



AQUALity



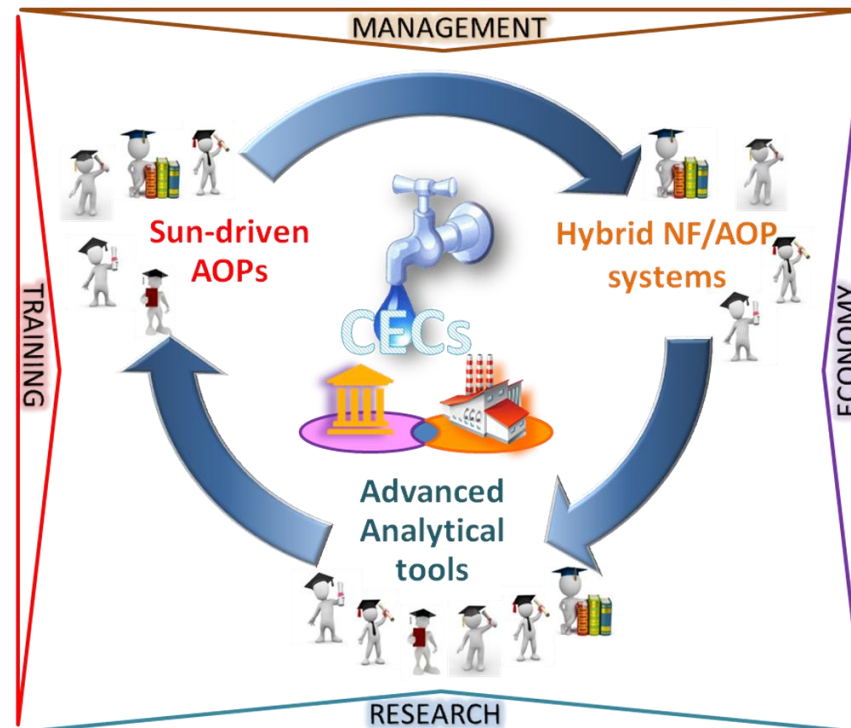
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Website [www.aquality-etn.eu](http://www.aquality-etn.eu)

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## Interdisciplinary Cross-sectoral Approach to Effectively Address the Removal of Contaminants of Emerging Concern from Water (AQUALity)

October 2017-  
September 2021



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## Who we are

7 EU Countries  
involved

7 Universities

3 Research  
Institutes

8 Companies

## The consortium



# Our ESRs



## THE PROJECT

Aims to develop innovative purification technologies expected to be more effective than conventional adsorption and biological treatments for the removal of **Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs)**

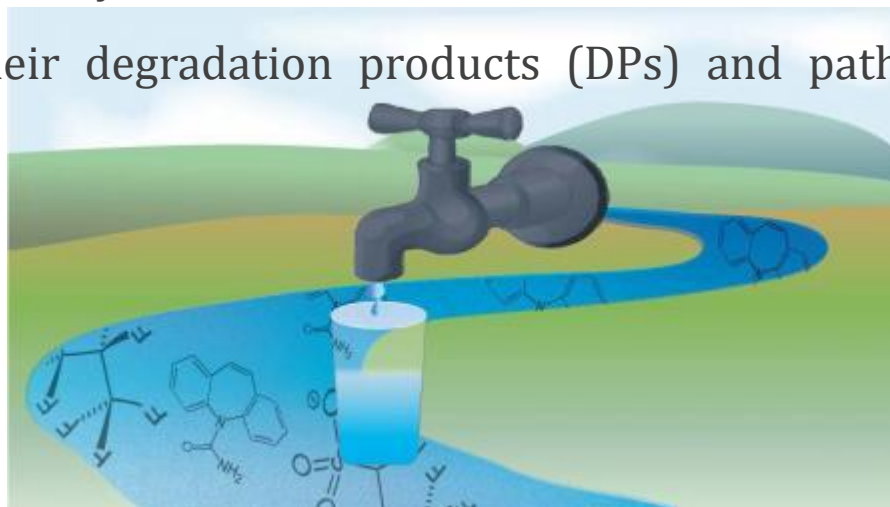
## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND APPROACH

AQUALity approach lie on the complementary expertise of the Consortium members and will benefit of the synergy between academics and non-academics and of the implementation of ESRs individual projects in three main lines:

1. Analysis of CECs and their transformation products
2. Development of new photochemical materials/processes
3. Hybrid nanofiltration / advanced oxidation (NF/AOP) systems

## 1. High resolution analytical methods for the determination of CECs in aqueous systems and investigation of their environmental fate

- To develop sensitive analytical methods based on green analytical chemistry approaches and high-resolution analytical tools for the determination of CECs and their transformation products down to trace levels in wastewaters and water for human consumption;
- To elucidate the significance of photochemical reactions and their contribution to the abiotic transformation of CECs in water systems;
- To assess the toxicity of CECs, their degradation products (DPs) and pathogens with sensitive bioassays;
- To improve NORMAN database.





## 2. Enhanced photochemical methods for the removal of CECs and pathogens in water and wastewater

- To develop novel photochemical materials/processes involving iron or organic photosensitizers;
- To investigate the possibility of introducing (photo)-reductive processes AQUALity as a first step to deal with pollutants recalcitrant to oxidative processes;
- To determine the role of dissolved organic matter obtained from different sources on photochemical treatment process and on the self- cleaning of aqueous effluents;
- To gain further insight into the mechanistic issues of the studied photochemical processes;
- To optimize the operational variables of the studied processes and, eventually, scale up to pilot plant.



### 3. Removal of CECs by hybrid membranes/AOP systems

- To develop innovative ceramic NF membranes showing high rejection for emerging water pollutants, high water permeability, high resistance to fouling and high stability for cleaning and disinfection treatments;
- To develop hybrid NF/solar photo- Fenton system, also combined with ozonation/hydrogen peroxide and electro-Fenton;
- To develop hybrid photocatalytic NF membranes to achieve CECs abatement and fouling resistance under solar light;
- To apply the new systems to real cases.

