

This volume contains papers based on presentations at the Third National Conference on Radiochemistry and Nuclear Chemistry, which was held in Kazimierz Dolny on May 6–9, 2001. The Conference with the participation of 107 scientists from 25 Polish scientific institutions, was organized by the Department of Radiochemistry, Institute of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology in Warsaw, and the Committee for Nuclear and Radiation Chemistry of the Council for Atomistics.

The Conference programme consisted of five plenary sessions and two poster sessions. The most prospective fields of nuclear chemistry and radiochemistry were presented by the invited lectures: *Synthesis of the superheavy elements* by R. Smolańczuk, *Radiochemistry and nuclear chemistry in Poland. The status and perspectives* by J. Narbutt, *Current development tendencies in radiopharmacy* by J. Liniecki and *Influence of specific properties of isotope nuclei on the magnitude of isotope effect in chemical exchange reactions* by W. Dembiński.

All contributed papers were classified in five topical groups:

- Radioanalytical methods,
- Isotopic effects and application of radionuclides in chemical studies,

- Chemistry of radioelements,
- Radionuclides in nuclear medicine,
- Radionuclides in the environment and nuclear wastes.

Abstracts of the 89 papers presented at the Conference were published as a booklet distributed to among the participants. This issue is a collection of peer reviewed papers contributed by those presenters who elected to do so.

In order to facilitate further contacts and exchange of information among Polish specialists in the field of radiochemistry, it was proposed to create a formal group. Soon after, sixteen conference participants applied to the Polish Chemical Society with a request to organize its new section. In June 2001 the Section of Radiochemistry and Nuclear Chemistry of the Polish Chemical Society was created. Professor Jerzy Narbutt of the Institute of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology has been elected its first President for the tenure 2001–2004.

The Radiochemical Section of the Polish Chemical Society will organize the next conference, which is planned for the spring of 2004.

Aleksander Bilewicz
Chairman of the Organizing Committee