



An ERC Starting Grant H2020 in the COBRA laboratory, Rouen

September 6th 2017, Tatiana Besset, a junior researcher (with tenure) at the [laboratory COBRA-CNRS](#) (UMR 6014, INSA Rouen, [Rouen University](#)), was awarded with a ERC Starting Grant for her proposal FarCatCH entitled “Innovative Strategies for Unprecedented Remote C-H bond Functionalization by Catalysis”. Funding by the ERC Starting Grant Program are dedicated to young and talented researchers (between two and seven years after completion of the PhD thesis) offering them the possibility to develop innovative research on ambitious and exploratory topics (high risk, high gain) and to independently work at an early stage of their career in Europe. This funding, up to € 1.5 million over five years, awarded promising young researchers, who already demonstrated potential to be a research leader (<https://erc.europa.eu/funding/starting-grants>). To illustrate that, in 2017, [406 early-career researchers](#) over 3085 applicants throughout Europe were awarded including 53 French researchers all fields taken together. This is the first ERC Starting Grant in Rouen.

Tatiana Besset was educated in chemistry at the University of Grenoble (France) in the group of Dr. Andrew E. Greene, where she obtained her doctoral degree in 2009. She then moved to the Westfälische Wilhelms Universität Münster (Germany) as a postdoctoral fellow in the group of Prof. Frank Glorius (Rh C-H bond activation). In 2011, she joined the group of Prof. Joost N. H. Reek at the University of Amsterdam (the Netherlands), as a postdoctoral fellow in collaboration with the Eastman company where she was working on supramolecular encapsulated rhodium catalysts for branched selective hydroformylation of alkenes. Since October 2012, she is working as a CNRS Researcher (Chargée de Recherche CNRS) in the “Fluorinated Biomolecules Synthesis” group of Prof. Pannecoucke (UMR 6014, Rouen University and INSA Rouen, France). Her research focuses on the transition metal-catalyzed C–H bond activation and the development of new strategies for the synthesis of fluorinated building blocks.

The “FarCatCH” ERC proposal focuses on the selective functionalization of C-H bonds at unconventional positions, inaccessible so far, by catalysis. In that purpose, a full set of tools as a *Swiss army knife* will be designed and will considerably change the way organic molecules are made. These original technologies will offer new synthetic routes to access original sulfur- and fluorine-containing molecules, compounds of interest in drugs discovery, pharmaceutical and agrochemical industry for instance.

[Group Website](#)



Chimie organique,
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