

## FOREWORD

The rapid development, during recent years, of new methods and techniques of vibrational spectroscopy, as well as its new applications in chemistry, physics and bio-sciences, call for a more frequent »re-summarizing« of the state-of-the-art in this field. Our basic idea was to produce a volume containing contributions, written by many authors (to speed up the preparation), which would give a comprehensive and profound cross-section of modern developments of vibrational spectroscopy.

With this intention in mind, we decided to invite a number of distinguished scientists from all over the world to contribute to this edition, putting no limitations on either the length or the kind of their contributions (original paper, review). The realization of the project was made possible since the Editorial Board of *Croatica Chemica Acta*, the journal of the Croatian Chemical Society, decided to publish a special-subject issue or — to be more precise — two parts (Nos. 2 and 3 of vol. 61). We also intend to publish them both as a separate book, in order to enable a broader distribution.

The »*State-of-the-art in vibrational spectroscopy*« would, of course, never appear had not the majority of the invited authors accepted our invitation and contributed very valuable and interesting papers, not to mention their kind cooperation during the preparation of this publication. Their abundant response confirms that we correctly felt the need for such a publication. The future will show its usefulness to a wide circle of spectroscopists.

The Guest Editors express their deepest gratitude to the authors and, especially, to the referees. The Assistant Editors are cordially thanked for their patient and, sometimes, painstaking work in preparing this issue. We also thank Mrs. Vera Mikulčić for her extensive secretarial work.

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