

The Romanian Academy – an institution with remarkable scientific activity*

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Dear participants,

Some of you may be wondering why two vice presidents of the Romanian Academy are giving opening speeches.

Well, one answer could be that one is a chemist, and the other one, me, is a nuclear physicist who supervises the chemistry institutes of the Romanian Academy.

Another answer could be that the subject of the conference implies both chemistry and physics and, anyhow, in some countries, like the US, nuclear physics traditionally belongs to chemistry.

As for the order of the speeches, it's probably because, in the Romanian title, „chimie” comes first. It's „chimie fizică” and not „physical chemistry,” as in English. Or, maybe, it's just based on the alphabetical order of the names of the speakers!

Now, I'd like to make some remarks, not on the science presented at this conference, but on the position of chemistry and the Murgulescu Institute in the research landscape of the Romanian Academy.

The Romanian Academy is, besides the highest cultural forum in the country, an institution with remarkable scientific activity.

In the Romanian Academy, there are 76 institutes for fundamental research in all the fields of science and culture, in humanities, and in exact sciences. Among them, the four chemistry institutes, with more than 400 researchers, are the most prestigious ones. Without making a hierarchy – it is not easy to make one – the „Ilie Mur-

gulescu” Institute of Physical Chemistry, with its 70 years of contribution to national and international science, is one of the flagship institutes of the Romanian Academy.

This conference is proof of that, and, on behalf of the leadership of the Romanian Academy, I congratulate the institute for all its outstanding achievements and for organizing this conference together with the Faculty of Chemistry at the University of Bucharest, the ALPHA Association, and the Romanian Chemical Society.

I wish you a very fruitful meeting!



*Cuvânt rostit în deschiderea Conferinței Internaționale de Chimie Fizică – ROMPHYSCHEM, a XVII-a ediție (25 septembrie 2023, Aula Academiei Române)