

From the Guest Editors

The sustainable development of a society requires a new approach towards consideration and resolution of energy problems. The change of the approach is particularly imposed by obvious climate changes which are caused by uncontrolled use of fossil fuels for energy purposes. The sustainable economic development implies also secure supply of energy which will be carried out by diversifying energy supply sources and by the growth of renewable energy sources but with inevitable increase of the efficiency of all energy transformations. All above stated shows the need to develop new energy technologies which imply ultimate care for the environment.

In the forthcoming time in which Serbia's accession to EU is expected, it is a good opportunity to take into considerations the necessity of changes in the energy sector, particularly in the area of clean energy technologies. The potential available to Serbia is limited but substantial. So far, the existing potential has not been utilized because of the lack of proper organization and systemic approach to solving energy problems. Additionally, not much has been invested in the development of new energy technologies and their introduction in practical use.

The setbacks of misleading several decades long national energy prosperity which are realistically unfounded and materialized in cheap provision of energy balance from households to the economy as a whole have caused inertness and threaten to block not only the technological development of the society but also to cause complete energy exhaustion because of unrealistically low price of electricity and passive attitude towards raising energy efficiency. Launching of the Renewable Energy Forum in 2007 as an integrator of interests of political responsibility proponents, scientific knowledge, and technological-investment capital was the most outfitted form for presenting global and European trends potentially relied on resources and possibilities of the domestic vision of development. The support of the Institute for European Affairs INEA from Dusseldorf, Germany, has been crucial and irreplaceable in reviving the Forum based on the optimistic and enthusiastic platform of the most prominent zealous workers pursuing energy perspectives of the Province Vojvodina and Serbia, who presided this international event in the period of five years, in order to contribute in joining knowledge, capabilities and decisiveness in introducing the process of change.

Today, in the sixth Forum cycle, there are new encouragements and challenges primarily founded on already recognizable successful physiognomies of national and European achievements of those who are ahead of us. And for us, there is nothing more stimulating than a chance to show our own creativity in formatting domestic ambient which, as our old people used to say, should as soon as possible finally "look like the same as all other normal people". Just for the sake of this normality in the near future, the Forum must continue to exist not only as a stimulator and innovator but also as a social voice purporting the necessity of fellowship and progress in the process in which nobody can succeed alone and isolated from the others. Therefore, let this Forum's imperative become our permanent contribution to the fulfillment of at least a small proportion of the existing national energy yearn. If this happens, our efforts and several years' long commitments will become meaningful and ensure the desired effect – the tomorrow's happier, richer, and better life for all of us together.

After five forums held so far, we have tried and hopefully succeeded in presenting some of the Forum's papers from this period in our renowned journal *Thermal Science*. In this

way, the wide public will get the opportunity to learn something about the volume and extents of our work. In addition, this issue of the journal should also motivate young people to cherish scientific thought and to find professional interest in the area of clean energy technologies.

In this issue of the journal *Thermal Science*, there are 22 papers for which it is not possible to say that thematically all of them fully correspond to the topics covered by the journal. However, interdisciplinarity is increasingly present in all scientific and technical fields. This is particularly emphasized in the area of clean energy technologies and therefore this has affected a somewhat more liberal thematic choice of articles.

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