



Michael Grätzel

Professor at the Ecole Polytechnique de Lausanne Professor Michael Grätzel directs there the Laboratory of Photonics and Interfaces. He pioneered studies of mesoscopic materials and their use in energy conversion systems, in particular photovoltaic cells and photo-electrochemical devices for solar generation of chemical fuels as well as lithium ions batteries. He discovered a new type of solar cell based on sensitized nanocrystalline oxide films. His most recent awards include the Leigh-Ann Conn Prize in Renewable Energy, the Leonardo Da Vinci Medal of the European Academy of Science, the Marcel Benoist Prize, the Albert Einstein World Award of Science, the Paul Karrer Gold Medal, the Balzan Prize, the 2010 Millennium Technology Grand Prize and the Harvey Prize. He received a doctoral degree in Natural Science from the Technical University Berlin and was awarded honorary doctor's degrees from 10 European and Asian Universities. He is a member of the German Academy of Science, the Swiss Chemical Society and a Fellow of the European Academy of Science and the Max Planck Society as well as a honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK), the Bulgarian Academy of Science and the Société Vaudoise de Sciences Naturelles. Author of some 1200 publications and inventor of over 50 patents he is with 128'000 citations and an h-index of 166 one of the 3 most highly cited chemists in the world.