Analytical and Applied Chemistry: the challenges and opportunities for growth in the 21st century

For this first Special Issue/topical collection, we decided to use the title "Analytical and Applied Chemistry: Challenges and Opportunities for Growth in the 21st Century", as never before has analytical chemistry, especially applied analytical chemistry, seen such a growing pre-eminence in all fields. Nowadays, the analytical approach is fundamental from production to quality control, from food to anti-adulteration analyses, from doping to forensic analyses, from environmental analyses to those in the clinical/biological field.

In this Special Issue, we want to collect reviews and research papers that report on the state of the art of the various "sections" in which the journal is organized, while trying to offer ideas and opportunities for reflection on the possible challenges that will soon await those who work in the analytical and applied analytical chemistry field. In particular, we also want to highlight and try to provide possible elements for discussion and ideas for research/collaboration for the huge opportunities that will open up in the near future and the growth prospects of the international analytical community.

The goal is to put in contact and create a "core" of experts who can act as a reference with their ideas and opinions in order to avoid the "dispersion" of forces and bring analytical chemistry and applied analytical chemistry at the center of the international scientific scene. Our additional goal is to increase the role of the analytical field as a reference against all that competes with qualitative—quantitative analysis in a complex matrix through various instrumental techniques, trying to increase the opportunities for intervention and growth in this branch of chemistry.