

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for

Grind, shine and detect: Mechanochemical synthesis of AIE-active polyaromatic amide and its application as molecular receptor of monovalent anions or nucleotides

Jakub S. Cyniak^a, Artur Kasprzak^{a*}

^a Faculty of Chemistry, Warsaw University of Technology, Noakowskiego Str. 3, 00-664 Warsaw, Poland

* Corresponding author e-mail: artur.kasprzak@pw.edu.pl

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List of abbreviations:

- **EDCI**: 1-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride
- **DMAP**: *N,N*-Dimethylpyridin-4-amine
- **k-Oxyma**: (Z)-ethyl 2-cyano-3-hydroxyacrylate potassium salt
- **NHS**: *N*-hydroxysuccinimide
- **sulfo-NHS**: *N*-hydroxy- sulfosuccinimide
- **CDI**: 1,1'-Carbonyldiimidazole
- **HBTU**: 2-(1H-benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate
- **EDC**: 1-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide
- **DIC**: *N,N'*-Diisopropylcarbodiimide
- **DCC**: *N,N'*-Dicyclohexylcarbodiimide
- **AMP**: adenosine monophosphate
- **ADP**: adenosine diphosphate
- **ATP**: adenosine triphosphate
- **NADP**: nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
- **FAD**: flavin adenine dinucleotide
- **RT**: room temperature
- **h**: hours

S1. Experimental section

S1.1 Materials and methods

Chemical reagents and solvents for the synthesis were commercially purchased and purified according to the standard methods, if necessary. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Merck Silica gel 60 F254 plates.

The NMR experiments were conducted using a Varian VNMRS 500 MHz spectrometer (^1H at 500 MHz, $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR at 125 MHz) equipped with a multinuclear z-gradient inverse probe head. The spectra were recorded at 25 °C and standard 5 mm NMR tubes were used. ^1H and ^{13}C chemical shifts (δ) were reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to the solvent signal, *i.e.*, DMSO- d_6 : δ_{H} (residual DMSO) 2.50 ppm, δ_{C} (residual DMSO) 39.5 ppm. In the case of NMR spectra were analyzed with the MestReNova v12.0 software (Mestrelab Research S.L).

ESI-HRMS (TOF) measurements were performed with a Q-Exactive ThermoScientific spectrometer.

Elemental analyzes were performed using CHNS Elementar Vario EL III apparatus. Each elemental composition was reported as an average of two analyses.

UV-vis measurements were performed with a WVR UV-1600PC spectrometer, with the spectral resolution of 2 cm^{-1} . For the UV-Vis measurements, the wavelengths for the absorption maxima λ_{max} were reported in nm.

Emission spectra were recorded with a HITACHI F-7100 FL spectrometer; parameters for the spectra of liquid samples (DMSO solution): scan speed: 1200 nm/min, delay: 0.0 s, EX slit: 5.0 nm, EM slit: 5.0 nm, PMT voltage: 700 V; parameters for the spectra of samples of aggregates (DMSO/H₂O solution in various proportions): scan speed: 1200 nm/min, delay: 0.0 s, EX slit: 5.0 nm, EM slit: 5.0 nm, PMT voltage: 400 V parameters for the spectra of solid samples: scan speed: 1200 nm/min, delay: 0.0 s, EX slit: 5.0 nm, EM slit: 5.0 nm, PMT voltage: 400 V. The wavelengths for the emission maxima (λ_{em}) were reported in nm.

SEM Field emission scanning electron microscope Helios 5 PFIB (Thermo Scientific) with the use of SE (secondary electron) detector.

Dynamic light scattering (DLS) measurements were performed with Brookhaven Instruments Particle Size Analyser 90Plus

For grinding in hand-held mortar agate mortar with pestle was used (mortar diameter: 62 mm, pestle diameter: 24 mm)

For grinding in glass vial a vial (diameter: 18 mm) and rod (diameter: 8 mm) made of borosilicate glass were used.

For sonochemical reactions (Bandelin Sonorex RK 100H ultrasonic probe; ultrasonic peak output/HF power: 320W/80W; 35kHz) was used.

S1.2 Synthesis of compound 3 – synthesis in solvent

General method for the synthesis of compound 3 in solvent

In a round-bottom flask, 4-(1,2,2-triphenylvinyl) benzoic acid (**1**) was placed. Then 5'-phenyl-[1,1':3',1''-terphenyl]-4-amine (**2**) was added, followed by an addition of coupling agent and an organic solvent (see Table S1). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under an argon atmosphere. Then, a 1 mol·dm⁻³ hydrochloric acid solution was added to the reaction mixture, and the crude product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3x20 mL). Organic layers were combined, washed with water and brine. After drying with MgSO₄ followed by filtration, volatiles were distilled off on a rotary evaporator. Finally, the product was purified using a column chromatography (SiO₂, 2% hex/CH₂Cl₂) to provide the target compound **3** as a yellow solid (*Note: Compound 3 can also be purified by column chromatography with 50% c-hex/AcOEt, R_f = 0.9*).

¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz, ppm), δ_H 10.29 (s, 1H) 7.91-7.85 (m, 11H), 7.78-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.50 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.12 (m, 11H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 6H); {¹H}¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz, ppm), 165.0, 146.7, 142.9, 142.8, 142.7, 141.6, 141.1, 140.2, 139.7, 138.9, 135.1, 132.6x2, 130.6, 128.9, 128.0, 127.9x2, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3x2, 127.2, 126.9, 126.7, 124.0x2, 120.6; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd. for C₅₁H₃₇NO = 680.2948, found = 680.2942 *m/z*; Elemental analysis: Anal. Calcd for C₅₁H₃₇NO: C, 90.1; H, 5.49; N, 2.06. Found: C, 89.86; H, 5.49; N, 2.08. R_f (2% hex/CH₂Cl₂) = 0.91

Table S1 Conditions for the reaction in solvent

no.	carboxylic acid (1) (mg; mol; eq)	amine (2) (mg; mol; eq)	solvent (ml)	coupling agent (mg; mol; eq)	time/ temp.	yield (mg; %)
1	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (4)	SOCl ₂ 7.58; $6.37 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.2</u>	24h/ RT	3.3 mg 9%
2	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DMF (4)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u> DMAP 1.30; $1.06 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>0.2</u>	24h/ RT	7.8 mg 28%
3	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	EtOAc (4)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u> DMAP 1.30; $1.06 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>0.2</u>	24h/ RT	16.7 mg 46%
4	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	THF (4)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u> DMAP 1.30; $1.06 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>0.2</u>	170h/ RT	16.7 mg 46%
5	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (4)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u> DMAP 1.30; $1.06 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>0.2</u>	170h/ RT	17.3 mg 48%

S1.3 Synthesis of compound 3 – mechanochemistry

General method for the mechanochemical synthesis of compound 3

4-(1,2,2-Triphenylvinyl) benzoic acid (**1**), 5'-phenyl-[1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-4-amine (**2**) and a coupling agent were grinded in presence of small amount of organic solvent (LAG – Liquid Assisted Grinding) at room temperature (see Table S2). Then a 1 mol·dm⁻³ hydrochloric acid solution was added to the reaction mixture, and the crude product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3x20 mL). Organic layers were combined, washed with water and brine. After drying with MgSO₄ followed by filtration, volatiles were distilled off on a rotary evaporator. Finally, the product was purified using a column chromatography (SiO₂, 2% hex/CH₂Cl₂) to provide the target compound **3** as a yellow solid.

Table S2 Conditions for the mechanochemical synthesis

no.	carboxylic acid (1) (mg; mol; eq)	amine (2) (mg; mol; eq)	solvent (μ l)	coupling agent (mg; mol; eq)	time/ temp.	yield (mg; %)
6	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	k-Oxyma 9.56; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1	15min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 0.0 mg / 0%
7	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0 NHS 6.11; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1	15min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 1.0 mg / 3%
8	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	CDI 8.61; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 2.7 mg / 5%
9	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	HBTU 20.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 2.8 mg / 8%
10	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0 FeCl ₃ 43.1; $1.59 \cdot 10^{-4}$; 3	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 4.2 mg / 12%
11	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $6.44 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.2 K ₃ PO ₄ 33.8; $1.59 \cdot 10^{-4}$; 3	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 7.9 mg / 22%
12	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	-	EDC 10.0; $6.44 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.2	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 7.9 mg / 22%
13	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0 DIPEA 20.6; $1.59 \cdot 10^{-4}$; 3.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 8.4 mg / 23%
14	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0 K ₂ CO ₃ 22.0; $1.59 \cdot 10^{-4}$; 3.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 8.8 mg / 24%
15	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0 DMAP 1.50; $1.06 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 0.2	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 9.3 mg / 26%
16	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0 sulfo-NHS 11.5; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 12.7 mg / 35%
17	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	DIC 6.70; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 13.4 mg / 37%
18	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	-	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 14.8 mg / 41%
19	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	DCM (50)	DCC 10.9; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; 1.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 16.5 mg / 45%

20	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	DCC 10.9; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	15 min/ RT	grinding in glass tube 16.2 mg / 45%
21	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 18.9 mg / 52%
22	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	EtOAc (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 18.9 mg / 52%
23	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	5 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 19.3 mg / 53%
24	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u> NaCl 18.7; $3.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$; 6.0	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 19.9 mg / 55%
25	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u> SiO ₂ 20 mg	15 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 19.9 mg / 55%
26	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	30 min/ RT	grinding in hand-held mortar 19.9 mg / 55%
27	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	EtOAc (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	30 min/ RT	grinding in glass tube 28.4 mg / 80%
28	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	15 min/ RT	grinding in glass tube 30.5 mg / 84%
29	20; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (50)	EDCI 10.0; $5.31 \cdot 10^{-5}$; <u>1.0</u>	30 min/ RT	grinding in glass tube 34.8 mg / 96%

To check the repeatability of the designed grinding-induced protocol, we performed the mechanochemical synthesis of the target compound **3** under optimized mechanochemical conditions (grinding in glass vial with glass rod, reaction time: 30 minutes, 1.0 equiv. of EDCI) three times (independent runs), at the similar scales and on different days. The obtained isolated yields were consistent and equalled $93 \pm 3\%$. ¹H NMR analyses supported the isolation of pure **3** in each synthesis. The data for these experiments are presented below:

Run#1:

Synthesis date: 6.12.2022, reaction scale (mmol of amine **2**): 0.0531, mmol of the product **3** obtained: 0.0510, isolated yield of **3**: 96%

