

Poster

Creation of a Young Crystallographers Section at the French Association of Crystallography**E. Duverger-Nédellec¹, M. Dallon², N. Caramello^{3,4}, A. Chretien^{5,6}, N. Casaretto⁷, M. Long^{8,9}, T. Stephant^{2,10}, F. Guiot², J. Forté¹¹.**

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In September 2023, the first Young Crystallographers' Meeting (YCM1), organized by the French Association of Crystallography (AFC) and the German Society for Crystallography (DGK) gathered 63 participants from all over Europe. During this event, young crystallographers from French laboratories and French young crystallographers from foreign laboratories expressed their desire to found a Young Crystallographers' Section within the AFC to address their specific needs. This new AFC Section was officially created in December 2023 with the support of the AFC board.

Within this Section, there is a strong desire to unite young crystallographers' community and identify their peers, to find a safe space to ask questions without feeling judged and a true will to answer questions concerning their future and that of Crystallography as a scientific field.

A safe place for crystallography-related questions is being created via the implementation of a "Café Solutions": a regular online "rendez-vous" to discuss about crystallographic questions or problems encountered by young crystallographers. These meetings aim to identify the needs in terms of lessons and trainings on specific topics, which will then be set up in collaboration with French networks of experts on these topics.

Concerns about future of young crystallographers and Crystallography will be addressed during thematic days and special webinars. Because it is increasingly complex to plan a scientific career, "Work with Us" events are organized to offer an overview of the career possibilities out of academia. Crystallographers from private companies are invited to talk about their career, their company, the job opportunities within it and their works in the company. A thematic day entitled "Liven Crystallography up: Industry, Research and Teaching" was also organized as a satellite of the AFC2024 colloquium, allowing discussions about the future of Crystallography in companies and universities, and about scientists' expectations. With these events we hope to reassure young crystallographers about their future and ensure them a more serene journey in this marvellous discipline that is Crystallography.



Figure 1. Logo of the French Association of Crystallography Young Crystallographers' Section.

The AFC Young Crystallographers' Section would like to thank the AFC board for its incredible support and particularly Claude Sauter, AFC Chair, without whom we would not exist.