

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Europium complexes: choice of efficient synthetic routes from RM1 thermodynamic quantities as figures of merit

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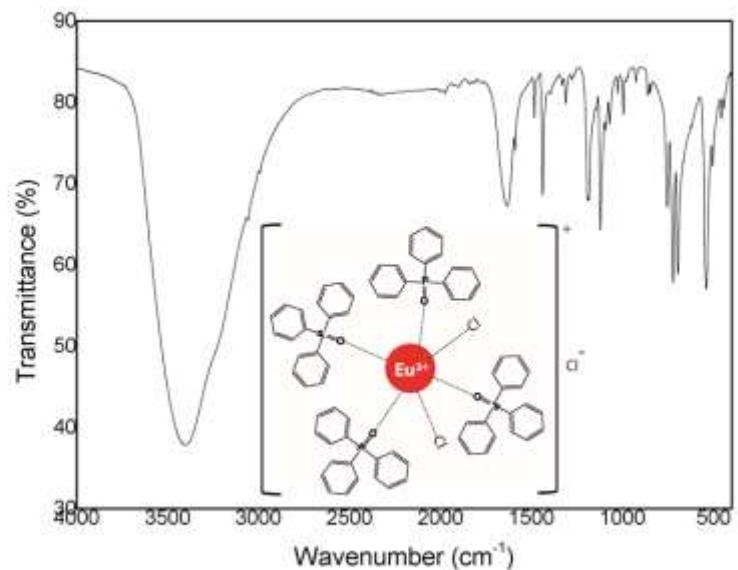
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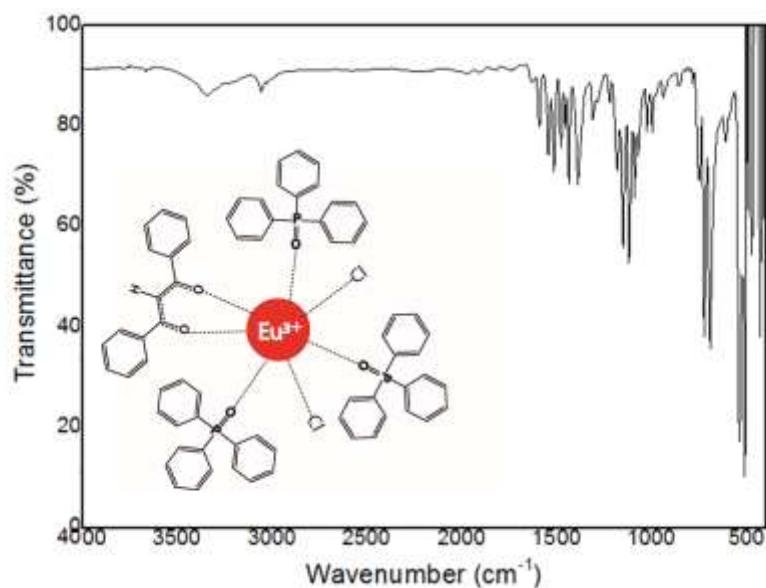
## Characterization

### Infrared Spectra



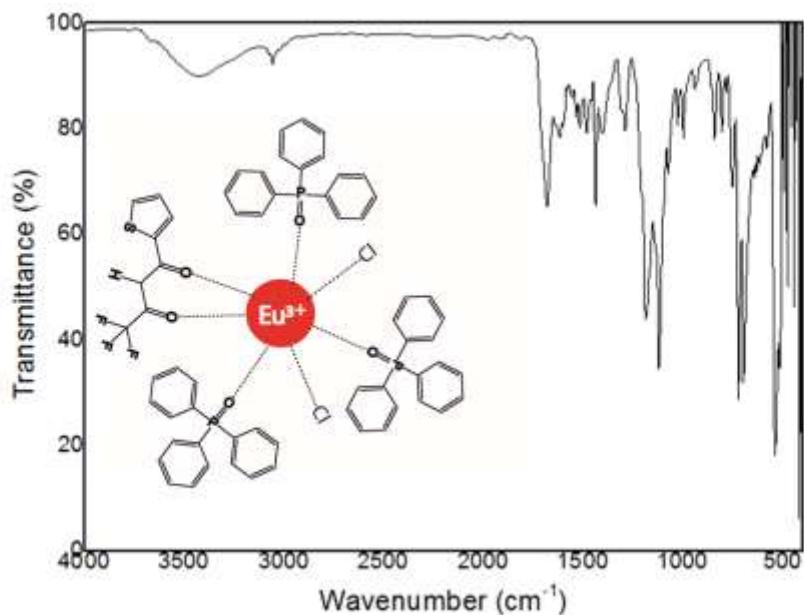
$[\text{EuCl}_3(\text{TPPO})_4] \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (KBr disk):  $\nu_{\text{O}-\text{H}}$  3461  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$  3090  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  - 3015  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu_{\text{P}=\text{O}}$  1087  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**Figure S1.** Infrared spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TPPO})_4]\text{Cl} \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .



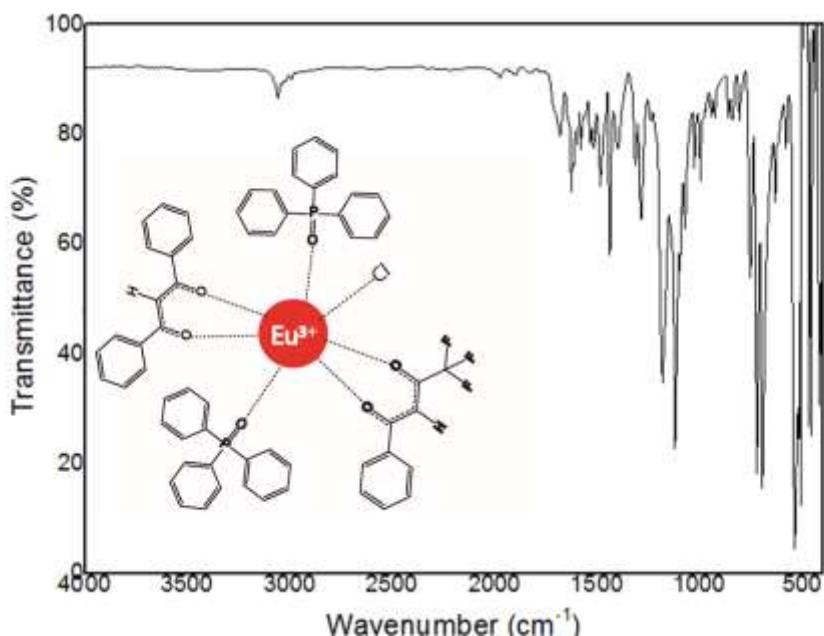
$[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{DBM})(\text{TPPO})_3]$  (KBr disk):  $\nu_{\text{C}-\text{H}}$  3062  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu_{\text{C}=\text{O}}$  1594  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu_{\text{P}=\text{O}}$  1148-1128  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**Figure S2.** Infrared spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{DBM})(\text{TPPO})_3]$ .



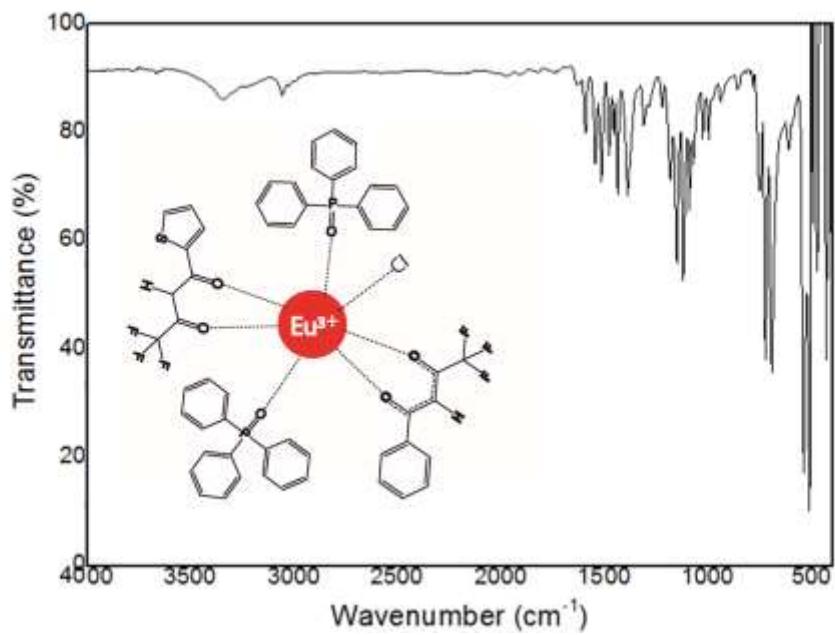
$[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_3]$  (KBr disk):  $\nu=\text{C}-\text{H}$   $3056 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{C}=\text{O}$   $1688 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{P}=\text{O}$   $1179$ - $1115 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{C}-\text{F}$   $1287 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu\text{S}=\text{C}$   $1065 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