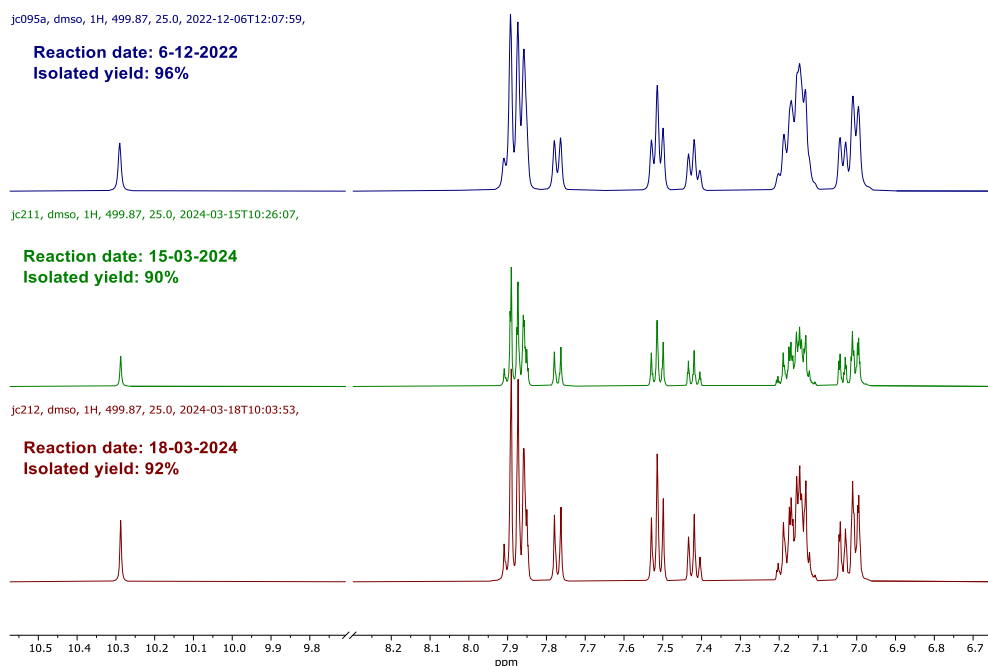
Run#2:

Synthesis date: 15.03.2024, reaction scale (mmol of amine **2**): 0.0531, mmol of the product **3** obtained: 0.0478, isolated yield of **3**: 90%

Run#3:

Synthesis date: 18.03.2024, reaction scale (mmol of amine **2**): 0.0531, mmol of the product **3** obtained: 0.0489, isolated yield of **3**: 92%

¹H NMR spectra (DMSO-*d*₆) of the samples of compound **3** from the above-listed mechanochemical reaction runs:



S1.4 Synthesis of compound **3** – sonochemistry

*General method for the sonochemical synthesis of compound **3***

In a round-bottom flask 4-(1,2,2-triphenylvinyl) benzoic acid (**1**) was placed. Then 5'-phenyl-[1,1':3',1''-terphenyl]-4-amine (**2**) was added, followed by coupling agent and organic solvent. The flask was then placed in an ultrasonic bath. Then a 1 mol·dm⁻³ hydrochloric acid solution was added to the reaction mixture, and the crude product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3x20 mL). Organic layers were combined, washed with water and brine. After drying with MgSO₄ followed by filtration, volatiles were distilled off on a rotary evaporator. Finally, the product was purified using a column chromatography (SiO₂, 2% hex/CH₂Cl₂) to provide the target compound **3** as yellow solid.

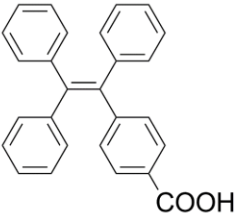
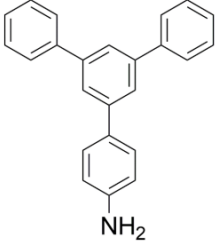
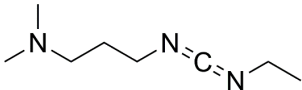
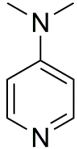
Table S3 Conditions for the sonochemical synthesis

no.	carboxylic acid (1) (mg; mol; eq)	amine (2) (mg; mol; eq)	solvent (ml)	coupling agent (mg; mol; eq)	time/ temp.	yield (mg; %)
33	20; 5.31·10 ⁻⁵ ; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; 5.31·10 ⁻⁵ ; <u>1.0</u>	EtOAc (4)	EDCI 10.0; 5.31·10 ⁻⁵ ; <u>1.0</u>	60 min/ RT	11.6 mg / 32%
34	20; 5.31·10 ⁻⁵ ; <u>1.0</u>	17.1; 5.31·10 ⁻⁵ ; <u>1.0</u>	DCM (0.2)	EDCI 10.0; 5.31·10 ⁻⁵ ; <u>1.0</u>	60 min/ RT	28.1 mg / 78%

S1.5 Green chemistry metrics

Safety considerations

Table S4 Hazards of the coupling reagents and solvents

compound	hazard statements	meaning	thermal stability
<p>TPE-COOH</p> 	<p>H302 H315 H319 H335</p>	<p>Harmful if swallowed Causes skin irritation Causes serious eye irritation May cause respiratory irritation</p>	n/a
<p>TPB-NH₂</p> 	<p>H302 H315 H319 H332 H335</p>	<p>Harmful if swallowed Causes skin irritation Causes serious eye irritation Acute toxicity, inhalation Specific target organ toxicity, single exposure; Respiratory system</p>	n/a
<p>EDCI</p>  <p>HCl</p>	<p>H302 H315 H319 H335</p>	<p>Harmful if swallowed Causes skin irritation Causes serious eye irritation May cause respiratory irritation</p>	n/a
<p>DMAP</p> 	<p>H301, H331 H310 H315 H318 H370 H411</p>	<p>Toxic if swallowed or if inhaled Fatal in contact with skin Causes skin irritation Causes serious eye damage Causes damage to organs (Nervous system) Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects</p>	n/a
<p>dichloromethane</p>	<p>H315 H319 H336 H351</p>	<p>Causes skin irritation Causes serious eye irritation May cause drowsiness or dizziness Suspected of causing cancer</p>	n/a

First pass green metrics calculations

EDCI/ DMAP, synthesis in solution								Summary of First Pass Metrics Toolkit									
Reactant (Limiting Reactant First)	Mass (g)	MW (g/mol)	Mol	Catalyst	Mass (g)	Reagent	Mass (g)	Reaction solvent	Volume (cm ³)	Density (g·ml ⁻¹)	Mass (g)	Workup chemical	Mass (g)	Workup solvent	Volume (cm ³)	Density (g·cm ⁻¹)	Mass (g)
TPE-COOH	0.02	376.45	5.31E-05			DMAP	0.0013	DCM	4	1.33	5.32			n-hexane	3	0.661	1.983
TPB-NH ₂	0.017	321.41	5.31E-05											DCM	147	1.33	195.51
EDCI	0.01	191.17	5.31E-05														
Total	0.047	889.03					0.0013				5.32						197.49

Yield	48.0	Product	0.03477	MW	679.846	Mol	0.0000511	Solvents (first pass)			Tick	
Selectivity	100.0	Unreacted Limited Reactant	0.0008	$\text{RME} = \frac{\text{mass of isolated product}}{\text{total mass of reactants}} \times 100$			Preferred solvents	water, EtOH, <i>n</i> -BuOH, <i>i</i> -PrOH, EtOAc, <i>i</i> -PrOAc, <i>n</i> -BuOAc, anisole, sulfolane				
AE	67.2				$\text{AE} = \frac{\text{molecular weight of product}}{\text{total molecular weight of reactants}} \times 100$			Problematic solvents	DMSO, AcOH, Acetonitrile, AcOMe, THF, heptane, toluene, MTBE, cyclohexane, chlorobenzene, Me-THF			
RME	71.9							Hazardous solvents	dioxane, TEA, DME, DCM, DMF, hexane			+
OE	96.3							Highly hazardous solvents	Et ₂ O, benzene, CCl ₄ , chloroform, nitromethane, CS ₂			
PMI total	5834.4							Catalyst/enzyme (First pass)			Tick	
PMI reaction	154.4				$\text{PMI} = \text{mass intensity} = \frac{\text{total mass in a process or process step}}{\text{mass of product}}$			catalyst or enzyme used or reaction takes place without any catalyst/			Green Flag	
Reagents, catalyst	0.047							Use of stoichiometric quantities of reagents			Amber Flag	
PMI reaction solvents	153.0							use of reagents in excess			Red Flag	
PMI reagents	0.037				$\text{OE} = \frac{\text{RME}}{\text{AE}} \times 100$							
PMI workup chemical	0.0											
PMI workup solvent	5680.0											

EDCI/ DMAP, synthesis in solution

Critical Elements	Flag Colour	Note element
Supply Remaining	Red Flag	
5-50 years	Red Flag	
50-500 years	Amber Flag	
+500 years	Green Flag	+

Energy	Tick
Reaction run between 0 to 70°C	Green Flag +
Reaction run between -20 to 0 or 70 to 140°C	Amber Flag
Reaction run between below -20 or above 140°C	Red Flag

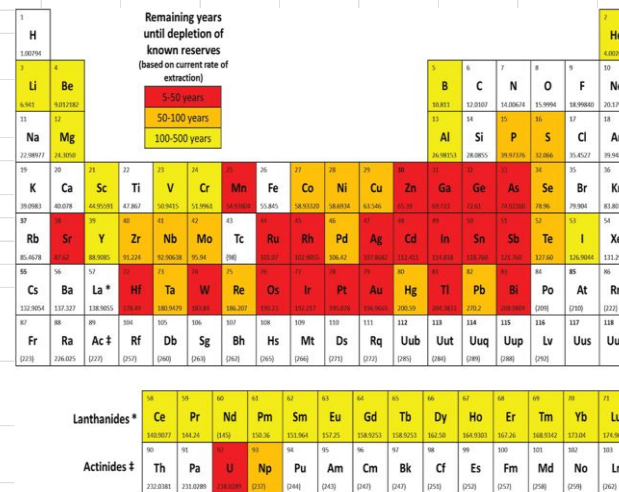
Batch/Flow	Tick
Flow	Green Flag
Batch	Amber Flag +

Health and Safety

	Red Flag	Amber Flag	Green Flag	List substances nad H-codes	List substances nad H-codes	List substances nad H-codes	
Highly Explosive	H200, H201, H202, H203	H205, H220, H224	If no red or amber flagged H codes present then green flag			TPE-COOH	
Explosive thermal runaway	H230, H240, H250	H241				TPB-NH ₂	
Toxic	H300, H310, H330	H301, H311, H331			DMAP	DMAP	
Long Term Toxicity	H340, H350, H360, H370, H372	H341, H351, H361, H371, H373					DCM
Environmental Implications	H400, H410, H411, H420	H401, H412					

Use of chemicals of environmental concern	List of substances
Chemical identified as Substances of Very High Concern by ChemSec which are utilised	Red Flag

Reaction run at reflux	Red Flag	Tick
Reaction run 5°C or below the solvent boiling point	Green Flag	+
Workup		Tick
quenching	Green Flag	
filtration		
centrifugation		
crystallisation		
low temperature distillation/ evaporation/ sublimation		
solvent exchange, quenching into aqueous solvent	Amber Flag	
chromatography	Red Flag	+
high temperature		
multiple crystallisation		



