprises the “[Mitxelena Auditorium](#)”, with capacity for 441 persons and several other lecture halls and exhibition rooms that will be available for the meeting.

The conference organization will be organized jointly by the Department of Physical & Inorganic Chemistry of the *University of Valladolid (UVa)* and the Department of Physical Chemistry of the *University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)*.

Please note that the scientific program of the meeting starts on Monday, **September 3rd** in the morning and closes on Friday, **September 7th**, 2018 in the evening. The closing ceremony will be followed by a Gala Dinner the same Friday evening. This conference format will typically have you arriving at Bilbao on Sunday, September 2nd in the afternoon, and leaving on Saturday morning, September 8th.

Bilbao is the capital of Biscay and the largest metropolitan area in the Basque Country and the north of Spain. Founded in 1300, the city soon became a commercial hub associated to its port activity and iron ore export. Bilbao went through a heavy industrialisation and steady economic development since the XIX century. Nowadays, Bilbao has turned into a vigorous service city, experiencing an ongoing social, economic, and aesthetic revitalisation process. Bilbao received the inaugural Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize Laureate in 2010 in recognition of its integrated and holistic approach to urban transformation. Recently, the town was named European City of the Year at the 2018 Urbanism Awards. Bilbao can be reached by air, sea or land (plane, ship, train or car).

Scientific program

There will be ten confirmed invited speakers:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| AD VAN DER AVOIRD | Radbaud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands |
| GEOFFRY BLAKE | California Institute of Technology Pasadena, CA, USA |
| MICHAEL HEAVEN | Emory University Atlanta, GA, USA |
| CHRISTINE JOBLIN | IRAP – Université de Toulouse Toulouse, France |
| VIVIENNE PAYNE | Jet Propulsion Laboratory Pasadena, CA, USA |
| MARIA E. SANZ | King's College London, United Kingdom |
| ANN-CARINE VANDAELE | Royal Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy Uccle, Belgium |
| THOMAS SCHULTZ | Ulsan National Institute Standards and Technology Ulsan, Republic of Korea |
| SANJAY WATEGAONKAR | Tata Institute of Fundamental Research Mumbai, India |
| KOICHI M. T. YAMADA | Institute for Environmental Management Technology Tsukuba, Japan |

The Conference will be held under the endorsement of the *International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)*, the *European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS)*, the *Atomic and Molecular Physics Division (GEFAM)* and the *Young Chemists Division (JIQ)* of the *Spanish Societies of Physics (RSEF)* and *Chemistry (RSEQ)*, the *University of Valladolid* and the *University of the Basque Country*. The participants will be welcomed by the authorities of the *University of the Basque Country* and the *City Hall*.

In the long tradition of the *Prague Conference* series, the **Josef Plíva Prize** will be awarded to the *best oral communication* given by a Ph.D. student or a young researcher (Ph.D. degree less than one year before the Bilbao2018 meeting). The prize will consist of a diploma and the recipient/s will be given a selection of spectroscopic books and a waiver for the conference fee of the 2020 meeting. Previous Plíva Prize winners are listed in our permanent [Conference repository](#) at the *Bergische Universität Wuppertal*.

Additionally, the *University of Valladolid (UVa)* will sponsor two **UVa Prizes** to two oral communications by young researchers. The winners will receive a diploma and selection of books. **PCCP** will sponsor two prizes to the best posters presented by young researchers. The winners will receive a diploma and vouchers for books.

The [Dr. Barbara Mez-Starck Foundation](#) (Freiburg) will award the *International Barbara Mez-Starck Prize* at the Conference. This Prize, established in memoriam of Dr. Barbara Mez-Starck, is awarded annually to outstanding contributions in the field of experimental structural chemistry and molecular physics, including electron diffraction, microwave and high-resolution infrared spectroscopy.

Contributions

Contributions are invited in all fields related to *techniques, methods and applications in high-resolution spectroscopy*, including (but not limited to):

- Observation, measurement, and analysis of high resolution rotational, vibrational, or electronic spectra of molecules (radicals, ions, complexes, clusters) in the gas phase or in matrices.
- Developments in experimental techniques for spectral observation.
- Theory assisting the prediction, simulation, and spectral interpretation.
- Applications in related fields such as the Physics and Chemistry of the atmosphere, planets, cool stars or interstellar medium, chemical kinetics, biologically important molecules in the gas phase or in matrices, combustion, cold molecules, metrology, chemical analysis and other fields analysed using spectroscopy.

The conference will comprise **plenary lectures** and **oral communications** in three parallel sessions. We strongly encourage you - explicitly also addressing Ph.D. students and early stage researchers - to contribute an oral presentation. The presentations will be assigned to sessions thematically composed on the basis of keywords selected at the time of abstract submission. In addition, contributions for presentation in **poster sessions** are also welcomed.

