



Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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Preface

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PREFACE

The 10th International Topical Meeting on Optics of Liquid Crystals (OLC'03) was held in Aussois, France from 13 to 19 September 2003. Before the conference started, a tutorial on photonic materials and their possible connection to liquid crystals gathered many young people and seniors researchers. On the whole, 110 scientists from 20 different countries, including north and South America, Asia, central Europe and Europe, attended the meeting. The organizing committee received more than 135 abstracts. Amongst them, we selected 16 invited talks and 36 orals and 83 posters. This special issue of *Molecular Crystal & Liquid Crystal* contains only some of the communications presented. The success of such a conference is partly due to its dimension – a very friendly atmosphere, many discussions and, we hope, opportunity for scientists to start new collaborations. The scientific level of the conference was quite high and this is not easy to claim, however, there is an unmistakable sign: despite the very nice weather (one full week of sunny days) the conference room was always crammed full! Finally, we would like to thank those who have helped us in organizing the meeting: some crucial problems that arose during the preparation were solved thanks to their efforts. I would like to also thank Taylor & Francis Publishers for financial support, as well as Jobin-Yvon Horiba (thin film division). With their help, it has been possible to allow some young researchers to attend the meeting at reduced rates.

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Conference chair

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