



Dear Colleagues,

It is a pleasure to announce the winner of the 2017 Coatings Young Investigator Award. Among more than 70 high quality candidates, the YIA committee has selected Mikhail Kats, an Assistant Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Wisconsin (USA), for his outstanding achievements in the engineering of light–matter interaction and, particularly, in the development of optical coatings, metasurfaces, and unconventional optical materials.

The committee has also decided to recognize Dr. Ruitao Wen, Postdoctoral Associate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with a special mention due to his excellent achievements in the research of novel thin film materials for the application in electrochromic devices.

Together with the Coatings editorial team, I would like to congratulate Mikhail Kats and thank the award committee for their excellent work in the hard task of selecting a winner from such a large number of excellent candidate profiles.

Dr. Alessandro Lavacchi Editor-in-Chief

## 2017 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR

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