Communications

Abstracts are to be submitted electronically by a dedicated Conference web page hosted at:

www.hrms-bilbao2018.com

Abstract presentation will begin by mid-March.

The abstract should be composed directly in the web, including the following information:

- Title of the contribution,
- Names of authors and their affiliations.
- Type of communication (oral or poster).
- Optionally, information whether the first author and presenter of a talk is competing for the Plíva Prize, the University of Valladolid Prizes or the PCCP poster Prizes.
- Classification keywords for assignment of the contribution to an appropriate session.

Since all abstract submission will be done on-line through the web application, no mail/email communication is necessary. Please **do not** send your abstract in any different format, **neither** submitted as a file **nor** send as a printed copy.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is June 1st, 2018.

BILBAO2018 Plíva Prize, UVa Prizes and PCCP Poster Prizes

Following a long-standing tradition of the Prague Spectroscopy conferences, the Josef Plíva Prize will be awarded during the BILBAO2018 meeting to the most outstanding oral communication/s by a Ph.D. student/s or young researcher/s.

In order to be eligible for the BILBAO2018 Plíva Prize, a researcher must:

- Be the primary (first) author of the work being presented;
- Assume the sole responsibility for the **oral presentation**;
- Not having obtained a Ph.D. degree or having received it within the last 12 months (at the time of the meeting);
- Not having won the Prize previously.

If a participant wishes to enter his/her oral communication in the competition for the BILBAO2018 Plíva Prize, his/her research supervisor should send a letter to the conference chairmen at emiliojose.cocinero@ehu.es or lesarri@gf.uva.es, **certifying that the student meets all of the above requirements**. The letter of certification should mention the title and authors of the oral contribution to be judged. This letter is not a nomination letter and content beyond the certification requested will not be taken into consideration by the prize committee.

All candidates to the Plíva Prize will be also be considered for the UVa Prizes.

The PCCP poster Prizes will be considered implicitly when the corresponding/submitted author has signed-up as student (with proof).

Venue and Accommodation

Details on how to arrive to Bilbao, ID/visa requirements and touristic information will be available from the Conference web page: www.hrms-bilbao2018.com

How to get to Bilbao

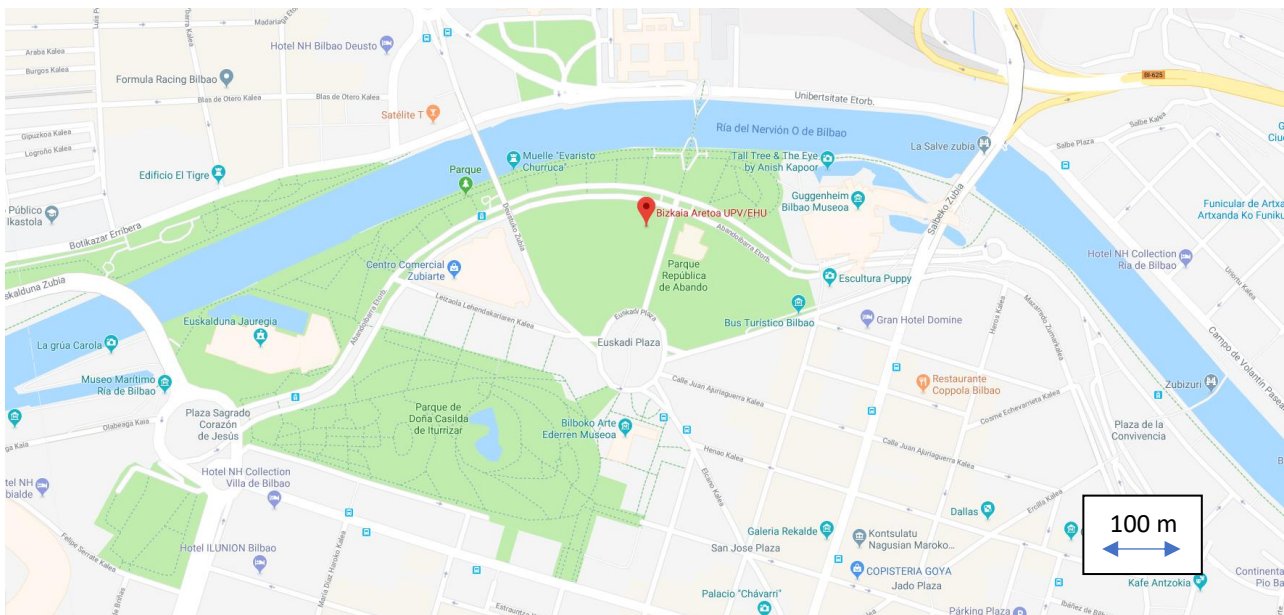
Bilbao can be reached by land, plane or sea. The city is connected by motorways in several directions and train services to all of Spain and neighboring European countries. The Bilbao airport (about 12 km from the city) serves different domestic and international flights to Spanish and European hubs. The Bilbao port has a ferry service to the UK.