EDCI, mechanochemistry								Summary of First Pass Metrics Toolkit									
Reactant (Limiting Reactant First)	Mass (g)	MW (g/mol)	Mol	Catalyst	Mass (g)	Reagent	Mass (g)	Reaction solvent	Volume (cm ³)	Density (g·mL ⁻¹)	Mass (g)	Workup chemical	Mass (g)	Workup solvent	Volume (cm ³)	Density (g·cm ⁻¹)	Mass (g)
TPE-COOH	0.02	376.45	5.30E-05					DCM	0.05	1.33	0.0665			n-hexane	3	0.661	1.983
TPB-NH ₂	0.017	321.41	5.30E-05											DCM	147	1.33	195.51
EDCI	0.01	191.17	5.30E-05														
Total	0.047	889.03									0.07						197.49

Yield	96.0		Mass (g)	MW	Mol	Solvents (first pass)			Tick	
Selectivity	100.0		Product	0.03477	679.846	0.0000511	Preferred solvents	water, EtOH, <i>n</i> -BuOH, <i>i</i> -PrOH, EtOAc, <i>i</i> -PrOAc, <i>n</i> -BuOAc, anisole, sulfolane		
AE	76.4		Unreacted Limited Reactant	0.0008			Problematic solvents	DMSO, AcOH, Acetonitrile, AcOMe, THF, heptane, toluene, MTBE, cyclohexane, chlorobenzene, Me-THF		
RME	73.4						Hazardous solvents	dioxane, TEA, DME, DCM, DMF, hexane	+	
OE	96.1						Highly hazardous solvents	Et ₂ O, benzene, CCl ₄ , chloroform, nitromethane, CS ₂		
PMI total	5683.2						Catalyst/enzyme (First pass)			Tick
PMI reaction	3.3						catalyst or enzyme used or reaction takes place without any catalyst/ reagent		Green Flag	
Reagents, catalyst	0.000						Use of stoichiometric quantities of reagents		Amber Flag	+
PMI reaction solvents	1.9						Use of reagents in excess		Red Flag	
PMI reagents	0.0									
PMI workup chemical	0.0									
PMI workup solvent	5680.0									

$$RME = \frac{\text{mass of isolated product}}{\text{total mass of reactants}} \times 100$$

$$AE = \frac{\text{molecular weight of product}}{\text{total molecular weight of reactants}} \times 100$$

$$PMI = \text{mass intensity} = \frac{\text{total mass in a process or process step}}{\text{mass of product}}$$

$$OE = \frac{RME}{AE} \times 100$$

S1.6 Characterisation of aggregation induced emission effect

The characterisation of aggregation induced emission behavior of compound **3** was performed employing measurements of the emission spectra. The experiments were performed in the DMSO/H₂O solvent mixture. Stock solution of **3** ($2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ M) in DMSO was diluted with proper volume of pure DMSO followed by addition of H₂O to reach given vol% of H₂O in the sample.

S1.7 Anion binding experiments

S1.7.1 ¹H NMR spectroscopy

The binding experiments between compound **3** (receptor) and anions (Br⁻, AMP and ADP) were performed employing the ¹H NMR titration experiments. Tetrabutylammonium bromide ([N(C₄H₉)₄]⁺) was used in these experiments. The experiments were performed in DMSO-d₆ containing TMS (tetramethylsilane, 0.03% vol) as follows. To a stock solution of **3** ($7.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$ M) in DMSO-d₆ a stock solution of analyte ($7.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$ M) in DMSO-d₆ was added, followed by addition of DMSO-d₆ to reach given concentration of analyte in the sample (in case of AMP and ADP stock solution of **3** and stock solution of analyte were mixed in such a way that the sum of receptor (**3**) and analyte concentrations in the sample were on the constant level with varying molar fractions). Final volume of the samples was 1 mL.

S1.7.2 Spectrofluorimetry

The anion binding experiments between compound **3** (receptor) and anions (analytes; Br⁻, I⁻, HSO₄⁻, BF₄⁻, H₂PO₄⁻, ClO₄⁻, CN⁻, AMP, ADP, ATP, NADP and FAD) were performed employing the emission spectra titration experiments. In all cases, tetrabutylammonium ([N(C₄H₉)₄]⁺) salts of anions were used. The experiments were performed in the DMSO/H₂O = 1:1 v/v system as follows. Stock solution of **3** ($2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ M) in DMSO was diluted with adequate volume of pure DMSO (to reach volume of 1 mL), followed by addition of H₂O solution containing given anion (final concentration of anion was between $5 \cdot 10^{-6}$ M and $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ M).

S1.9 Estimation of fluorescence quantum yield

The measurements were performed at room temperature according to the published procedures.^{1,2} Fluorescence quantum yields (Φ_F) were determined by comparison with quinine sulfate (QS) in 0.5M H₂SO₄ ($\Phi_{F,ref} = 0.55$ ³) as the standard. The measurements were performed with diluted solutions (absorbance for the highest wavelength $A < 0.1$ a.u.). The selected excitation

wavelengths (λ_{ex}) were as follows: $C_{\text{QS}} = 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$ M; $C_{\mathbf{3}} = 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 351$ nm; $C_{\mathbf{3agg.}} = 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 343$ nm.

The following formula was used for the calculation of Φ_{F} :

$$\Phi_{\text{F}} = \Phi_{\text{F,ref}} \cdot \frac{F_{\text{sample}}}{F_{\text{reference}}} \cdot \frac{1 - 10^{-A_{\text{ref}}}}{1 - 10^{-A_{\text{sample}}}} \cdot \frac{n_{\text{sample}}^2}{n_{\text{reference}}^2}$$

where $\Phi_{\text{F,ref}}$ is the quantum yield for QS (0.55¹), F is the integrated area under the fluorescence spectra, A is the absorbance at the excitation wavelength, n is the refractive index of the solvent (1.346 for 0.5M H₂SO₄, 1.4772 for DMSO, n for the aggregates solution (DMSO/H₂O = 1:1 v/v) was taken as weighted arithmetic mean with weights equal to vol% of H₂O ($n = 1.3329$) and DMSO in the mixture). The calculated Φ_{F} for **3** and aggregates of **3**, were 0.0042 and 0.2437, respectively.

S2. NMR spectra

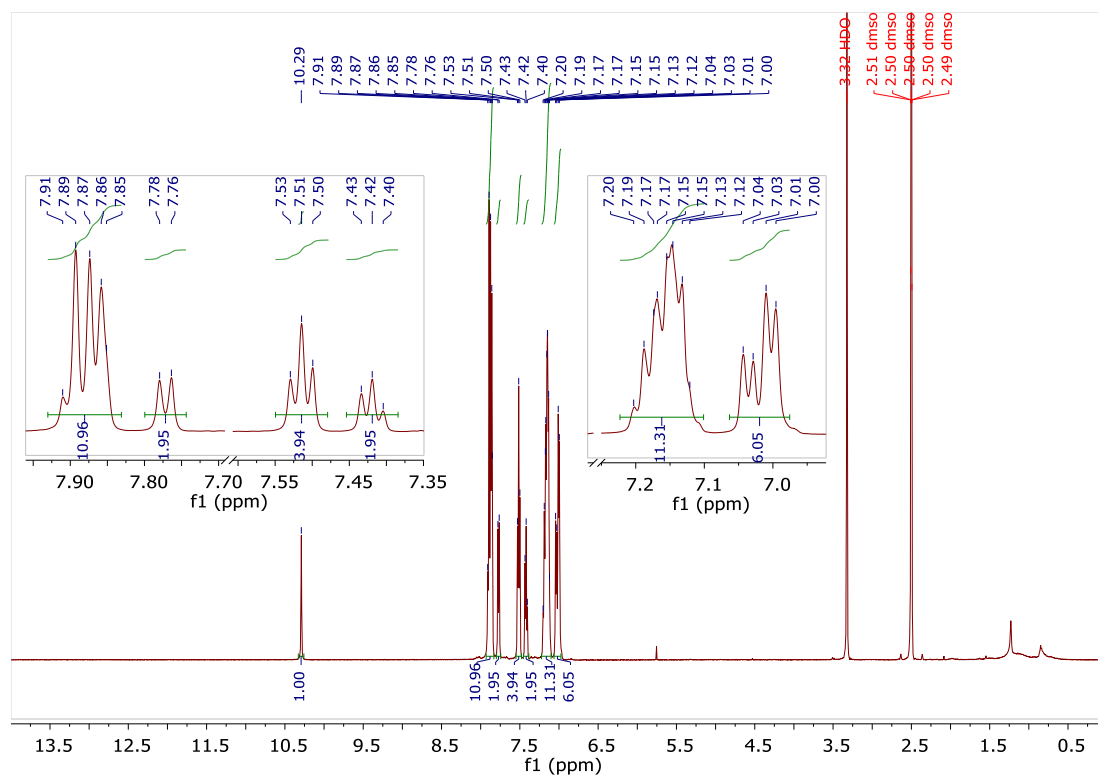


Figure S 1 ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) spectrum of **3**

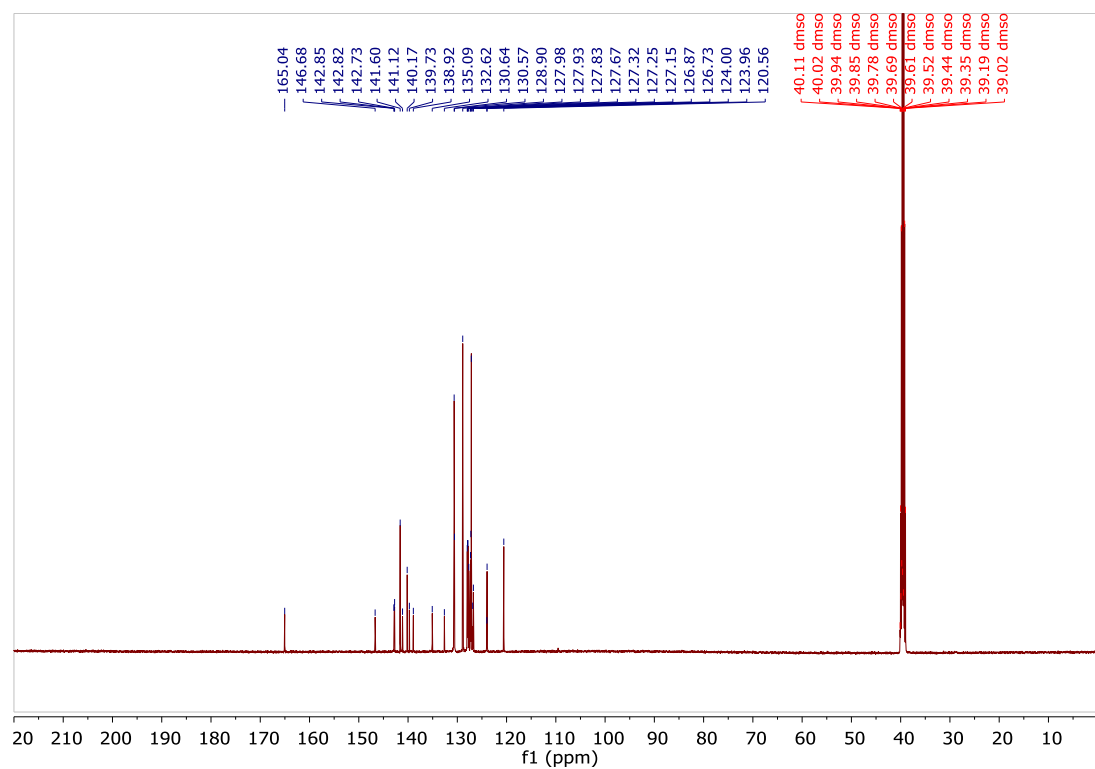


Figure S 2 $\{^1\text{H}\}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) spectrum of **3**

