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# **Towards Toughened Composites: Present and Future Challenge**

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## **Message from the Guest Editors**

Composite materials are characterized by high specific mechanical properties, while their out-of-plane properties have been always a major challenge that limits utilizing the full potential that such material systems can offer. Several design parameters should be addressed in order to enable the spread of the technology even further into industrial applications. One of the key properties, required in the aforementioned applications, is the toughness of composites materials.

Thus, the aim of the proposed Special Issue is to shed more light on the different but essential toughening mechanisms and techniques of composites. This can be achieved via various approaches including but not limited to: matrix toughening, introduction of nanoparticles or nanotubes, use of thermoplastic veils, and all possible ways of 3D reinforcement such as stitching, tufting, z-pinning, and 3D weaving. The experimental and computational characterization of such relevant toughening mechanisms and their associated failure modes; the proposal of new cost-effective, reliable manufacturing techniques; and nondestructive evaluation of the damage are all key subjects that this Special Issue aims to cover.













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## **Editor-in-Chief**

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