Foreword to Special Issue

It is my great pleasure to introduce a new issue of *Sensors & Transducers* journal, Vol. 225, Issue 9, September 2018, titled '*Optics & Photonics: Devices and Applications*'.

This special issue contains selected and extended papers from the *1st International Conference on Optics, Photonics and Lasers (OPAL' 2018),* which taken place on 9–11 May 2018 in Barcelona, Castelldefels, Spain.



The conference was organized by *International Frequency Sensor Association (IFSA)* with media partners *Institute of Physics (IOP)*, UK; *MDPI* journal 'Photonics' (ISSN 2304-6732), Switzerland, and *Springer* journal 'Lasers in Manufacturing and Materials Processing' in technical cooperation with *IFSA Publishing S.L.*, Spain.

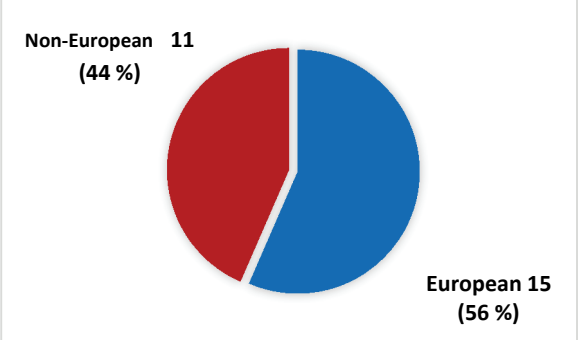


The OPAL conference is focusing any significant breakthrough and innovation in Optics, Photonics and Lasers, and its applications with broadest concept.

The OPAL' 2018 conference has attracted many researchers and practitioners in the related fields, from around the world including 4 keynote speakers from a distinguished researchers of industry and academia from China, Sweden, UK and USA and 12 invited speakers who were invited to overview the progress in selected research trends. We have got more than 140 submissions, and after review, 84 papers have been selected for presentations (65 oral and 19 posters presentations) including keynote and invited presentations, submitted by authors from 26 countries (15 European and 11 non-European countries), covering theory, design, device technology and applications (Table 1).

Table 1. Conference Statistics: Countries/Papers.

Country	Papers
Australia	3
China	12
Croatia	1
Egypt	1
France	8
Germany	8
India	1
Ireland	1
Italy	5
Japan	4
Latvia	1
Lithuania	1
Mexico	3
Poland	2
Russia	6
Saudi Arabia	3
Singapore	1
Spain	5
Sweden	2
Switzerland	1
South Korea	9
Taiwan	3
Turkey	1
UK	6
Ukraine	2
USA	8





To accommodate this range of interests, the 1st OPAL' 2018 Conference was organized in three dedicated poster sessions and oral tracks, including two special sessions on 'Optical Sensors & Instrumentation' and 'Lasers & its Applications'; and five regular sessions on 'Photonics', 'Holography', 'Optical Materials', 'Applied Optics & Optical Devices' and 'Simulation and Optical Computing'.

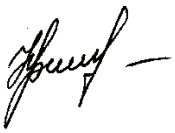


The Organizing Committee has selected 21 papers divided between two journal's volumes: Vol. 225 and Vol. 226 presented on the OPAL' 2018 conference to be extended for journal's publications. Finally, the first 9 articles are in this special journal's issue. We thank all authors for submitting their latest work, thus contributing to the excellent technical contents of the journal.

A limited number of the best articles from this journal issue will be selected for extension into book chapters for publication in our popular open access Book Series '*Advances in Optics: Reviews*' Vol. 4, which will be published in 2019. So, the authors will have a unique opportunity to get three publications in less than one year: conference paper, journal article and book chapter. Through the journal and book open access, the reach and impact of obtained research results can be substantially increased.

The 2nd *International Conference on Optics, Photonics and Lasers (OPAL' 2019)* will take place in Amsterdam (The Netherlands) on 24-26 April 2019, when tulips bloom. The conference web site http://www.opal-conference.com will be up-dated soon. Please visit this site for more details.

I hope you will enjoy this journal issue !



Sergey Y. Yurish
Editor-in-Chief

2nd International Conference on Optics, Photonics and Lasers
OPAL' 2019

2019 OPAL

24-26 April 2019

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

http://www.opal-conference.com

OPAL 2019 will incorporate the following three symposiums covering a broaden range in optics, photonics and lasers, and provide an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and present latest advancements in these areas. The OPAL 2019 will be organized by IFSA.

The conference is focusing any significant breakthrough and innovation in optics, photonics, lasers and its applications

- Optical and Fibre Optical Sensors and Instrumentation
- Micro-Opto-Electro-Mechanical Systems (MOEMS)
- Physical Optics
- Optoelectronic Devices, Photonics, Nanophotonics and Biophotonics
- Organic Optoelectronics and Integrated Photonics
- Optical Communications, Switching and Networks
- High-speed Opto-electronic Networking
- Optical Fiber Technology: Materials, Devices and Systems
- Optical Information Processing
- Holography
- Optical Metrology
- Optical Imaging Systems and Machine Vision
- Optical Computing
- Guided Wave Optics
- Optics in Condensed and Soft Matter
- Quantum Optics
- Lasers and Laser Applications
- Nonlinear Optics
- Nano and Micro Optics
- Matter Waves
- Quantum Information
- Bio and Medical Optics
- Optical Materials, Characterization Methods and Techniques
- Optical Methods for Process Control
- Microscopy and Adaptive Optics
- Lasers in Medicine and Biology
- Engineering Applications of Spectroscopy
- Optical Microscopy of Composites

Special Sessions:

Authors are welcome to organize and manage special sessions during the conference. Each session will contain 4-6 papers in a related field as specified above.

Deadlines:

Submission (2-page abstract):	15 December 2018
Notification of acceptance:	20 January 2019
Registration:	15 February 2019
Camera ready (4-6 pages paper):	30 March 2019

Contribution Types:

Keynote presentations
Invited presentations
Regular papers
Posters

One event - three publications !

1. All registered abstracts will be published in the conference proceedings.
2. Selected extended papers will be published in Sensors & Transducers journal.
3. The best full-page papers will be recommended to extend to book chapters for 'Advances in Optics: Reviews' Book Series.

Chairman:

Prof., Dr. Sergey Y. Yurish (IFSA, Spain)

Advisory Chairmen:

Dr. Qiang Wu (Northumbria University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK)
Prof., Dr. Mahmoud Daoudi (National Center for Nuclear Sciences and Technologies, Tunisia)

Conference Manager:

Mrs. Tetyana Zakharchenko (IFSA Publishing, S.L., Spain)



IFSA