More general information on Bilbao is available in the Conference web.

Accommodation

Single and double rooms will be available in student dormitories and affordable hotels, close to the conference site (shown in the map below). All the reservation process will be handled on-line by our web application.

The reservation of accommodation in the web application will be open by mid-March.



Lunch packages will be available at a cost of 30 euros for five meals. Please use the on-line registration to sign-up for meal packages. Two restaurants will serve the attendees, both located within an easy walking distance from the Conference site. The conference restaurants will not be available for dinner, thus giving you a perfect opportunity to explore the city of Bilbao and the world-famous Basque cuisine, ubiquitous in the surroundings of the conference site and in the old quarter.

Registration

Registration will be handled on-line through the conference web: www.hrms-bilbao2018.com

Early registration is encouraged. Your registration becomes valid upon timely reception of your payment (see below for payment deadlines).

The deadline for early registration is June 1st, 2018.

Late registrations and on-site registrations will be available at additional costs.

All aspects of your conference participation will be handled on-line. No postal or email communication will be necessary, since the web-site will handle the registration. Printing and mailing of paper forms will not be required.

General questions regarding the meeting and its organization will be handled by the **Conference Secretariat**:

- Conference Secretariat: congresos@ercisa.com (+34 94 410 41 77)

Specific questions can be addressed directly to the executive and local chairmen of the Conference:

- Alberto Lesarri: lesarri@qf.uva.es
- Emilio J. Cocinero: emiliojose.cocinero@ehu.es

Registration fees

The registration fee (not subject to VAT) is as follows:

| | Payment before June 1st, 2018 | Payment after June 1st, 2018 | On-site payment |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Regular participant | 250 EUR | 300 EUR | 350 EUR |
| Ph. D. Students* | 150 EUR | 200 EUR | 250 EUR |
| Accompanying person | 125 EUR | 175 EUR | 250 EUR |
| IUPAC Members or Associated** | 10% discount | 10% discount | 10% discount |

*If you claim the reduced fee for students or younger scientists, please submit a copy of your valid student identification or dated Ph.D. certificate. You should also be less than 35 years of age at the time of the conference.

**If you apply for the IUPAC rate, please provide proof of your membership accreditation.

If you cancel your registration before August 1st, 2018, your payment will be refunded with a 40 EUR (20 EUR for cancellations done before June 15th) deduction for administrative handling.

Meal Packages

Subsidized **lunch packages** are offered at 30 euros for five meals (September 3rd, 2018 to September 7th, 2018). Please use the on-line registration to sign-up for your meal package.

Social program

The conference will include a University Reception, a City Hall Reception, as well as a Gala Dinner and a dedicated XXV Anniversary Session. For the remaining evenings, a wide variety of dining opportunities such as restaurants and typical "tapas" bars will be available in the surroundings of the conference site.

In addition to an Excursion, a Social Program for accompanying persons will be organized.

3rd circular with meeting information:

July 2018. This circular will give instructions for the preparation of communications and local travel directions.

WWW server

The *Praha Spectroscopy Conference* series maintains a permanent web-site at the *Bergische Universität Wuppertal*, covering the aims, organization and history of the Conference:

www.chem.uni-wuppertal.de/conference/

In addition, a dedicated web portal will manage the on-line accommodation and registration process for the Bilbao2018 meeting

www.hrms-bilbao2018.com

Both, the permanent *Praha* and dedicated *Bilbao2018* sites will provide regular updated information.

History of PRAHA conference series

The BILBAO2018 meeting will mark the 25th edition of this conference series.

The Prague Spectroscopy Conferences started in 1970 by the initiative of the late Dr. Dušan Papoušek (*Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry and Electrochemistry, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences*), with the aim of increasing the scientific collaboration and bringing together spectroscopists from the east and west of Europe.

A detailed [history of the Conference](#) was previously published in *Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy*, one of the main sponsors of the present Conference.

Please see the photos of past editions in our permanent Conference repository maintained at the *Bergische Universität Wuppertal* by Prof. Dr. Per Jensen:

www.chem.uni-wuppertal.de/conference

We have collected a significant number of photographs from the old conferences, which are now available at the conference website. If you want to contribute photographs from early conferences, please scan them and send the resulting files to praha@uni-wuppertal.de (please send also a short message to jensen@uni-wuppertal.de with a notification that you have sent the photograph files). We will include them in the photo galleries.