

A brief professional profile of Prof. Béla Török



Béla Török is a professor of Chemistry and the Director of the Center of Green Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts Boston. He received his PhD from the University of Szeged, Hungary in Organic Chemistry/Heterogeneous Catalysis. He completed several years of postdoctoral training with the late 1994 Nobel Laureate George A. Olah at the University of Southern California working on environmentally benign alkylate gasoline production and other catalytic processes. During 2011–12 he was a visiting professor at the Massachusetts

Institute of Technology working with the 2005 Nobel Laureate Richard R. Schrock on new alkene metathesis catalysts. His current main research focus is on the design of new green chemistry processes for the synthesis of fine chemicals and pharmaceuticals. The major tools applied in his research are heterogeneous catalysis (both metal and solid acid), the application of solvent- and catalyst-free organic synthesis and non-traditional activation methods such as microwave- and ultrasonic irradiation and high hydrostatic pressure.

He has published over 210 papers, wrote/edited five books most notably the *Green Chemistry: An Inclusive Approach* by Elsevier in 2017. His most recent books on the application of non-traditional activation methods in green chemistry and another on heterogeneous catalysis for sustainable synthesis have been both published in 2021 also by Elsevier. He has been a regional (North America) editor for *Letters in Org. Chem.* for several years and editorial board member in five other journals. Most notably he is the founding and current co-editor-in-chief for Elsevier's *Advances in Green and Sustainable Chemistry* series that had a successful launch in 2019 with over 25 books published. Currently, he is the Editor-in-Chief of Elsevier's large reference work *Encyclopedia of Green Chemistry*, which is nearing completion and publication in February 2025.

