

Special Issue

Engineered Gels for Environmental Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

Gels may be used in wet state, as in the case of hydrogels, or be dried by several strategies to remove the swelling agents, still retaining their porous structure. Supercritical drying or freeze-thawing are the most prominent examples of methods that allow the drying of gels, often maintaining intact the pore size distribution of the solid network. Very singular mesoporous materials, such as aerogels and cryogels, can be prepared by these methods. Nonetheless, the use of green routes and sustainable precursors for the synthesis of these materials cannot be disregarded, nor can the possibility to reuse them several times or to reintroduce them in their own synthesis. Considering all the above, this Special Issue targets the latest trends and advances on engineered gels for environmental applications, including energy storage and/or conversion, clean energy production, thermal and acoustic insulation, water and soil remediation, agriculture, soil erosion, and recycling of materials and/or wastes. Emphasis will be given to the utilization of new gel formulations fabricated with an eco-friendly (green) way.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the premier open access journal dedicated to experimental organic chemistry, and now in its 25th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on multidisciplinary topics bridging biochemistry, biophysics and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting edge fields in all these areas.

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