**Figure S3.** Infrared spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_3]$ .



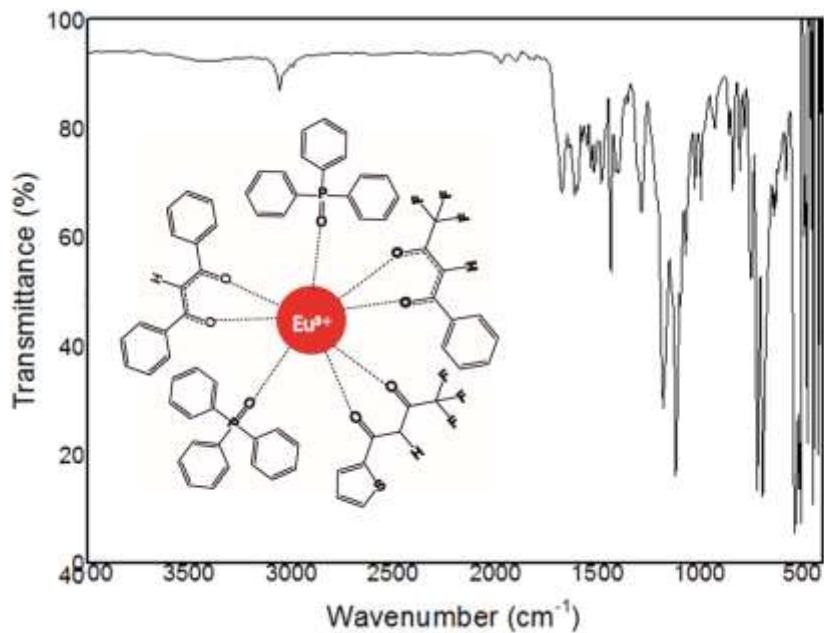
$[\text{EuCl}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  (KBr disk):  $\nu=\text{C}-\text{H}$   $3056 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{C}=\text{O}$   $1681 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{P}=\text{O}$   $1179$ - $1116 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu\text{C}-\text{F}$   $1287 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

**Figure S4.** Infrared spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$ .



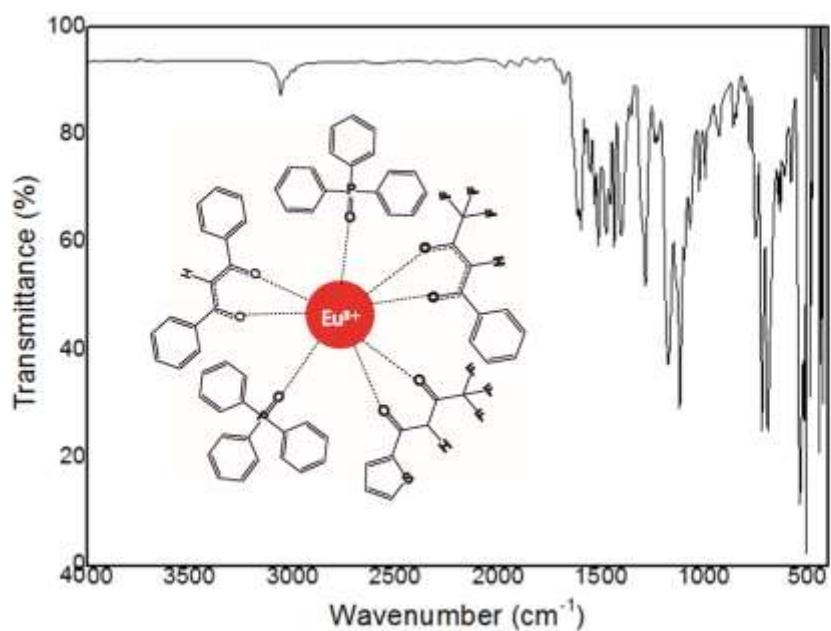
$[\text{EuCl}(\text{TTA})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  (KBr disk):  $\nu=\text{C}-\text{H}$   $3062 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{C}=\text{O}$   $1599 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{P}=\text{O}$   $1154\text{-}1116 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{C}-\text{F}$   $1185 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu\text{S}=\text{C}$   $1084 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

**Figure S5.** Infrared spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}(\text{TTA})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$ .



$[\text{Eu}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  (KBr disk):  $\nu=\text{C}-\text{H}$   $3056 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{C}=\text{O}$   $1681 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{P}=\text{O}$   $1179\text{-}1116 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu\text{C}-\text{F}$   $1294 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $\nu\text{S}=\text{C}$   $1065 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

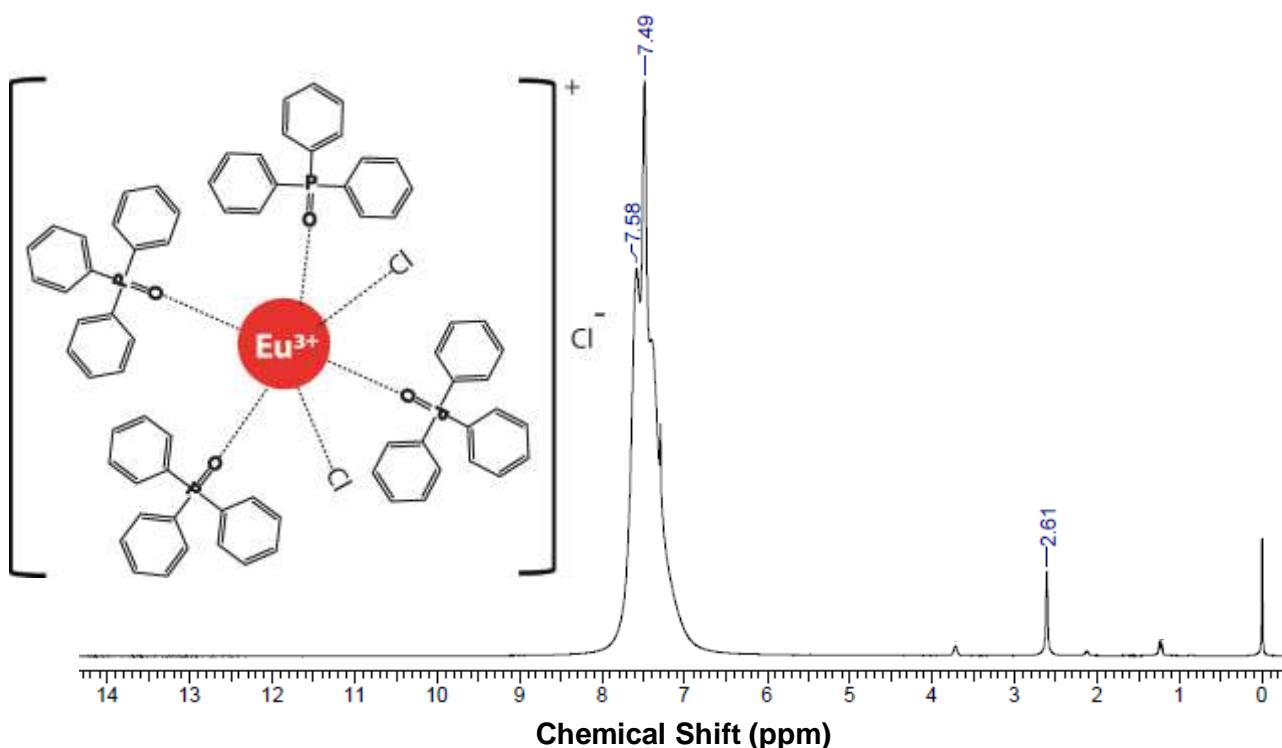
**Figure S6.** Infrared spectrum of  $[\text{Eu}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  obtained via synthetic route 1.



$[\text{Eu}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  (KBr disk):  $\nu=\text{C}-\text{H}$  3056  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu\text{C}=\text{O}$  1612-1593  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu\text{P}=\text{O}$  1166-1122  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu\text{C}-\text{F}$  1281  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu\text{S}=\text{C}$  1071  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

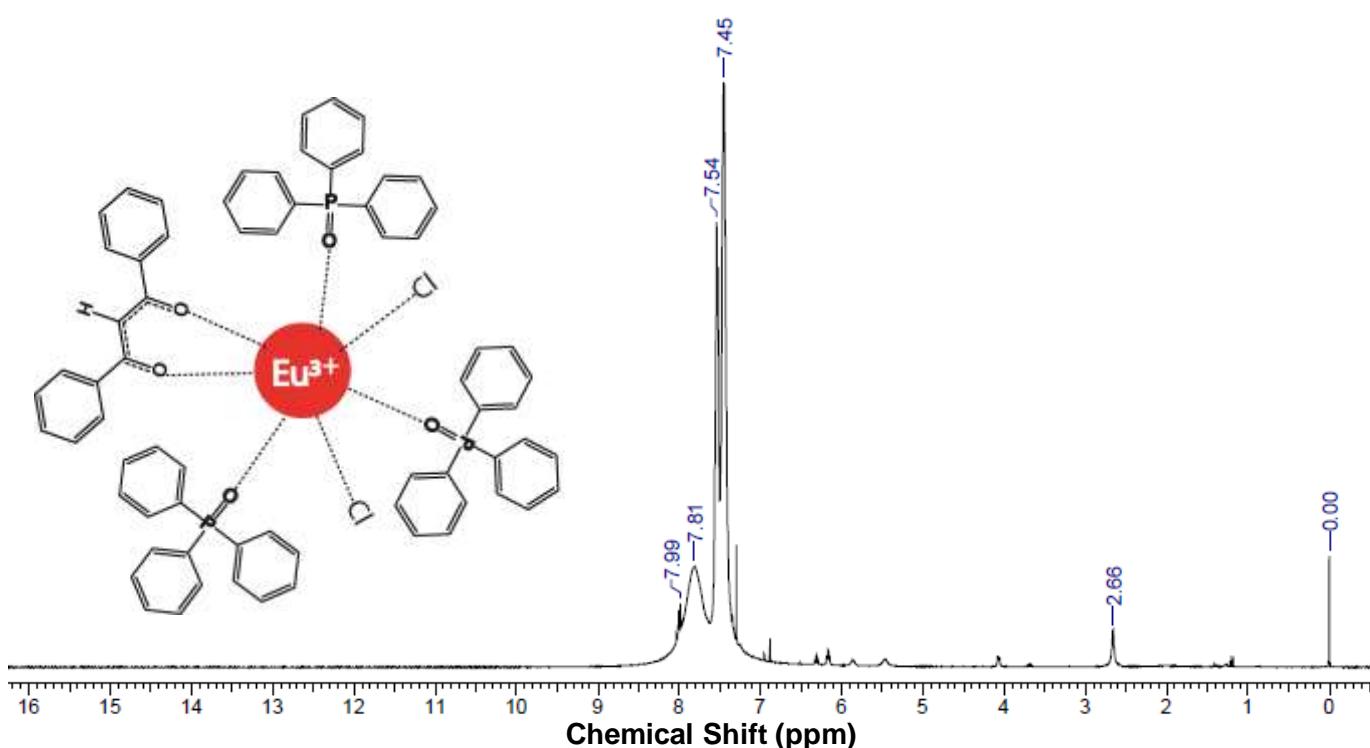
**Figure S7.** Infrared spectrum of  $[\text{Eu}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  obtained via synthetic route 6.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectra



