# Curiosity-driven fundamental science, innovation and transfer. Examples from metal ion based chemistry.

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The cultural mission of fundamental science is that it contributes significantly to the creation of knowledge. The progress of knowledge and innovation are of importance for the competition in and between communities: “Every aspect of the world today – even politics and international relations – is affected by chemistry” (Linus Pauling, 1984). Due to the essential social role of knowledge and innovation, science communication and knowledge transfer are of increasing importance. We will discuss curiosity-driven discoveries of fundamental interest for the community of metal ion chemists and reveal, where knowledge transfer has led to innovation of potential interest for society.