

## Statement for the ICS Council Membership

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I graduated as a chemist and a teacher of chemistry at the University of Debrecen (Hungary) in 2000. I received my PhD degree in 2004 after a French-Hungarian co-tutored scholarship, I worked on the design and synthesis of glycoenzyme inhibitors. In 2005 I joined the Research Group for Carotenoids at the University of Pécs. Since then, my primary research field is the chemical modification of natural carotenoids by conjugation with other bioactive molecules such as sugars or flavonoids. I'm also involved in the structure elucidation studies of natural carotenoids by NMR spectroscopy.

Since I have been working with carotenoids, I was an ICS member and I participated on almost all the ICS Symposia, the only break was during my maternity leave. I also was a participant on the Pigments in Food conferences, in 2010 I was a member of the organizing committee. I was one of the Hungarian substitute members in the Eurocaroten COST programme between 2016 and 2020.

I feel vocation for the chemical synthesis, which has a long tradition with carotenoids. It is a useful tool not only in structure determination but it can provide novel carotenoid derivatives with beneficial biological activity. I also deem that the study of carotenoid profile of natural extracts and isolation of carotenoids from natural sources are of great importance.

As a council member I would like to promote these classical fields of carotenoid chemistry making them more visible on the Symposia. My aim is to organize theme-specific workshops or virtual meetings on these fields, helping the carotenoid chemists to form and strengthen cooperation.