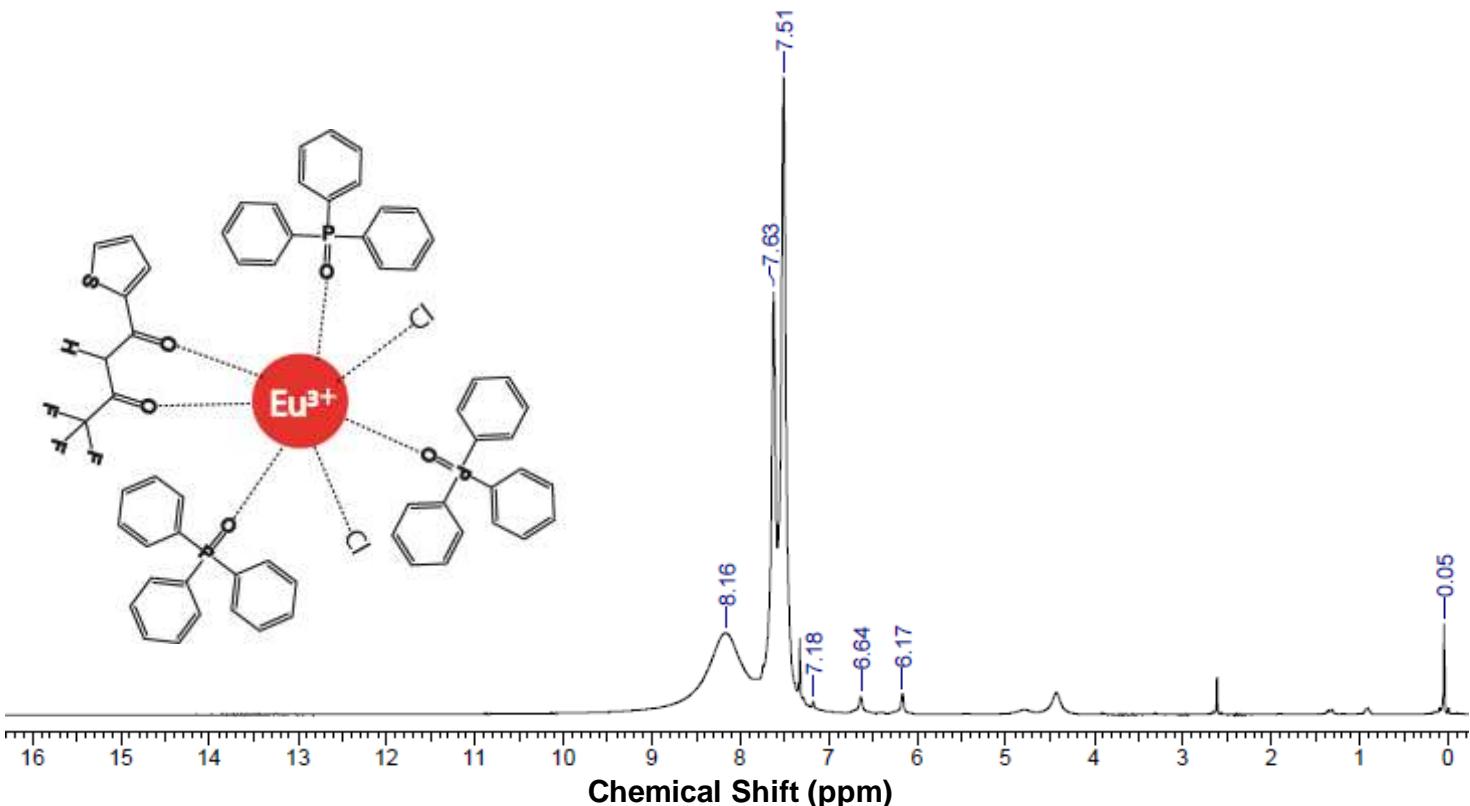
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.60–7.31 ppm (m, Ar), and 2.61 ppm (s, OH).

Figure S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TPPO})_4]\text{Cl} \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .



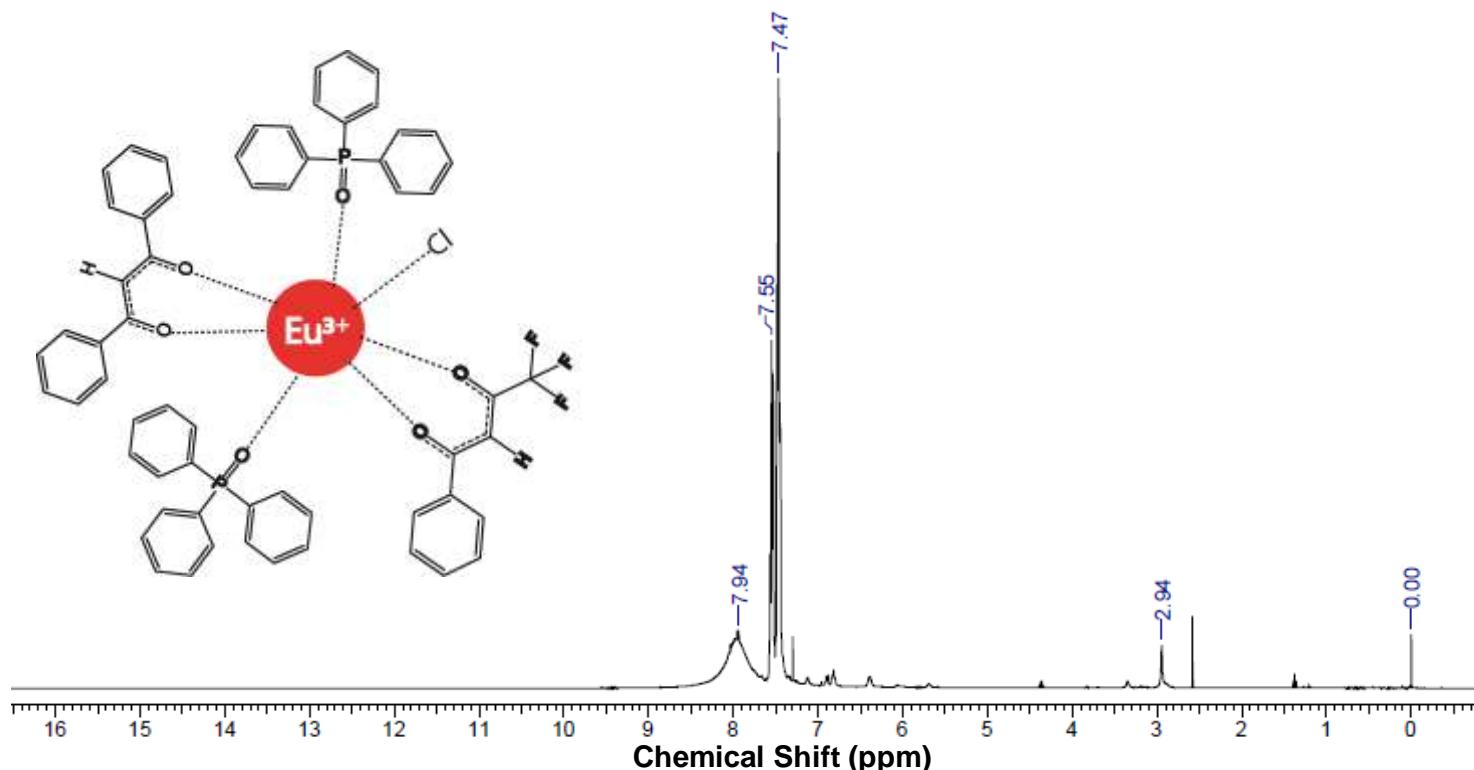
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.81 ppm (s, CH), and  $\delta$  7.56–7.36 ppm (m, Ar).

Figure S9. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{DBM})(\text{TPPO})_3]$ .