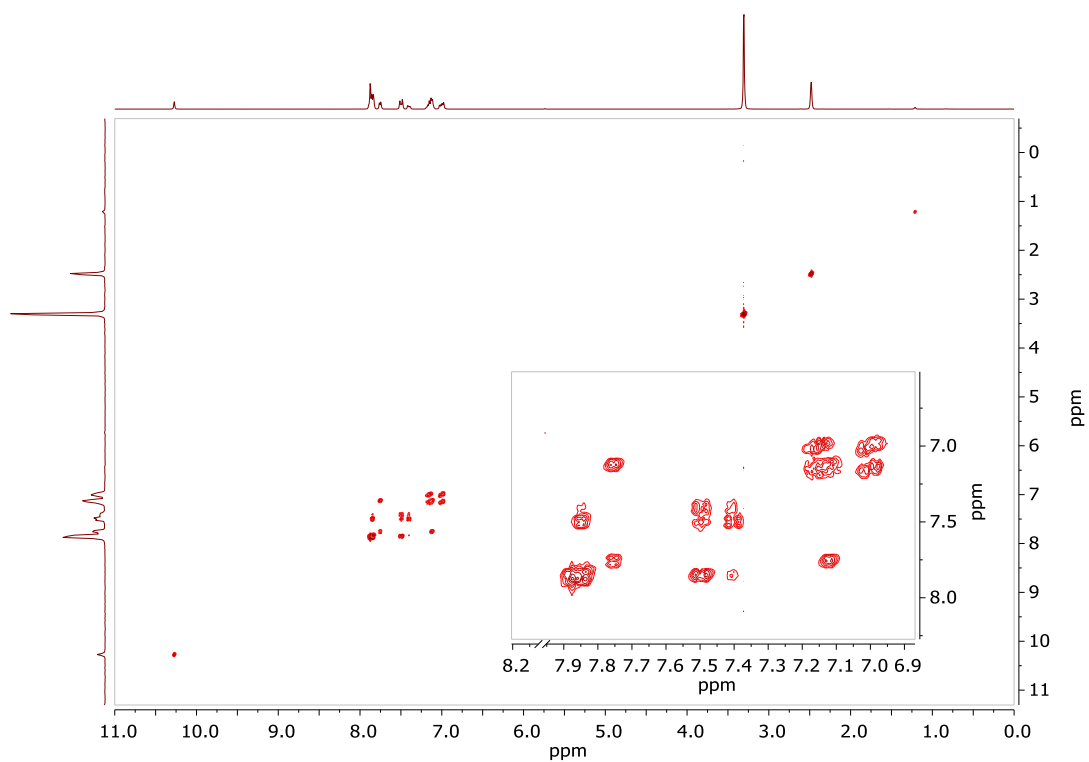


Figure S 3 ^1H - ^1H COSY NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) spectrum of **3**

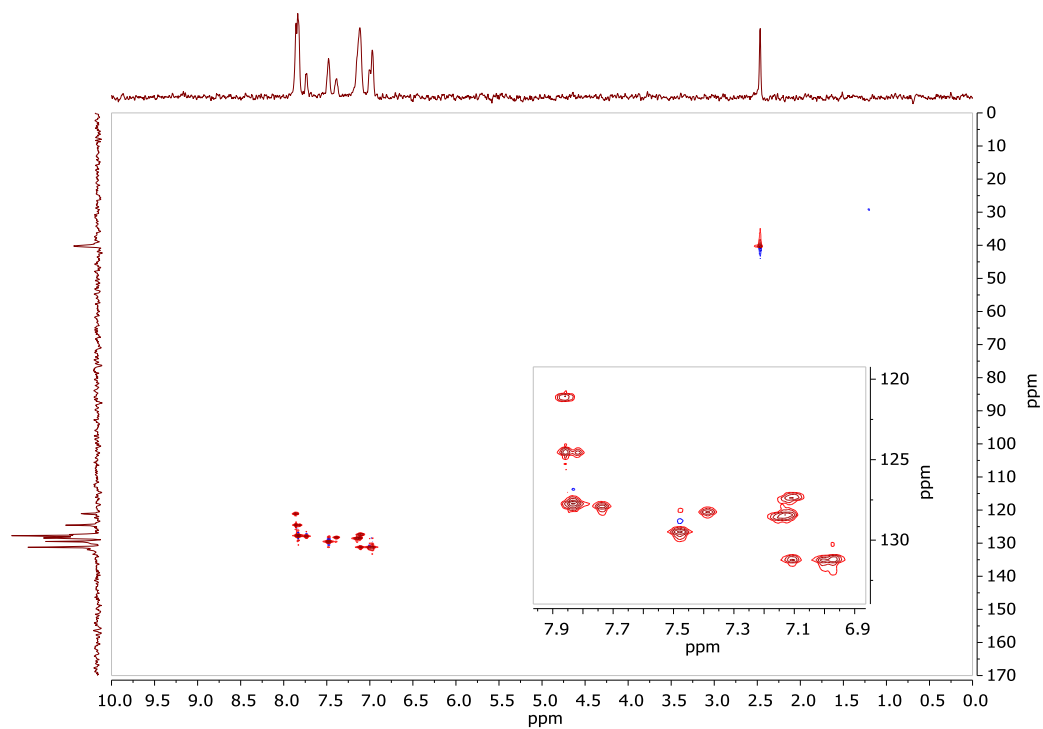


Figure S 4 ^1H - ^{13}C HSQC NMR (DMSO- d_6) spectrum of **3**

S3 HRMS spectrum

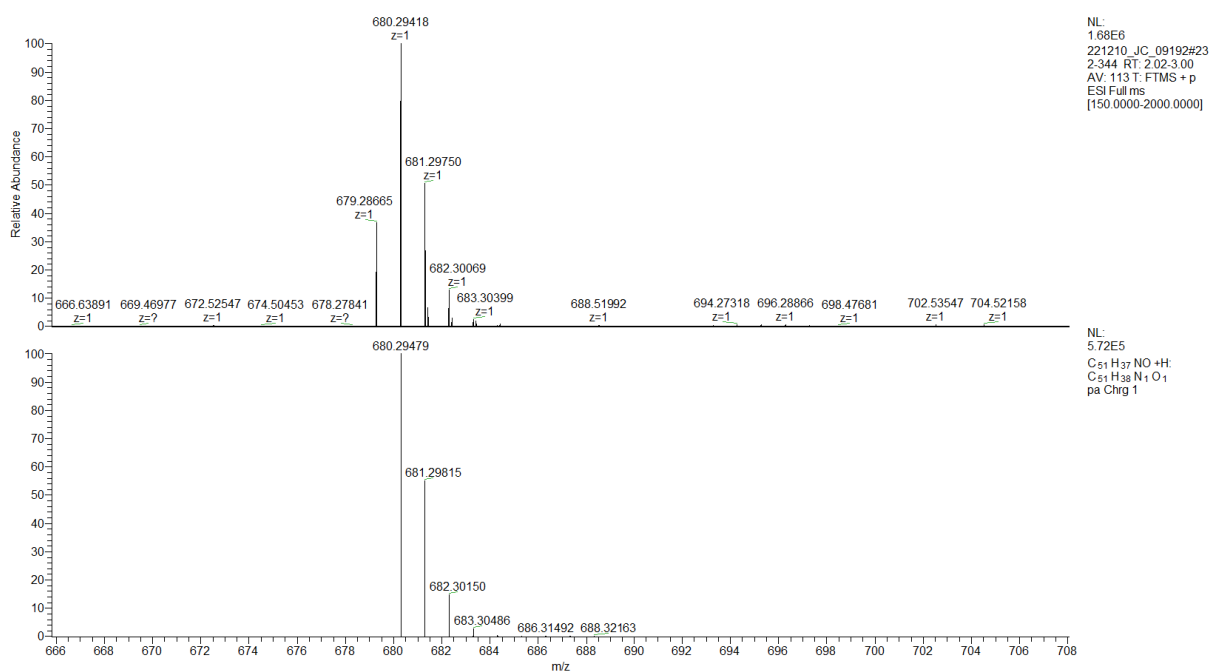


Figure S 5 ESI-HRMS (TOF) spectrum of 3

S4. Absorption and emission spectra

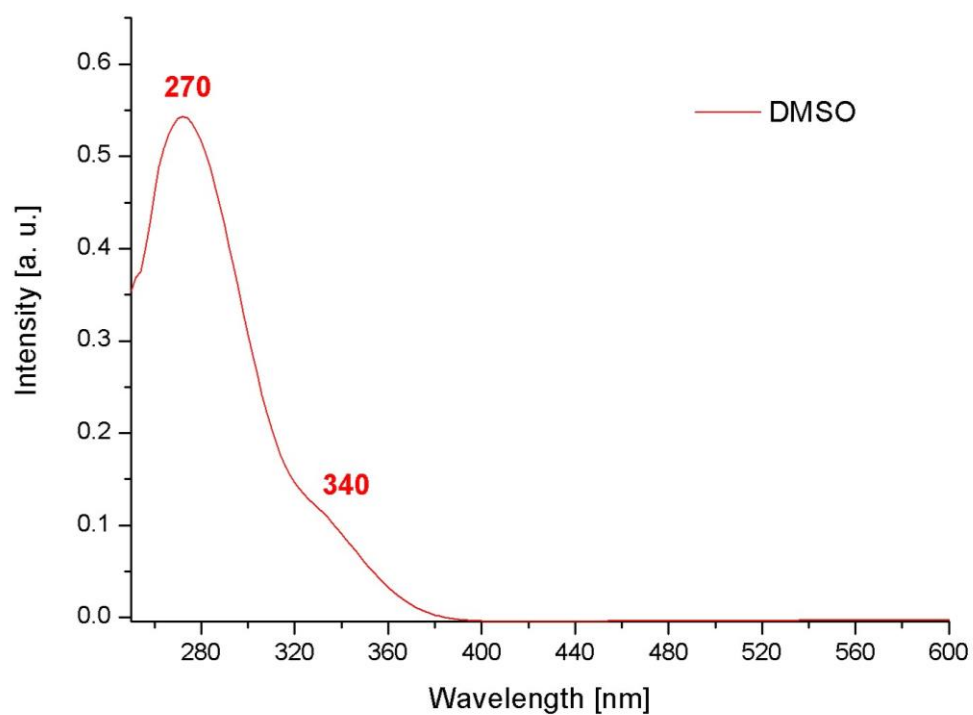


Figure S 6 UV-vis spectrum of compound **3** (DMSO, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M)

