

## Special Issue

# Microbial Metabolism and Enzymology: Insights into the Degradation of Organic Substrates by Environmental Bacteria

### Message from the Guest Editor

Some organic compounds (alkanes, aromatics, steroids, etc.) that are currently considered pollutants have been in the biosphere for a long time. However, the Anthropocene is characterized by the massive release of these compounds, as well as the spread of compounds that are not found in nature (xenobiotic compounds, such as halogenated compounds or other modified aromatic compounds, modified steroid derivatives, and petrochemical plastics). This proliferation of organic compounds has reached all habitats of the biosphere, triggering different deleterious ecotoxicological effects. However, based on the metabolic and genetic plasticity of bacteria, these organisms have developed, through the recombination and adaptation of pre-existing metabolic functions, horizontal gene transfer and adjustment of metabolic pathways and enzymes, and other mechanisms, the ability to degrade and, most of the time, to use these pollutants as nutrients, thus alleviating the environmental problem.

Therefore, this Special Issue will focus on the genomic, metabolic, regulatory, and enzymatic repertoire that bacteria exhibit for the degradation of organic compounds.

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### Guest Editor

Dr. Elias R. Olivera

Department of Molecular Biology, Veterinary Faculty, Campus de Vegazana, Universidad de León, 24007 León, Spain

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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

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The International Journal of Molecular Sciences (*IJMS*, ISSN 1422-0067) is an open access journal, which was established in 2000. The journal aims to provide a forum for scholarly research on a range of topics, including biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, molecular biophysics, molecular medicine, and all aspects of molecular research in chemistry. *IJMS* publishes both original research and review articles, and regularly publishes special issues to highlight advances at the cutting edge of research. We invite you to read recent articles published in *IJMS* and consider publishing your next paper with us.

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of Odontostomatologic and Specialized Clinical Sciences,  
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of Medicine, Università Politecnica delle  
Marche, Via Ranieri 65, 60100 Ancona, Italy

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