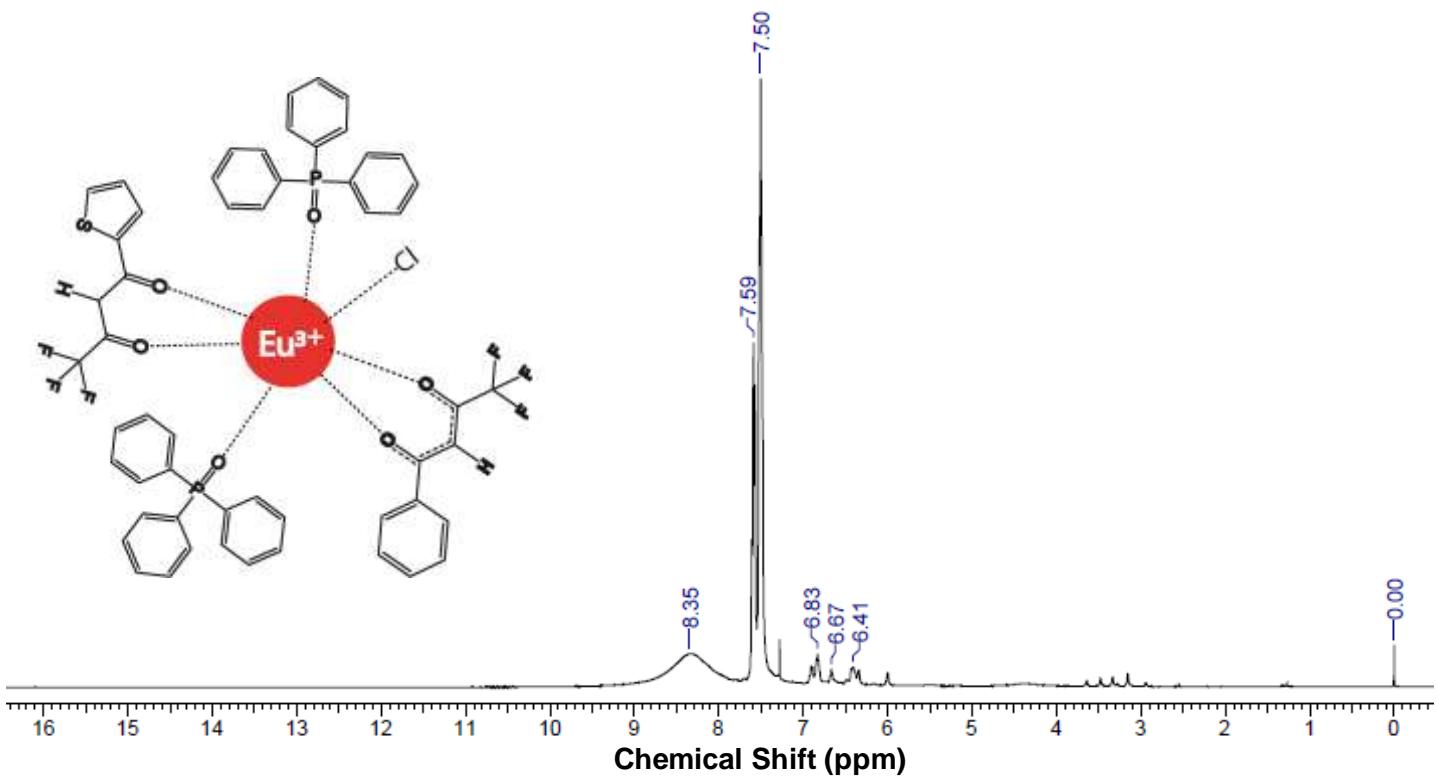
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.16 ppm (s, CH),  $\delta$  7.65–6.14 ppm (m, Ar), and  $\delta$  7.21–6.14 ppm (m, Th).

Figure S10.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_3]$ .



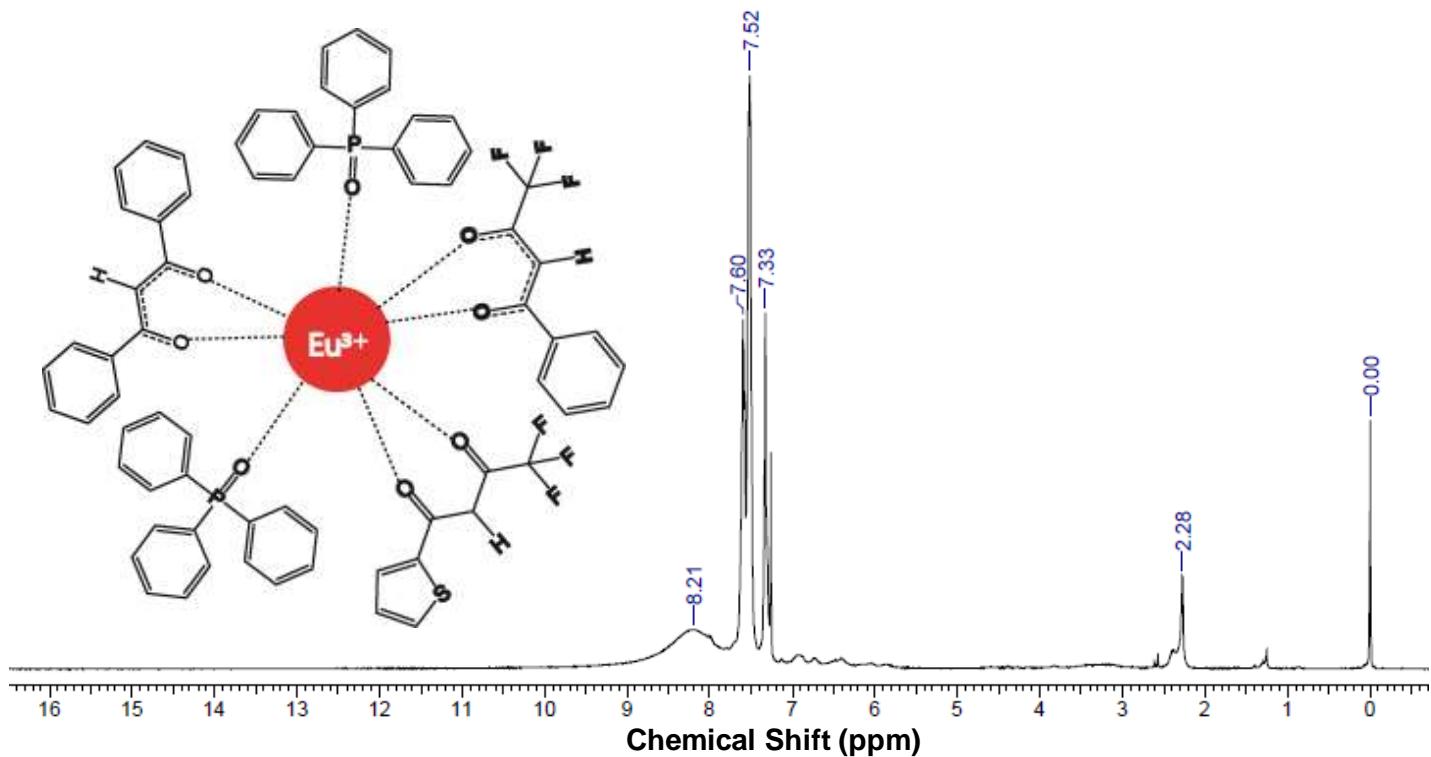
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.94 ppm (s, CH) and  $\delta$  7.57–7.44 ppm (m, Ar).

Figure S11.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$ .



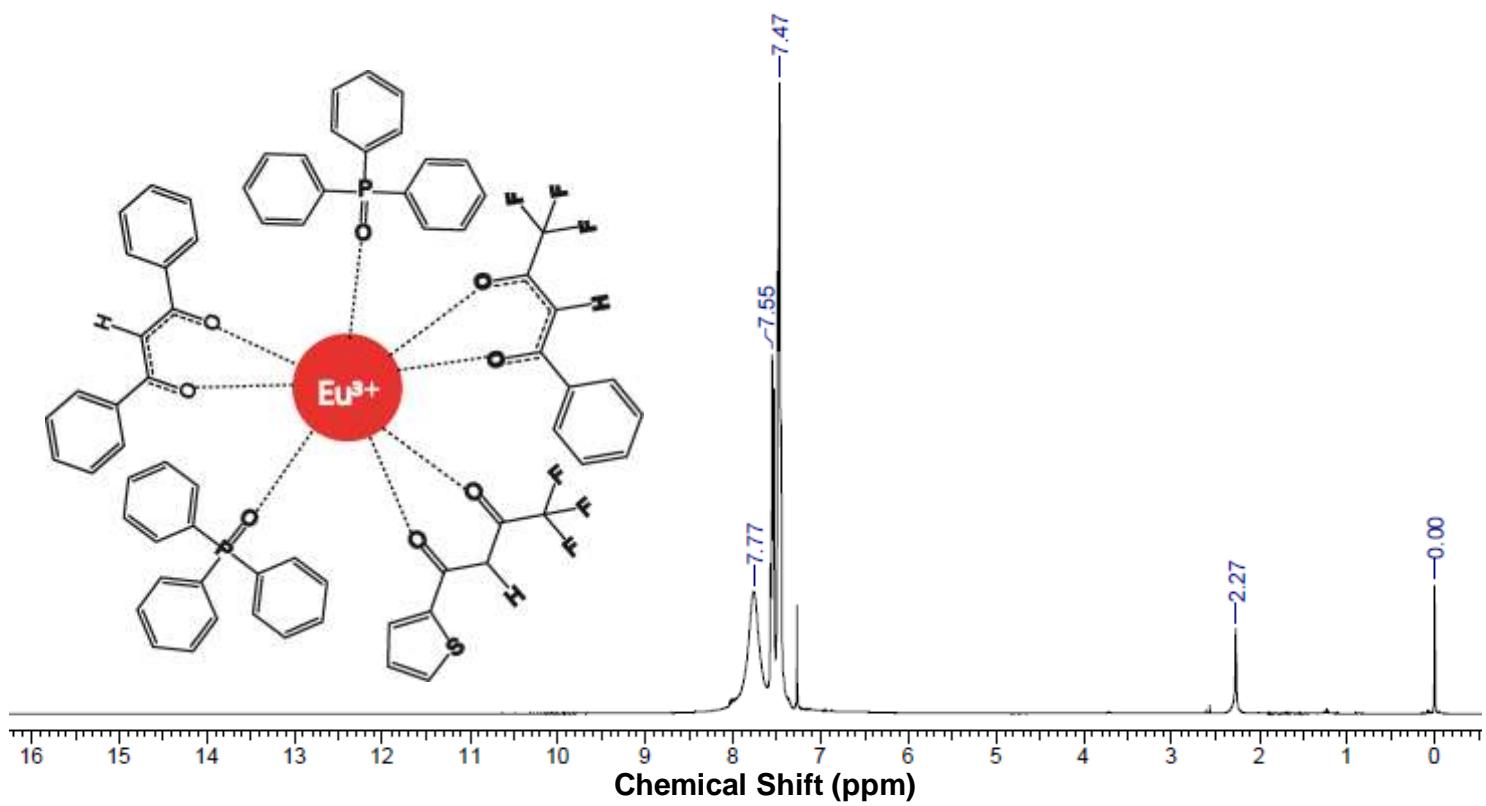
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.35 ppm (s, CH),  $\delta$  7.62 – 6.39 ppm (m, Ar),  $\delta$  6.87–6.38 ppm (m, Th).

