

Ala Bunescu



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Ala received an MSc degree in Chemistry at the INSA of Rouen in 2010. She continued her doctoral studies with Prof. Jieping Zhu at the EPFL, Switzerland, investigating novel copper-catalyzed difunctionalization of double bonds. In 2015, she joined the Hartwig group at UC Berkeley as a postdoctoral researcher working on C-H activation. In 2018 she moved to University of Cambridge as Herchel Smith Postdoctoral Fellow, where she worked on photocatalytic transformations. Ala started her independent career in 2021 as a Junior Professor at the Kekulé Institute for Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Bonn. She specializes in transition metal catalysis and photocatalysis, developing new strategies to access value-added organic molecules from readily-available starting material with minimal economic and ecological impacts.