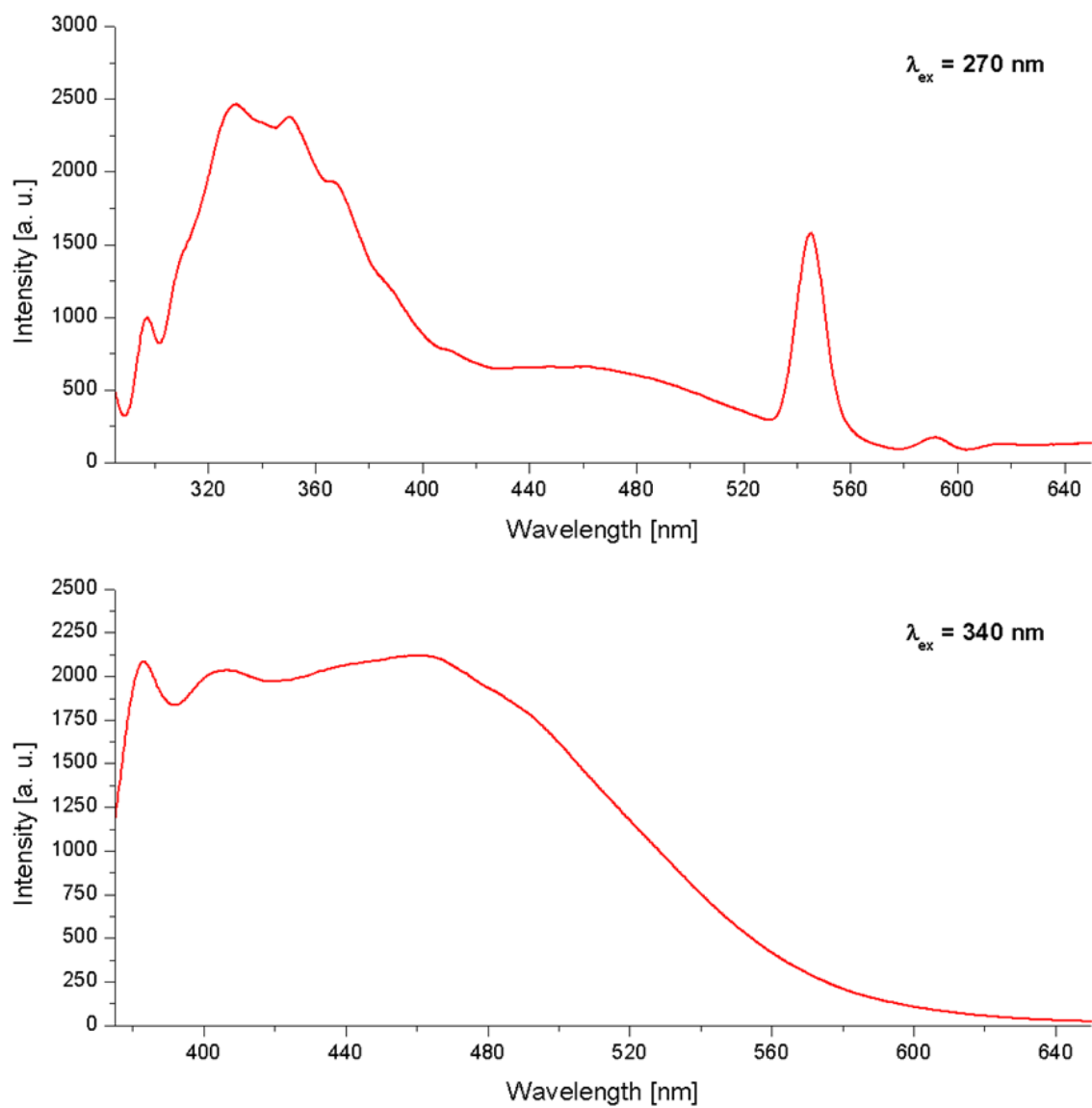


Figure S 7 Emission spectra of **3** (DMSO, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}$, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270 \text{ nm}$ (top), $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340 \text{ nm}$ (bottom))

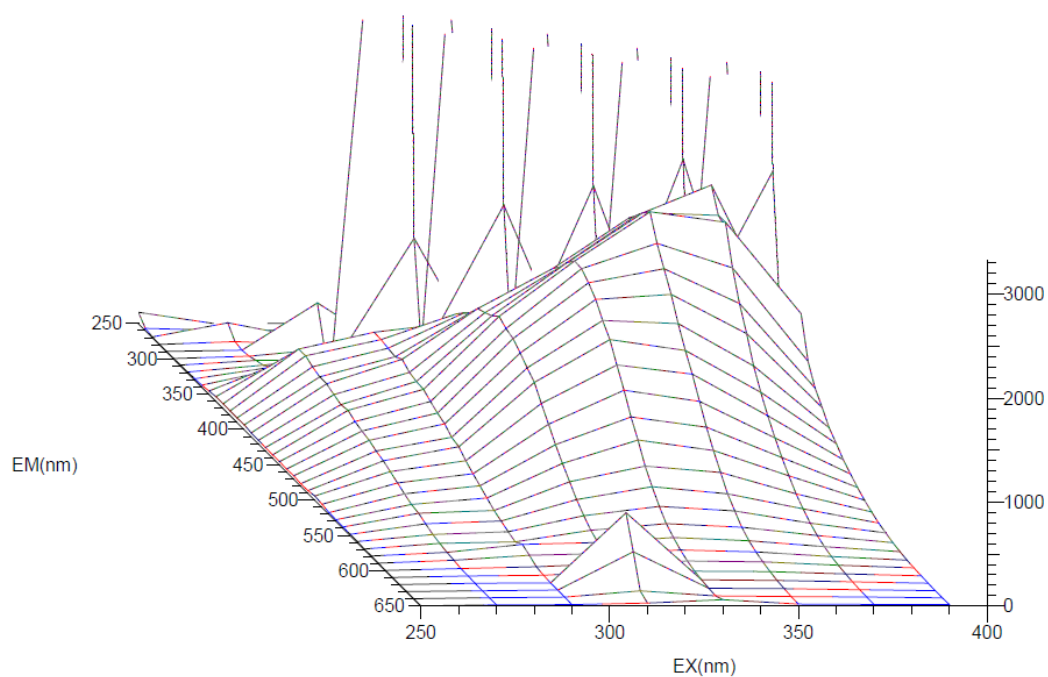


Figure S 8 3D emission spectrum of **3** (DMSO, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M)

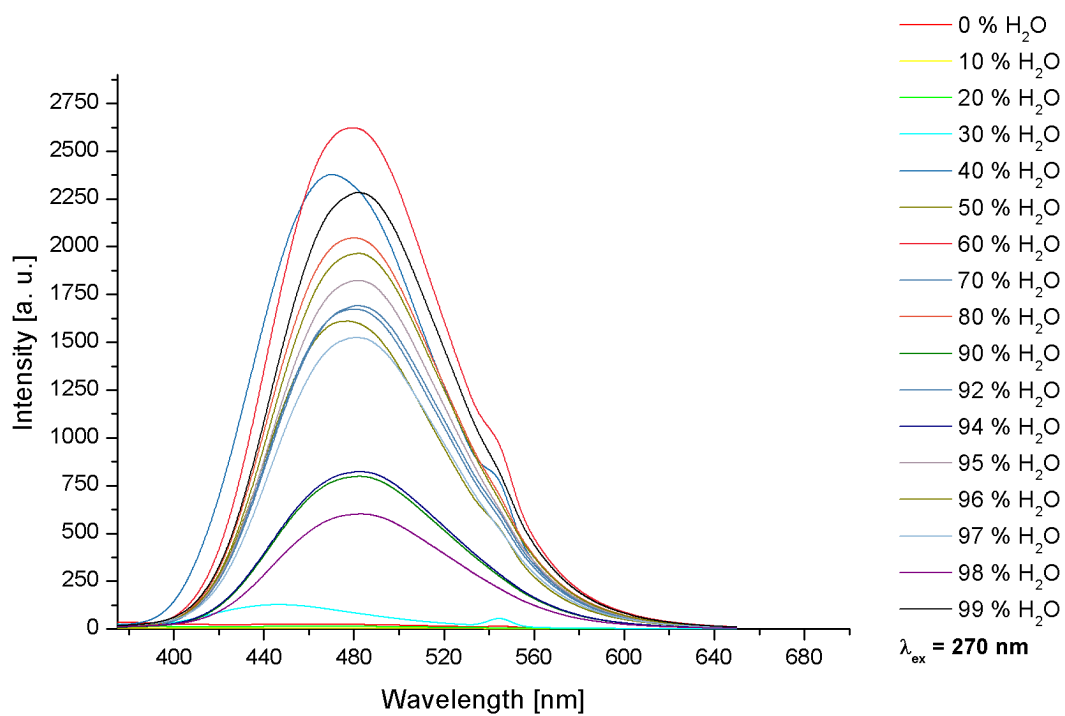


Figure S 9 Emission spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 270$ nm) of compound **3** in DMSO/H₂O system containing different vol% of water in the sample ($C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M,)

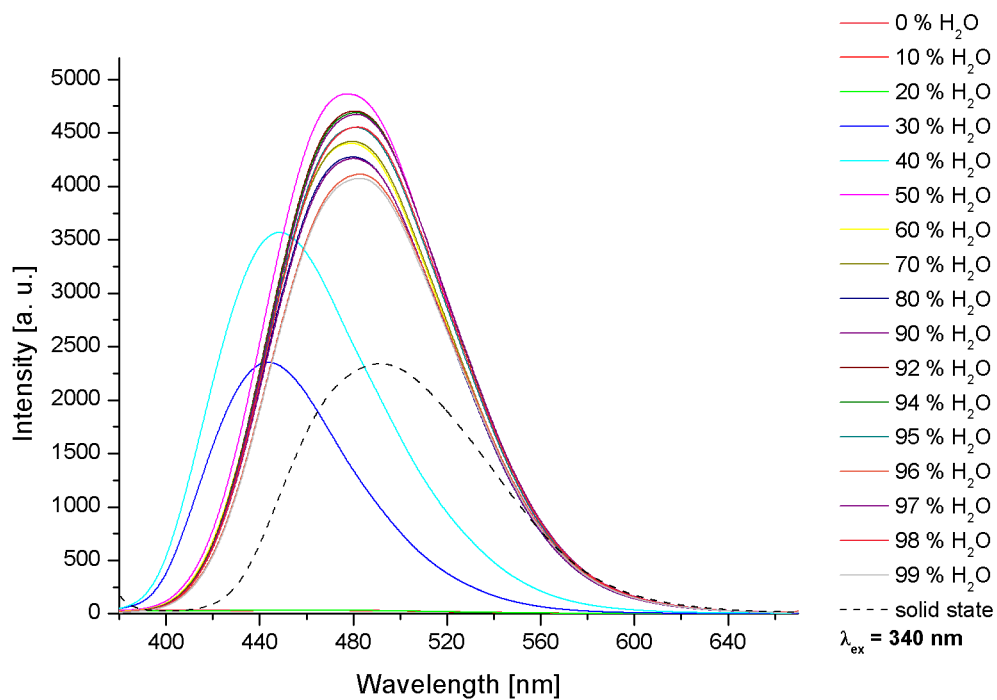


Figure S 10 Emission spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 340 \text{ nm}$) of compound **3** in DMSO/H₂O system containing different vol% of water in the sample ($C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}$)