Figure S12.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}(\text{TTA})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$ .



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.21 ppm, and (s, CH),  $\delta$  7.63–7.29 ppm (m, Ar).

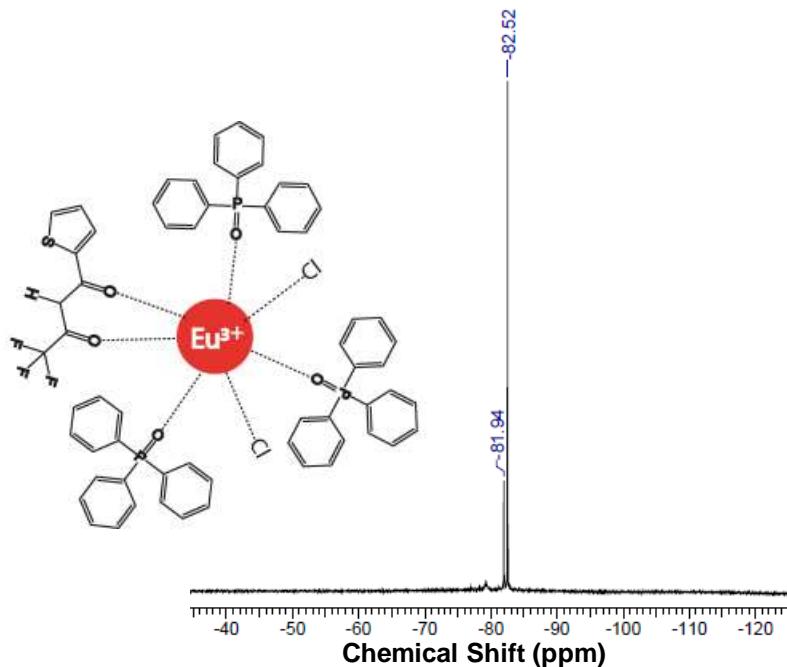
Figure S13.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Eu}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  obtained via synthetic route 1.



**$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):**  $\delta$  7.77 ppm (s, CH), and  $\delta$  7.57–7.45 ppm (m, Ar).

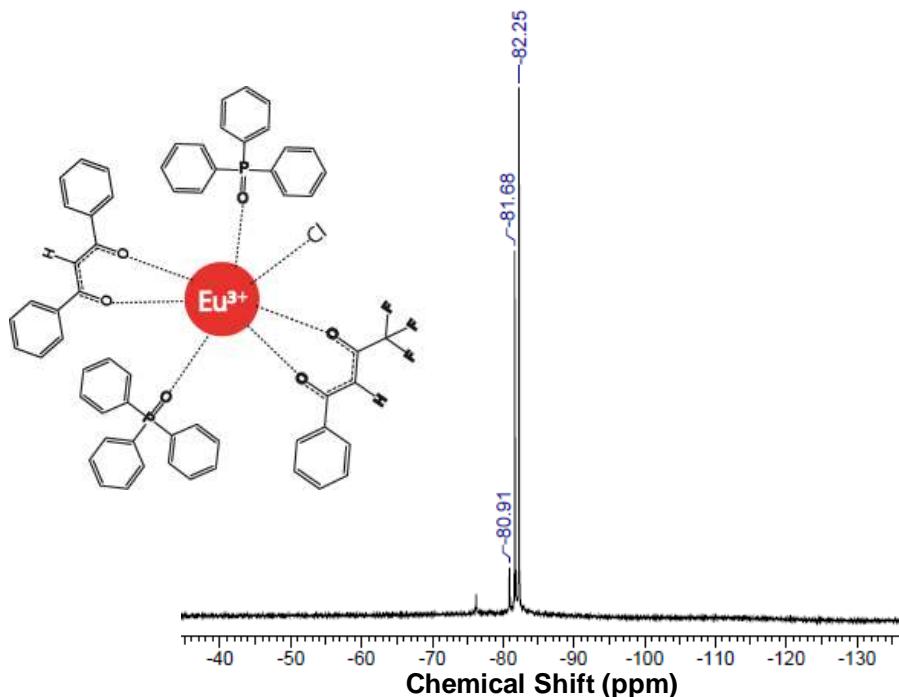
**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Eu(DBM)(BTFA)(TTA)(TPPO)}_2]$  obtained via synthetic route 6.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR Spectra



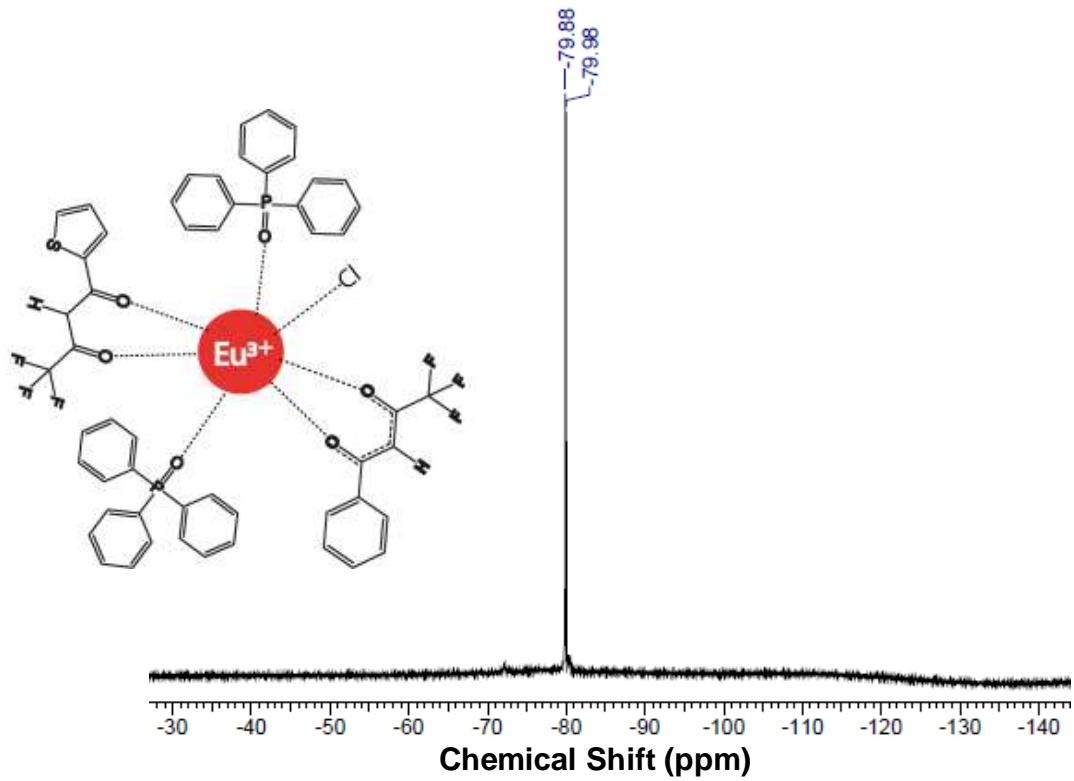
<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -82$  ppm, and  $\delta = -83$  ppm.

**Figure S15.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_3]$ .



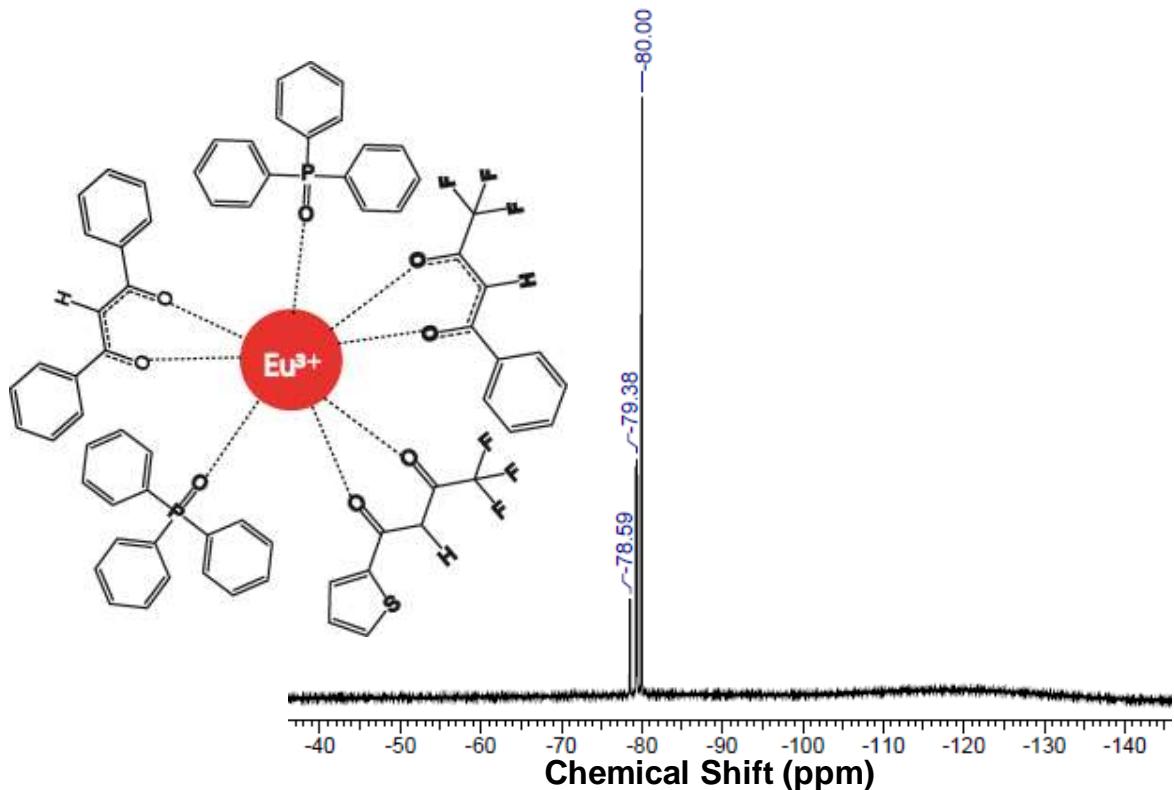
<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -81$  ppm; and  $\delta = -82$  ppm.

