PREFACE

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Preface

Dear Readers!

I am glad to welcome you to the pages of the new scientific journal *Electrochemical Materials and Technologies*!

The development of mankind, growth in living standards, and the emergence of new technologies are inextricably linked with science and new scientific challenges. Global climate change and the depletion of non-renewable energy sources pose complex challenges to humanity: searching for new and efficient methods of energy conversion, reducing the negative impact of existing technologies on the environment, and formulating innovative proposals to achieve an eco-balance. In this regard, the whole world (including Russia) has taken a fresh look at existing energy problems and has launched comprehensive development programs, including hydrogen energy and carbon reduction programs.

Electrochemical technologies are one of the most appealing approaches to solving these tasks. Ural Federal University (UrFU) is one of Russia's leading universities and is actively involved in the research and development of new approaches to converting electricity without harmful emissions. Thus, within the framework of the program of strategic academic leadership "Priority 2030", UrFU is implementing several ambitious strategic projects aimed at the development of hydrogen energy. The Hydrogen Energy Research Institute, which was created on the basis of UrFU's Institute of Chemical Engineering, is a platform for the implementation of the strategic UrFU project "Materials and Technologies for Hydrogen and Nuclear Energy". Thanks to the existing scientific groundwork and modern equipment, an enterprising young team, and support from the Russian Ministry of Education and Science and our industrial partners, the Hydrogen Energy Research Institute conducts research and develops technologies for hydrogen energy carriers that will be in demand in the near future.

Along with the achievement of substantial scientific results, one of the most important aspects of research is scientific communication and the opportunity for scientists to publish their results in full open-access journals, i.e., journals which are absolutely free for authors and readers.

In this regard, Electrochemical Materials and Technologies was created with the financial, technical, and intellectual support of UrFU and IHTE UB RAS. The new journal specializes in topical issues and tasks related to the theoretical and practical aspects of electrochemical technology, including hydrogen energy.

The appearance of such a thematic journal will contribute to the further development of applied electrochemistry. I believe that *Electrochemical Materials and Technologies* will be in demand and will be recognized among scientists in Russia and around the world.

The past year, 2021, was the "Year of Science and Technology", and its results showed that Russian science has powerful potential: it can set ambitious goals and successfully achieve them. So, it is only logical that the coming decade, announced by the president of the Russian Federation as the "Decade of Science and Technology", will be filled with new scientific challenges and tasks. I would like to wish the authors and readers of this journal personal and scientific growth, as well as breakthrough results that will be published in *Electrochemical Materials and Technologies*!

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