

## Special Issue

# New Advances in Synthesis of Smart and Tough Hydrogel

### Message from the Guest Editors

Recent developments in the field of hydrogel science have significantly advanced soft materials research, leading to the emergence of smart and tough hydrogels with exceptional mechanical resilience, adaptive responsiveness, and multi-functionality. These hydrogels hold great promise for applications across biomedical engineering, soft robotics, tissue engineering, drug delivery, and environmental remediation. We would like to invite you to submit your latest research and comprehensive review articles to this Special Issue of *Gels*, "New Advances in Synthesis of Smart and Tough Hydrogel". It aims to cover innovative synthetic strategies, characterization techniques, and structure–property relationships that contribute to the development of next-generation hydrogels with superior mechanical robustness and smart functionalities. This topic fits within the scope of *Gels*, which focuses on the design, synthesis, and application of gel materials across diverse scientific and engineering disciplines.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Jongkyeong Lim

Department of Mechanical Engineering, Gachon University, Seongnam 13120, Republic of Korea

Dr. Lingyun Wang

School of Integrated Circuits, Shandong University, Jinan 250101, China

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 March 2026



## Gels

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 5.3  
CiteScore 7.6  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/243555](https://mdpi.com/si/243555)

*Gels*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[gels@mdpi.com](mailto:gels@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
gels](https://mdpi.com/journal/gels)





# Gels

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 5.3  
CiteScore 7.6  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/  
gels](https://mdpi.com/journal/gels)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Gels* (ISSN 2310-2861) is recently established international, open access journal on physical and chemical gel-based materials. The journal aim is to encourage scientists to publish their experimental and theoretical results in as much detail as possible. General topics include but not limited to synthesis, characterization and applications of new organogels, hydrogels and ionic gels made either from low molecular weight compounds or polymers, composite and hybrid materials where a metal is by some means incorporated into the gel network, and computational studies of these materials in order to provide a better understanding of gelation mechanism. We cordially invite you to consider publishing with us and contribute with your own grain of sand to the advance in this fascinating field.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Esmail Jabbari

Biomimetic Materials and Tissue Engineering Laboratory, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, USA

---

### Author Benefits

#### High visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, CAPus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Polymer Science) / CiteScore - Q1 (Organic Chemistry)

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 12.5 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.7 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).