

Statement considering the article by Tomas Hudlicky in Angewandte Chemie

We strongly condemn the opinions expressed in the article that highly opposes our experience with diversity, inclusion, equality and our view of the respectful treatment of people. They violate the values and the code of conduct of the JungChemikerForum (JCF) and the German Chemical Society (GDCh). Since Angewandte Chemie is owned by GDCh, also JCF would like to express its dearest apologies for this and the harm that it may have caused. It pains us to see that there are still individuals in the chemical society that share these opinions and it is the complete opposite of what we stand for and work towards every day.

In the past years we have had major breakthroughs in gender equal language (see recently updated rules of procedure), promoting equality in a designated commission and establishing guidelines. Moreover, we are proud to say that our federal board is almost gender balanced (3 men, 2 women). We are continuously working towards communication without borders to promote diversity and equal accessibility by translations and endeavor in the implementation of functions for the visually impaired on our website. Moreover, we have built strong international relations that have led to wonderful scientific and personal exchange as well as joint global projects, for example a currently active international survey on sustainability in chemical education.

We have seen greatness come from all these relations, networks, diversity and inclusion and are thankful for every engaged young chemist that helps us fulfil our mission daily. We hope that the public and the chemical society will continue to trust our ongoing work to promote these values that are inexcusably presented as negative influences in the comments of Prof. Hudlický. As young chemists, we see it as our obligation to promote long lasting change in exactly these areas and work towards a diverse, equal, inclusive, mindful and respectful future and eradicate such outdated, ill-informed and vicious views.

The JCF Federal Board