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The 13th Conference on Micropollutants in Human Environment 4–6 December 2017, Czestochowa, Poland

Editorial

This special issue carries selected peer-reviewed manuscripts based on presentations at the Conference on Micropollutants in Human Environment, December 4-6, 2017, Czestochowa, Poland.

The conference papers were focused on:

- sources of organic and inorganic micropollutants in the environment and their content in waters, wastewater, sewage sludges, sediments, soils, and wastes;
- detection of micropollutants and emerging contaminants (pharmaceuticals, personal care products, disinfection by-products) in the environment;
- toxicity of micropollutants and their impact on organisms;
- analysis of micropollutants in environmental samples;
- technologies to aid removal and degradation of microcontaminants.

In the thematic issue "Micropollutants in Human Environment" the selected inorganic and organic micropollutants listed in international and national law legislations are described, including characterization of particular organic micropollutants that are not covered under current legislations but pose serious risks due to their estrogens, carcinogens, mutagens and teratogenic activity. Organic micropollutants include insecticides and pesticides, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and polychlorinated biphenyls PCBs. Heavy metals pose the major health risks from inorganic contaminants. A current topic is the presence in the environment of "emerging" organic contaminants as well as biologically active substances, the so-called endocrine-disrupting compounds, such as pharmaceuticals (steroidal and non-steroidal). It is of increasing importance therefore, that environment protection is based on the application of advanced processes in the wastewater treatment systems to effectively remove organic micropollutants. Additionally, advanced oxidation process adsorption, membrane processes and integrated processes can achieve higher and consistent removal of micropollutants.

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