**Figure S16.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$ .



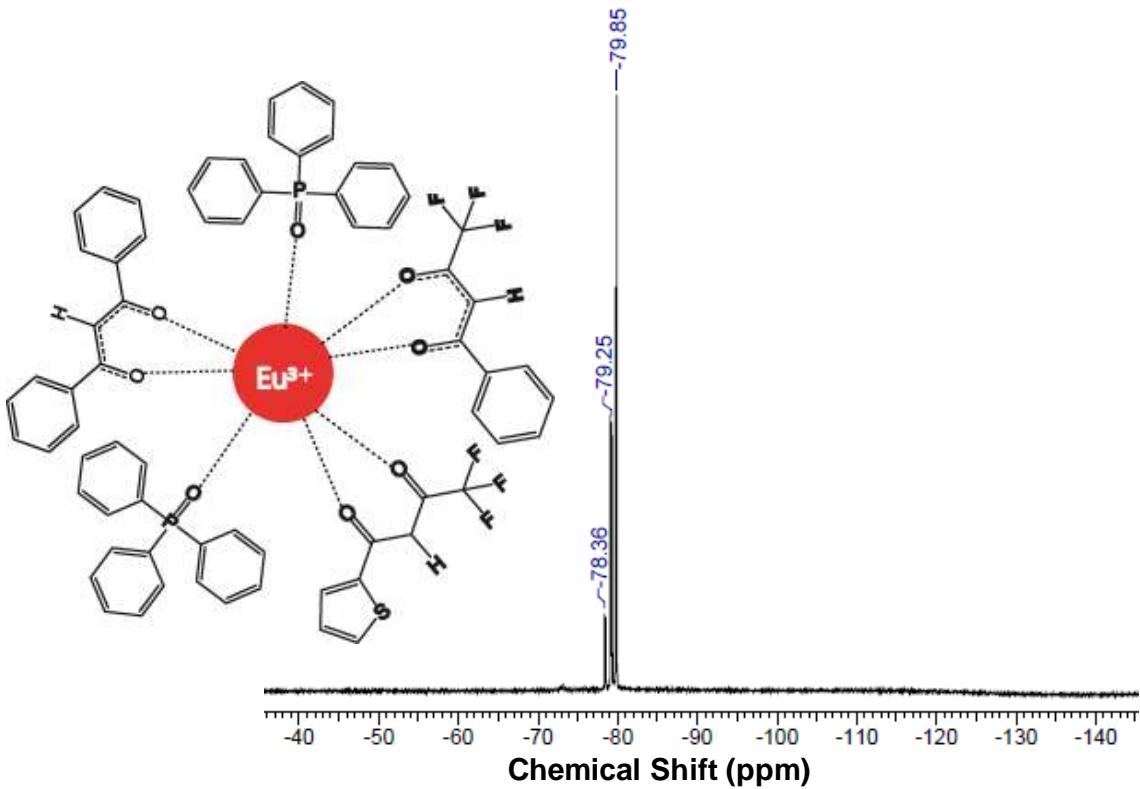
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -80$  ppm.

**Figure S17.**  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}(\text{TTA})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$ .



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -79$  ppm, and  $\delta = -80$  ppm.

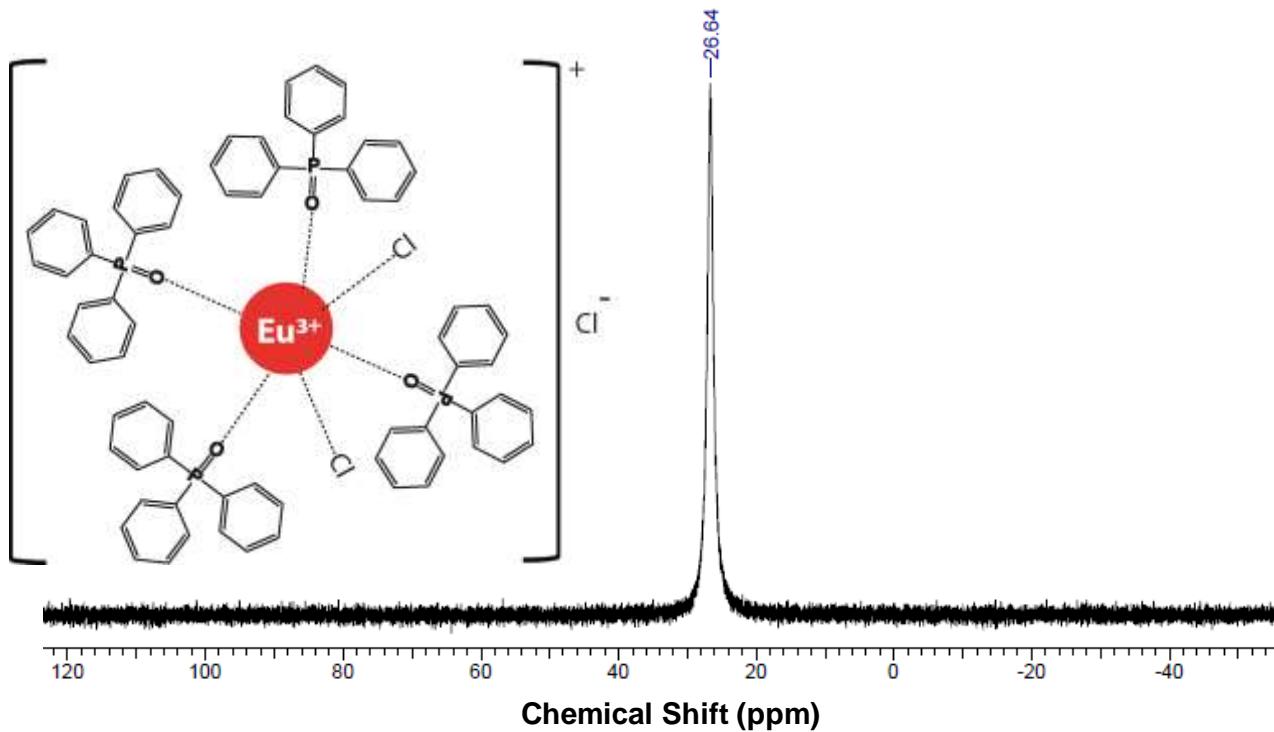
**Figure S18.**  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Eu}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  obtained via synthetic route 1.



**<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):** δ -78 ppm, and δ -80 ppm.

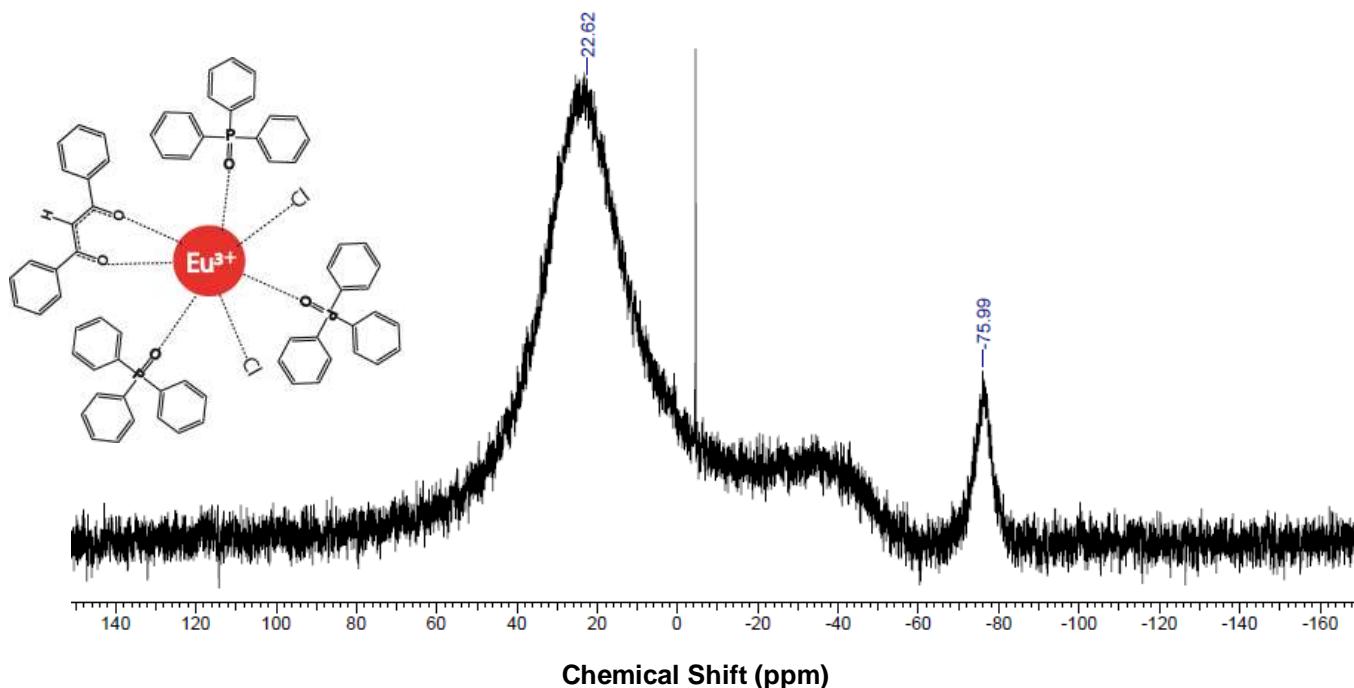
**Figure S19.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of [Eu(DBM)(BTFA)(TTA)(TPPO)<sub>2</sub>] obtained via synthetic route 6.

