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July 7th, 2022

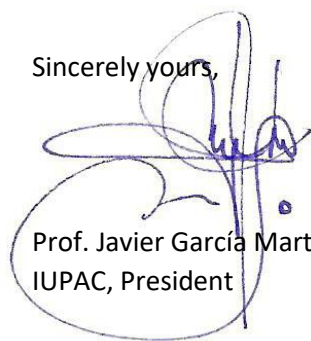
Dear member of the Slovak chemistry community,

It is with great sadness that we learned today that our colleague and dear friend Dušan Berek has passed away. He was not only the founding chair of the Slovak National Committee of IUPAC but also a former member of our active also Polymer Division.

On behalf of the entire IUPAC community, I would like to share our condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and all the members of the Slovak Chemical Society. I would also like to use this opportunity to recognize his many contributions to IUPAC and the global chemistry community. Since 1993, Dušan Berek was the chairman of the Slovak National Committee of Chemistry for IUPAC. From 1998–2003, he was the chair of the IUPAC Working Party on Molecular Characterization of Commercial Polymers. He was also a member of the Commission on Chromatography (1998–2001) and a member of the Macromolecular Division Committee (2001–2003). His work in the field of high-performance liquid chromatography of synthetic polymers, the development of new types of column packings, and unconventional methods for their evaluation are critically important and were recognized with several prestigious awards including the Gold Medal of the Slovak Chemical Society, the Hanus Medal of Czech Chemical Society, the Commemorative Medal of the Polish Chemical Society, and the Gold Plaque of the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

It is never easy to find the words to express our feelings when there are no words that can fully capture the loss we are feeling. Let's remember Dušan Berek for his many technical and scientific contributions and for his service to both the Slovak Chemistry Society and IUPAC. He was an example for all of us and an inspiration for the new generation of young chemists.

Sincerely yours,



Prof. Javier García Martínez
IUPAC, President