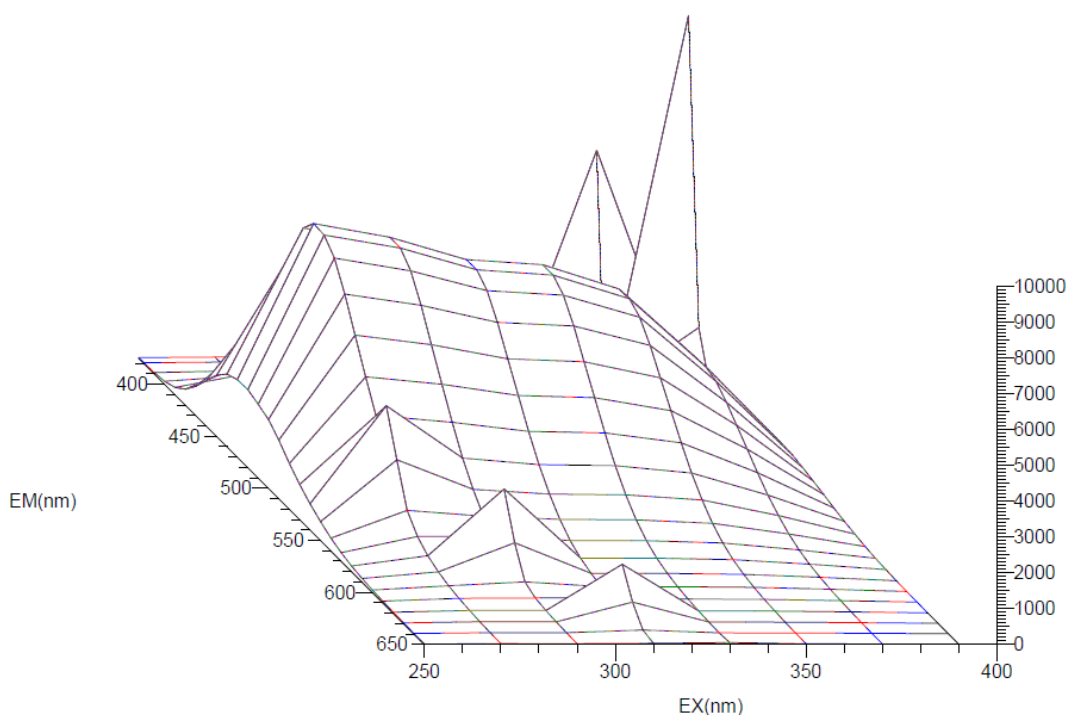


Figure S 11 3D emission spectra of **3** (DMSO/H₂O = 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}$)

S5. Anions binding experiments

For anions for which a decrease in emission intensity was observed (I^- , HSO_4^- , BF_4^- , $H_2PO_4^-$, CN^- , AMP, ADP, ATP, NADP, FAD) the Stern-Volmer constant values (K_{SV}) were estimated using the Stern-Volmer method, given by the equation:

$$\frac{I_0}{I} = 1 + K_{SV}$$

where I_0 and I are the fluorescence intensities of **3** in the absence and presence of given anion, respectively. K_{SV} were taken as slope of $1/I$ vs. $1/I_0$ linear plots.

The limit of detection (LOD) values were estimated from the plot: of $(I - I_{min}) / (I_{max} - I_{min})$ vs $\text{Log}([A^-])$.

For ClO_4^- where an increase in emission intensity was observed the apparent binding constant (K_{app}) values were estimated using the Benesi-Hildebrand ^{4,5} method, given by the equation:

$$\frac{1}{I - I_0} = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{a \cdot K_{app} \cdot C(A^-)}$$

where I_0 and I are the fluorescence intensities of **3** in the absence and presence of given anion, respectively, a is a constant, and $C(A^-)$ is the concentration of given anion in solution. K_{app} were determined as a ratio of intercept-to-slope of $1/(I - I_0)$ vs. $1/C(A^-)$ linear plots.

The data (for the estimation of K_{app} for the studied systems were collected from emission maxima (λ_{em}) = 496 nm (λ_{ex} = 270 nm).

The limit of detection (LOD) values were estimated by the equation:

$$LOD = 3S/b$$

Where S is standard error of intercept, and b is slope of regression line

The stoichiometry of the complexes formed was estimated using Job's plot method, from the plot: $(1 - x) \cdot (\delta - \delta_0)$ vs x . The x stands from the mole fraction of nucleotide. The expected stoichiometry is indicated by the maximum on the plot.

All the spectra and plots are presented below.

S5.1 ^1H NMR spectroscopy

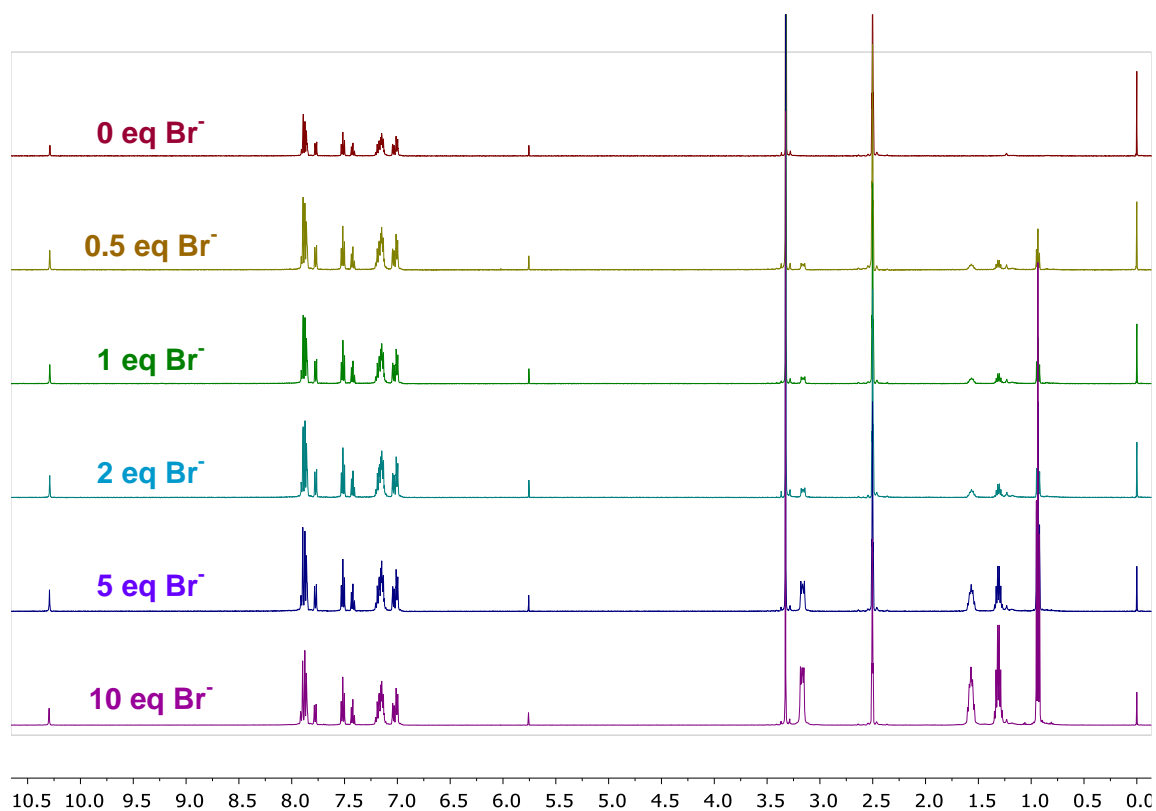


Figure S 12 ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of Br^-

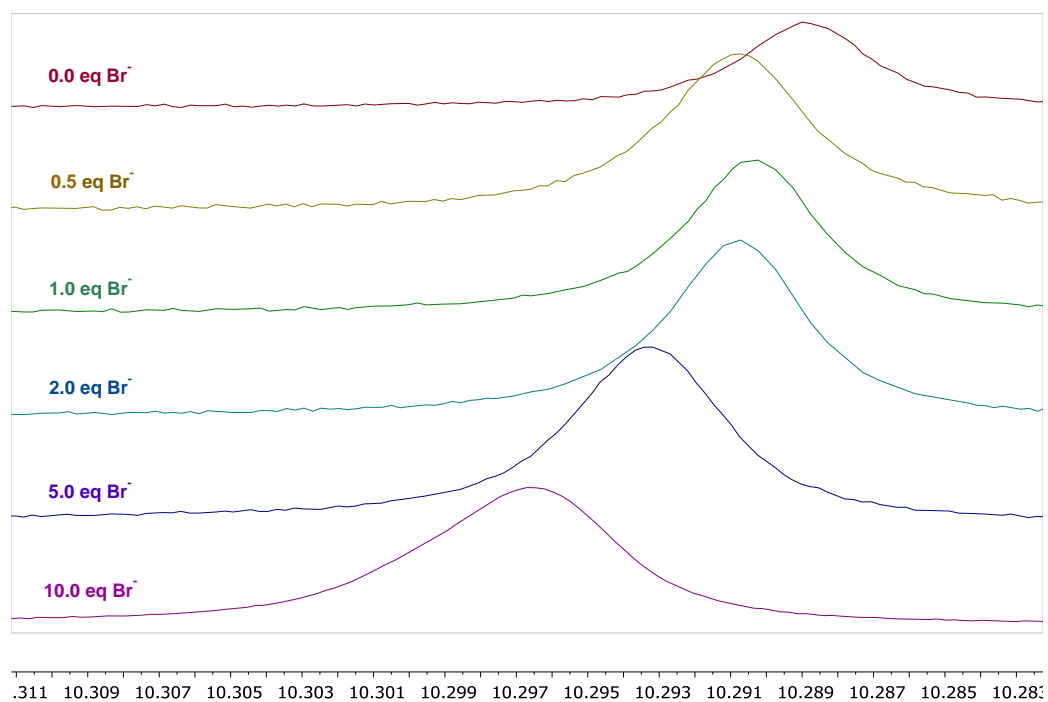


Figure S 13 Inset of the ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of Br^-

Signals on the ^1H NMR spectra were assigned according to the literature data⁶.