$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR Spectra



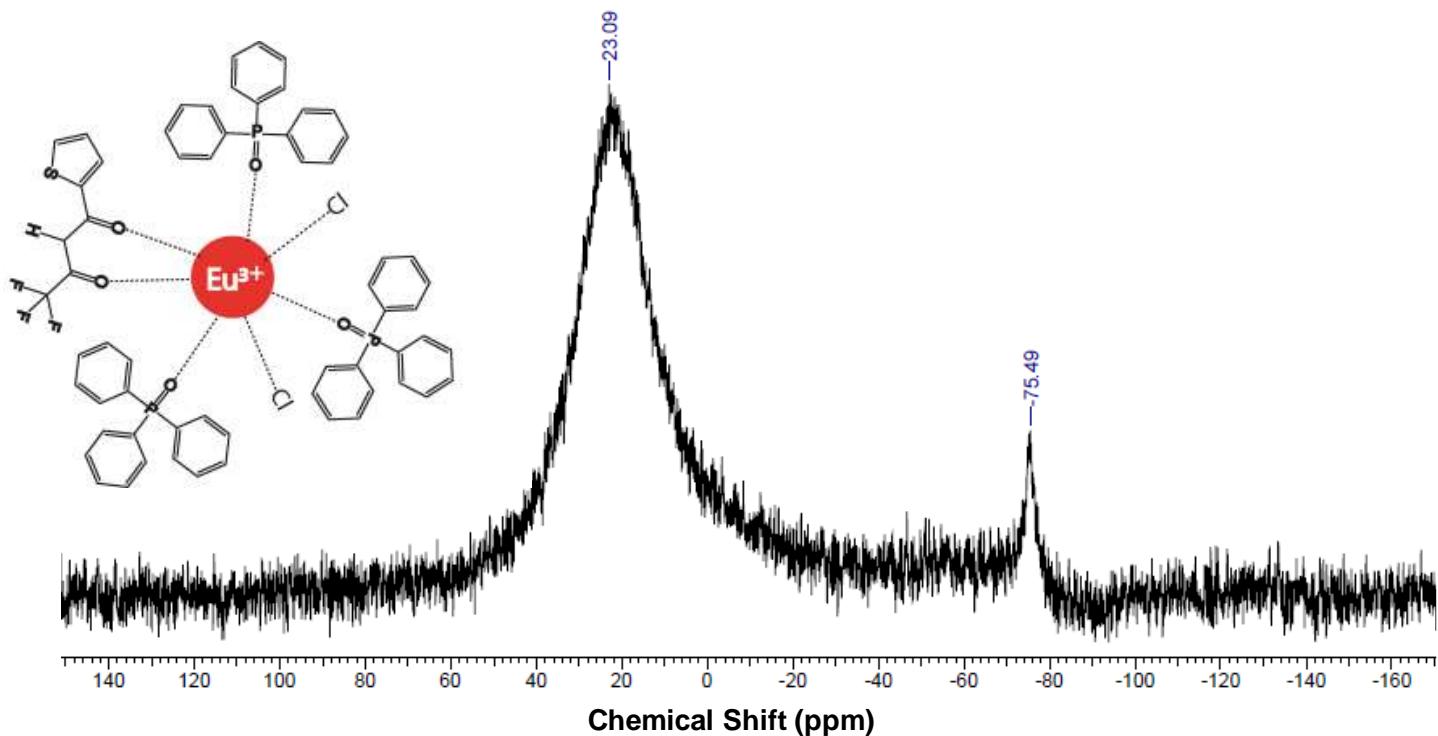
$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  27 ppm.

**Figure S20.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TPPO})_4]\text{Cl} \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

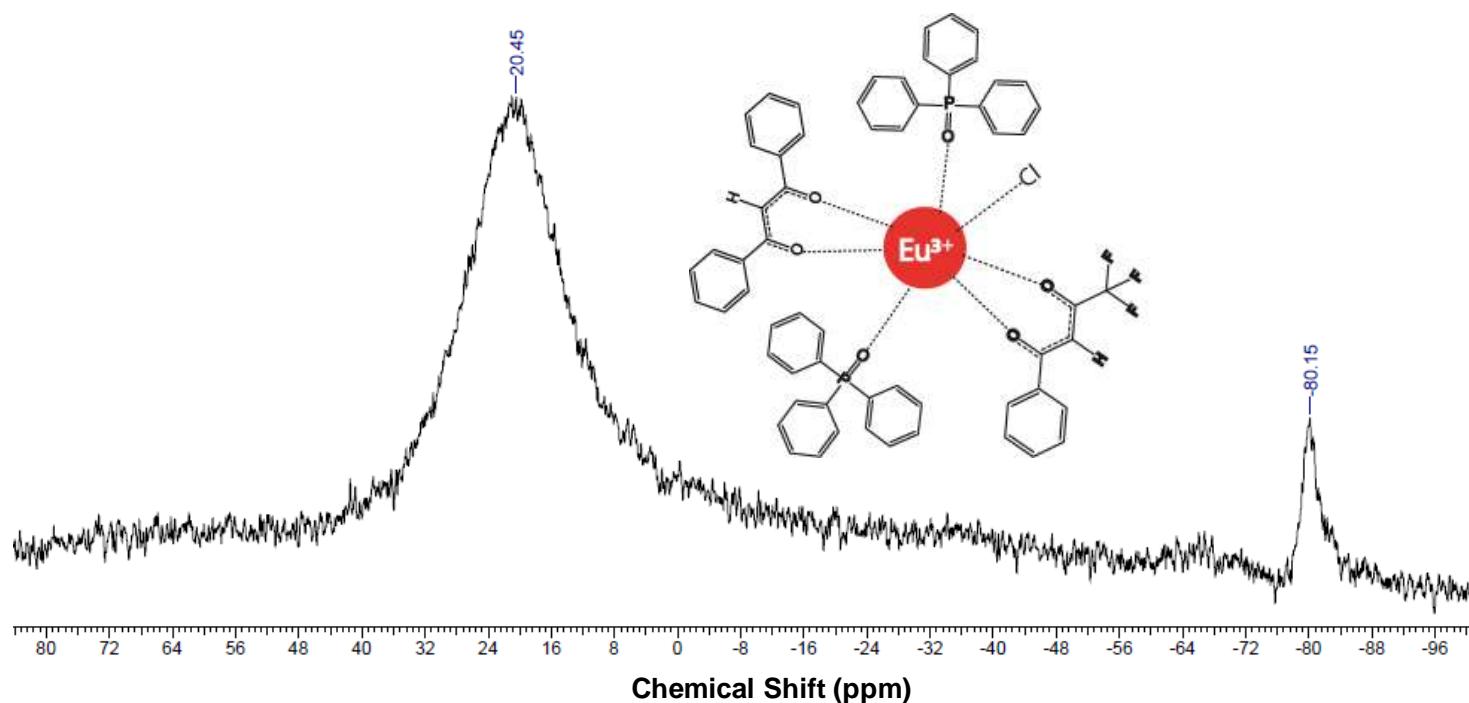


$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  23 ppm, and  $\delta$  -76 ppm.

