

## TWENTY YEARS OF THE GIFT OF SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION WITH PROF VIKIĆ-TOPIĆ

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In 1979, we both began our careers, I began my life career with my birth, and Prof Vikić-Topić began his scientific career with his employment at the Ruđer Bošković Institute. Our scientific paths crossed 27 years later and since then we have successfully elucidated numerous chemical structures and conformations of newly synthesized or extracted compounds using NMR spectroscopy. The topics of the work were diverse and included, for example, research into the structure of synthesized N-acylhydrazone derivatives of vitamin B6 and pyridine-4-carbaldehyde drugs,<sup>[1]</sup> and the determination of the structure of isonicotinamides obtained by eco-friendly quaternization in deep eutectic solvents.<sup>[2]</sup> In the chemistry field of transition metal complexes, we investigated the structures of coumarin-palladium(II) complexes,<sup>[3]</sup> mono- and dihalopyridinesilver(I) nitrate complexes,<sup>[4,5]</sup> and picolinamide complexes of Ni(II), Zn(II), Cd(II) and Hg(II) nitrates.<sup>[6]</sup> We also achieved good results in researching the chemical composition of sage, rosemary and laurel essential oils,<sup>[7]</sup> as well as pectin from tomato waste.<sup>[8]</sup> Some of the topics mentioned above were also the subject of several diploma theses that I supervised together with Prof Vikić-Topić.

It is a great gift to have a supervisor, manager, and colleague from whom you can learn about chemistry every day during small talks, about geography and environment while travelling to conferences, and about life in general while observing his relationship with family, animals, and the people around him.

Dear Prof Vikić-Topić, your age is a treasure chest of time where you are keeping a rich and well-guarded collection of knowledge and memories. Keep collecting and searching for the new gems of your life!

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