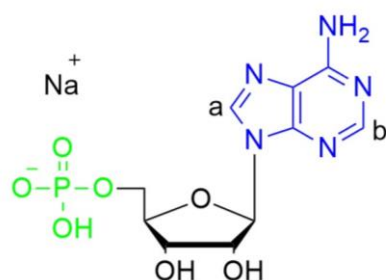


Figure S 14 Chemical formula of adenosine monophosphate (**AMP**) with the marked protons (a, b) for which the shifts of signals were observed in the ^1H NMR spectrum

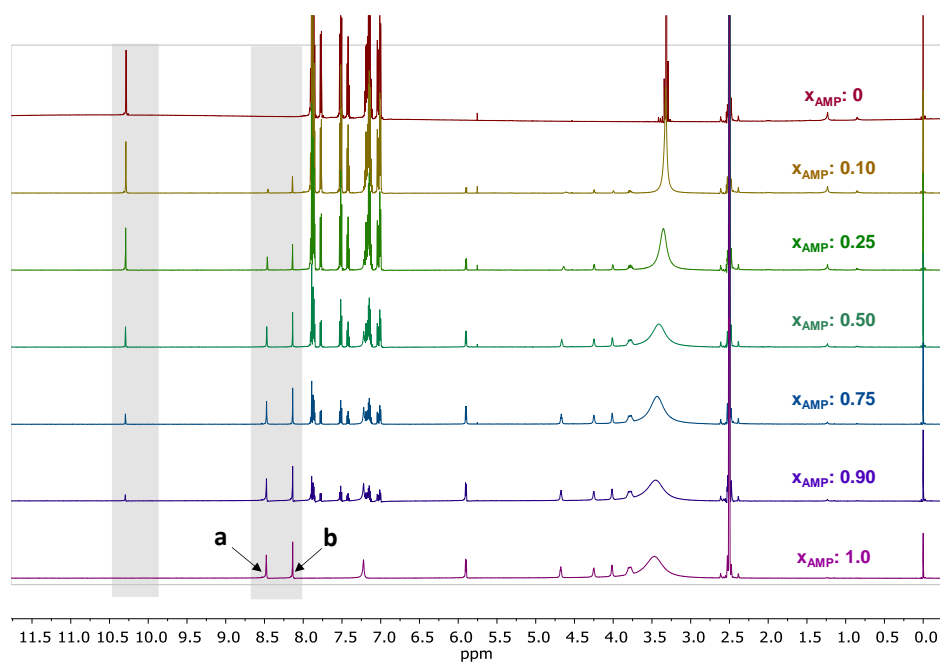


Figure S 15 ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of **AMP** (grey colour indicates signals that are shifted)

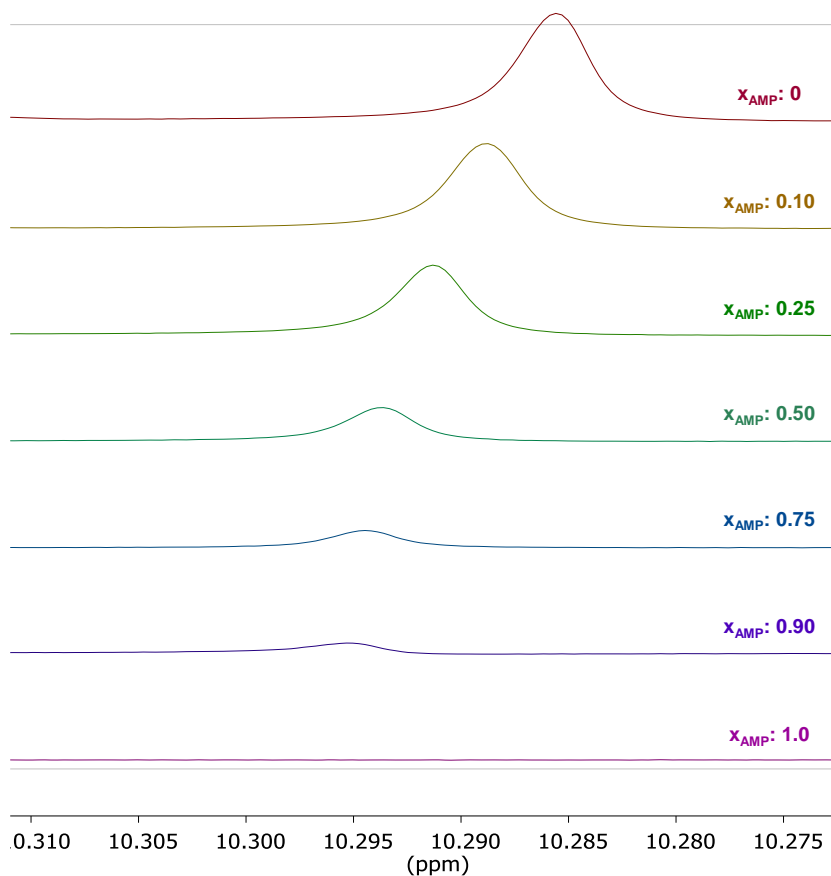


Figure S 16 Insets of the ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of **AMP**

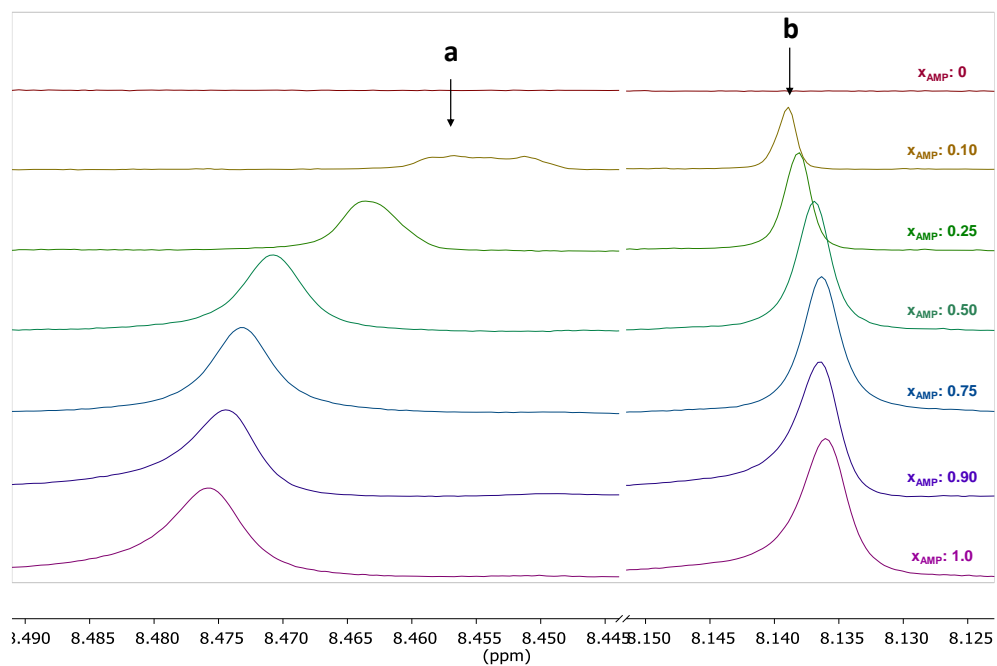


Figure S 17 Insets of the ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of **AMP** (amplification of the shifted proton signals of the nucleobase of the nucleotide)

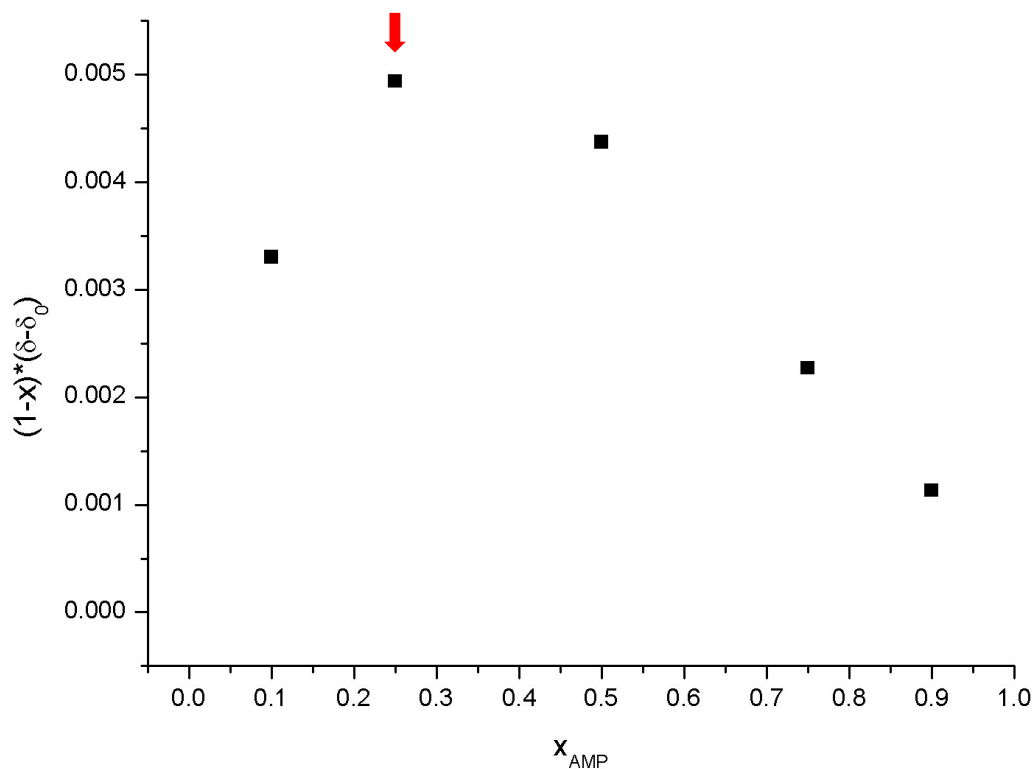


Figure S 18 Job's plot regarding the interactions between **3** and **AMP** (the red arrow indicates the estimated stoichiometry of the complex formed)

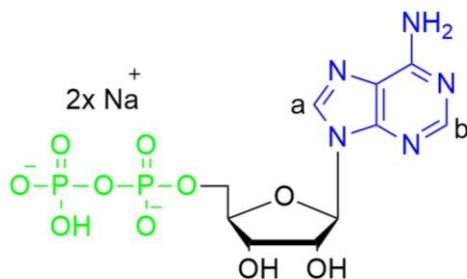


Figure S 19 Chemical formula of adenosine diphosphate (**ADP**) with the marked protons (a, b), whose signals are shifted in the ^1H NMR spectrum