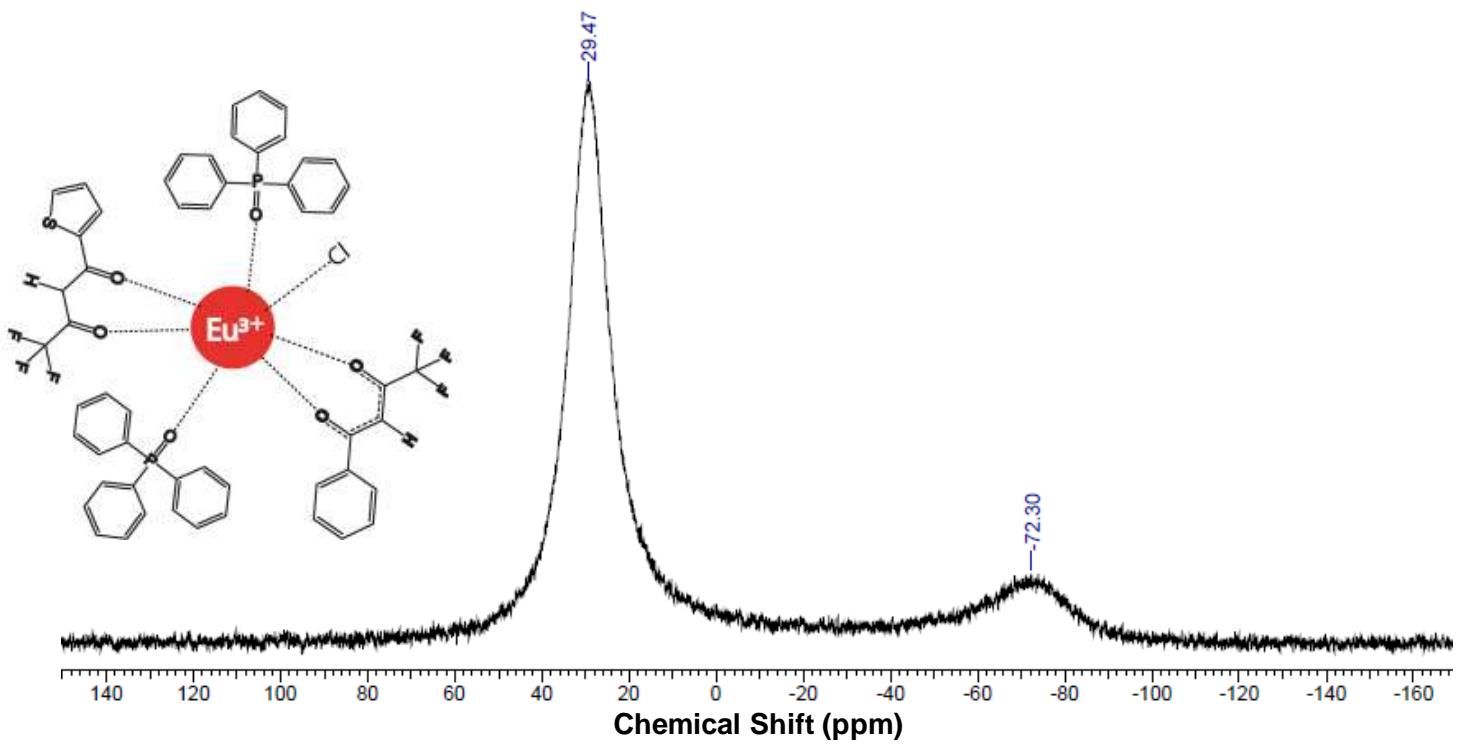
**Figure S21.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{DBM})(\text{TPPO})_3]$ .



$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  23 ppm, and  $\delta$  –75 ppm.  
**Figure S22.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}_2(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_3]$ .

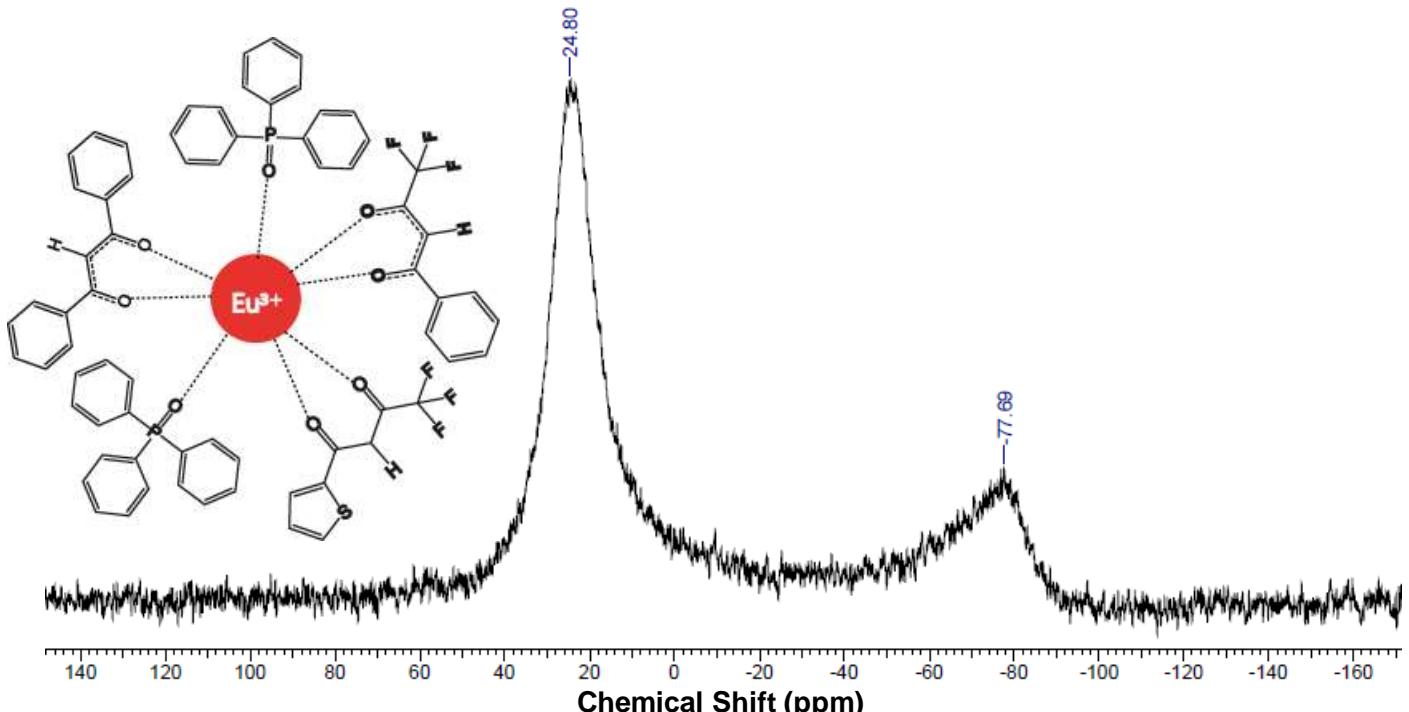


$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  20 ppm, and  $\delta$  –80 ppm.  
**Figure S23.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{EuCl}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$ .



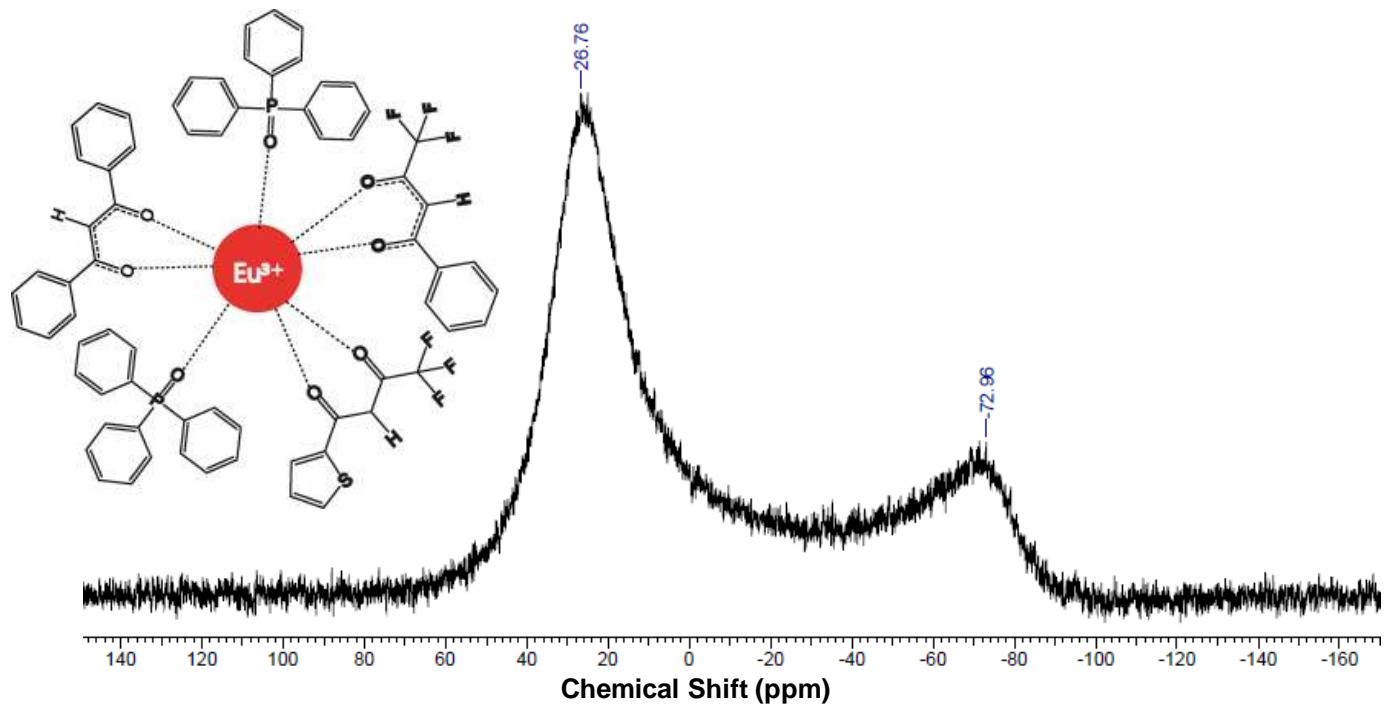
<sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 29 ppm, and δ -72 ppm.

**Figure S24.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of [EuCl(TTA)(BTFA)(TPPO)<sub>2</sub>].



<sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 25 ppm, and δ -78 ppm.

**Figure S25.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of [Eu(DBM)(BTFA)(TTA)(TPPO)<sub>2</sub>] obtained via synthetic route 1.



**$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):**  $\delta$  27 ppm, and  $\delta$  –73 ppm.

**Figure S26.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Eu}(\text{DBM})(\text{BTFA})(\text{TTA})(\text{TPPO})_2]$  obtained via synthetic route 6.