

Prof. Gianluca Maria Farinola

*Full Professor of Organic Chemistry
Rector Delegate for Research and Innovation
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President of SCI - Italian Chemical Society

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Academic career

Gianluca M. Farinola got his PhD in Chemical Sciences in 1997. He was appointed Assistant Professor from 1996, Associate Professor from 2003 and from 2015 he is Full Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of Bari Aldo Moro. From 2019 he is Delegate of the Rector for Research and Innovation

He has been visiting researcher at the University of Muenster, Germany (2009), invited visiting professor at the University of Strasbourg, France (Institut de Science et d'Ingénierie Supramoléculaire – ISIS) (2013 and 2014) and at the University of Angers and CNRS, France (2015) and visiting scholar at the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Tufts University, US (2017 and 2018), where he was appointed as Adjunct Professor in 2019.

Roles in Scientific Societies and other appointments

- He is the President of Società Chimica Italiana, SCI (2023-2025). He was previously Vice-President of SCI (2020-2022), President of the Organic Chemistry Division (2017-2019), and President of the Division of Organic Chemistry of EuChemS (2018-2021). He is member of the Chemistry Europe Council since 2022.
- Since 2019, he is member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Chemistry and Materials Science Department of CNR.
- From 2016 to 2018 he has been Consultant of Commissione Parlamentare Bicamerale Camera dei Deputati / Senato della Repubblica Italiana di Inchiesta sulle Attività Illecite Connesse al Ciclo dei Rifiuti e su Illeciti Ambientali ad esse Correlati.
- He is co-founder of a spin-off company SYNCHIMIA s.r.l. of the University of Bari started in 2008.

Scientific Achievements

Research of Gianluca Farinola focuses on new synthetic methods to produce smart organic materials for emerging technologies ranging from organic photonics and electronics to biomedicine. Not only high performances, but also sustainability are the driving guidelines of the methods developed.

In the search of improved sustainable protocols, in last ten years his research has opened intriguing directions by exploiting photosynthetic microorganisms (e.g. algae and bacteria) and biological polymers (e.g. melanin, fibroin, lignin, biosilica) as sources of smart materials for future optoelectronics and biomedicine.

He is author of about 210 publications and 110 invited lectures in national and international conferences and schools, in Universities and Research Institutes (Scopus H-index 41, more than 6500 citations).

He is recipient of the Ciamician Medal of the Italian Chemical Society (2003) and of the "Innovation in Organic Synthesis Award" of the Interuniversity Consortium CINMPIS (2008). He has been appointed Chemistry Europe Fellow in 2019.

He has supervised more than 120 undergraduate, PhD and post-doctoral students researchers. Mentees have gone on to multiple positions including faculty appointments at University of Pisa, Angers, Tufts, CNR, many important chemical and pharmaceutical companies, public service as chemists.