



Poly-Char 2026
(Smart, Sustainable & Data-Driven Polymeric Materials:
From Molecular Design to Circular Applications)
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Keynote Speakers

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Simone Simon Napolitano was born in Cosenza, Italy, in 1981 and is currently Professor of Experimental Soft Matter Physics at the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium. He earned his Master's degree in Materials Science from the University of Pisa in 2005 and completed his PhD in Polymer Physics at KU Leuven in 2007. After early postdoctoral training, he joined ULB in 2011 as a faculty member,

where he established the Laboratory of Polymer and Soft Matter Dynamics and later co-founded the Laboratory of Experimental Soft Matter and Thermal Physics. His research group studies molecular mobility in polymers and small organic molecules with the aim of clarifying how microscopic motion across different length and time scales gives rise to macroscopic relaxation and nonequilibrium phenomena, providing direct experimental tests for theories of the glass transition and the liquid state. Beyond these fundamental questions, the group also explores how purely physical routes, such as processing history and confinement, can be exploited to enhance material performance without modifying chemical composition.

More information: <https://dynamics.ulb.be/>

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