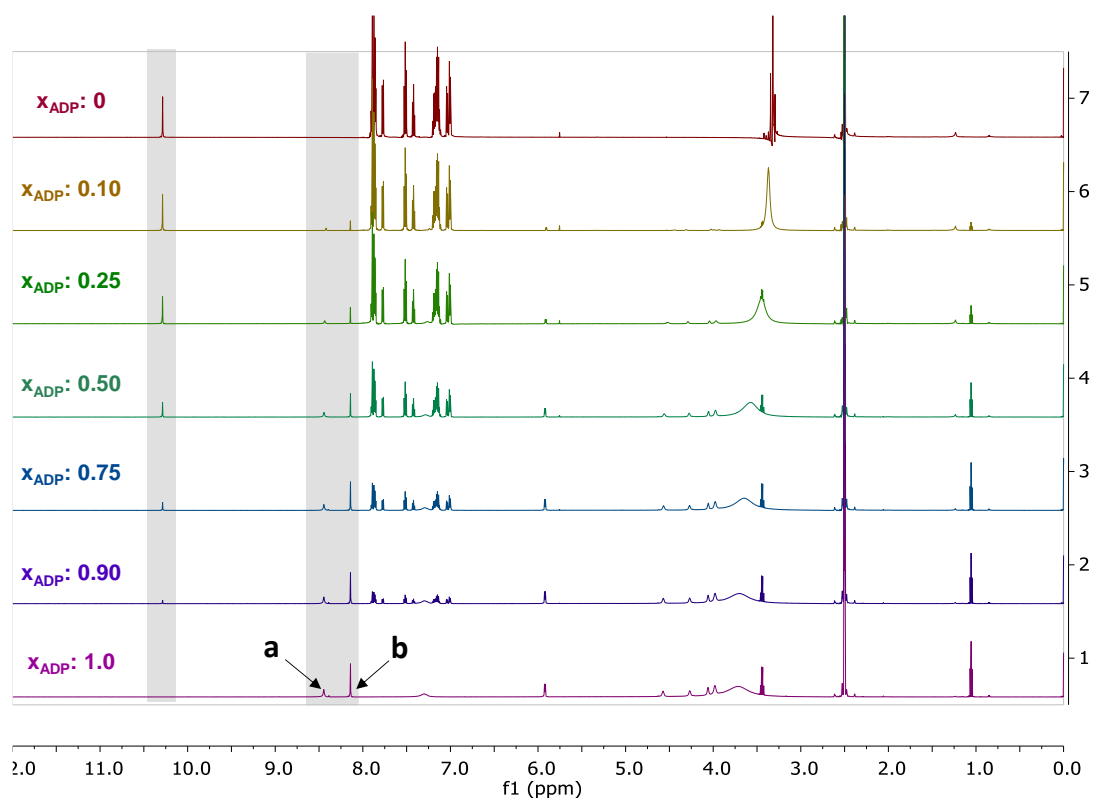


Figure S 20 ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of **ADP** (grey colour indicates signals that are shifted)

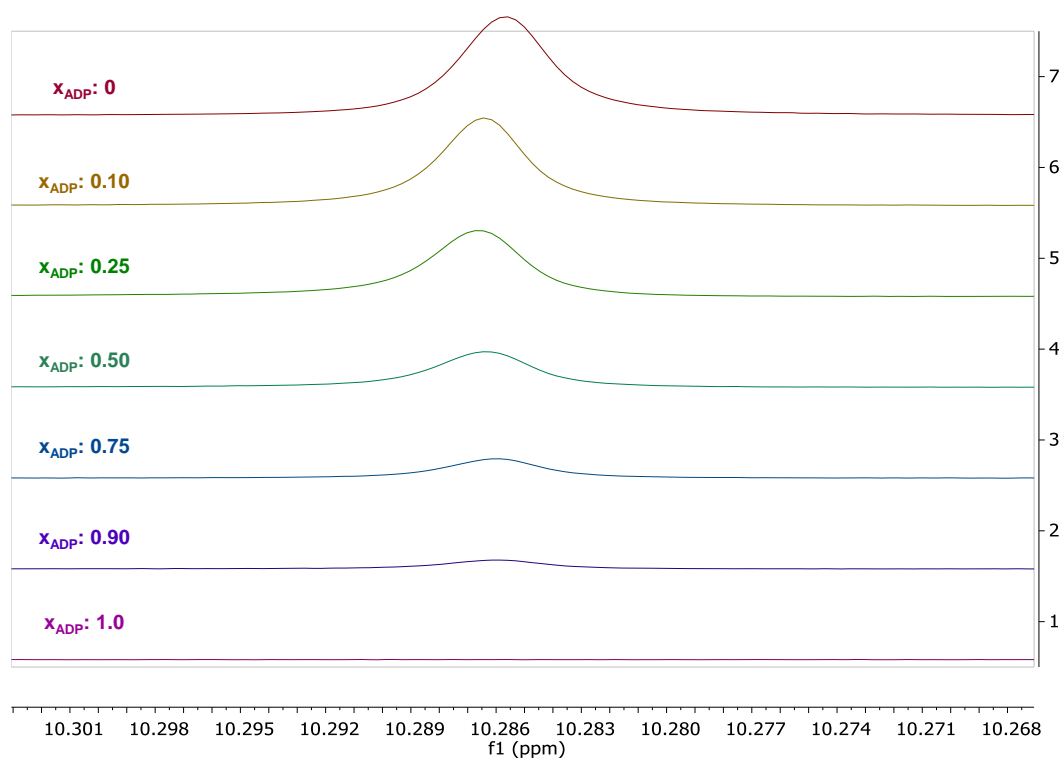


Figure S 21 Insets of the ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of **ADP** (amplification of the shifted proton signals of the amide group)

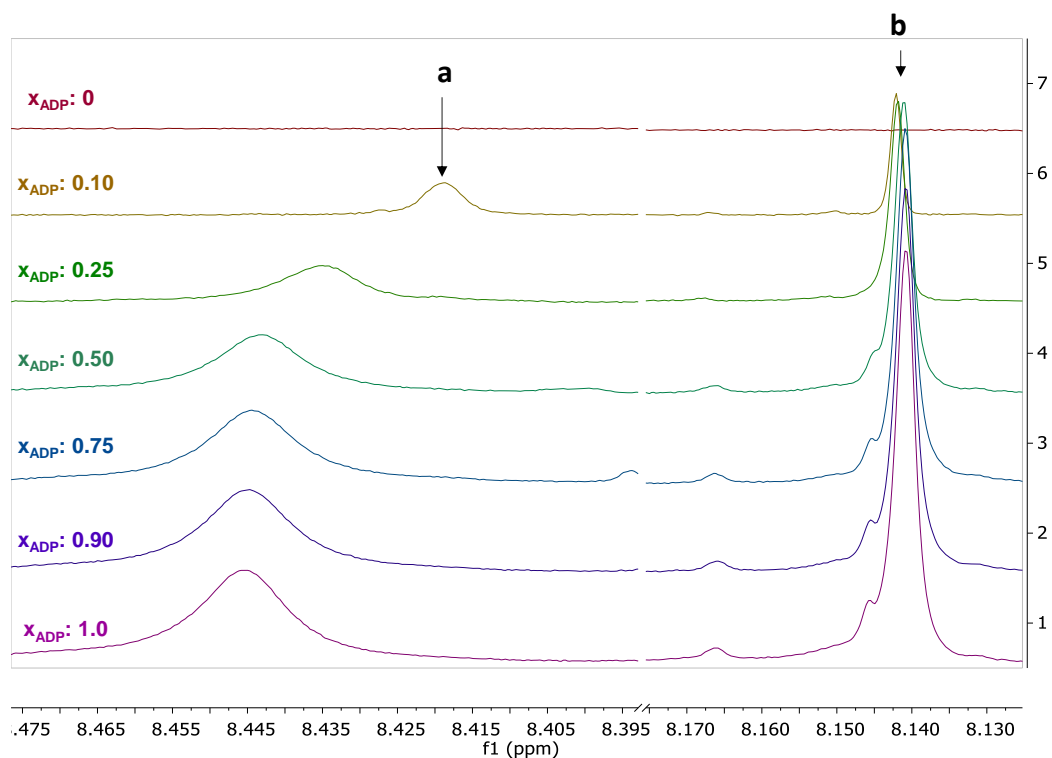


Figure S 22 Insets of the ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) spectrum of **3** in presence of various molar equivalents of **ADP** (amplification of the shifted proton signals of the nucleobase of the nucleotide)

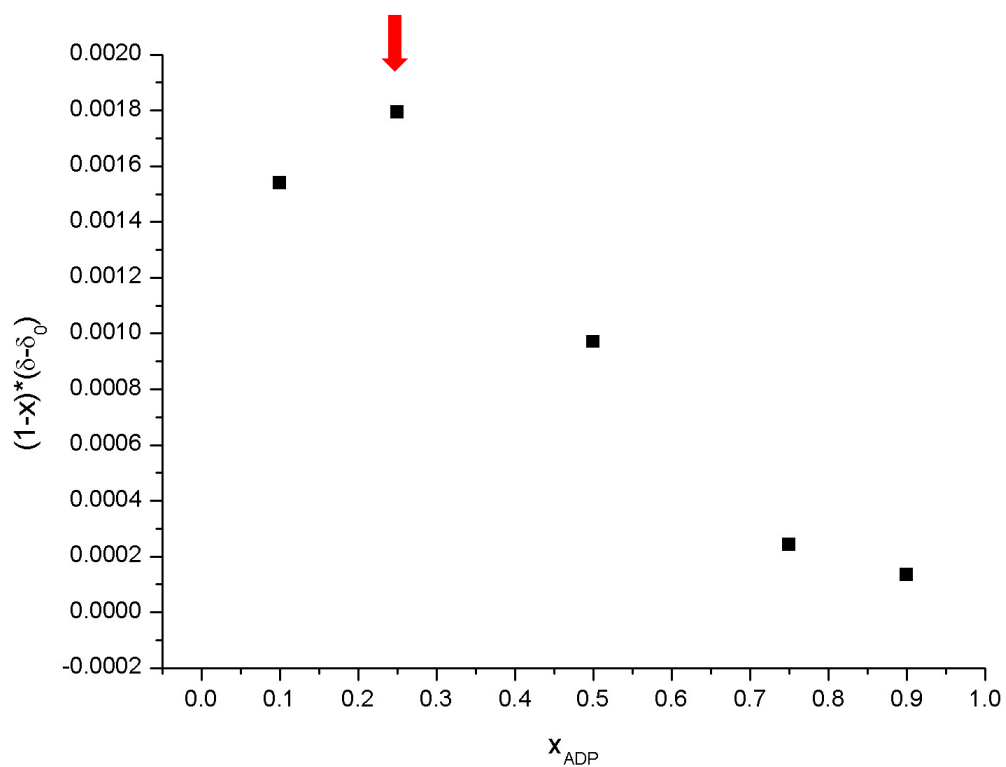


Figure S 23 Job's plot regarding the interactions between **3** and **ADP** (the red arrow indicates the estimated stoichiometry of the complex formed)

S5.2 Emission spectra

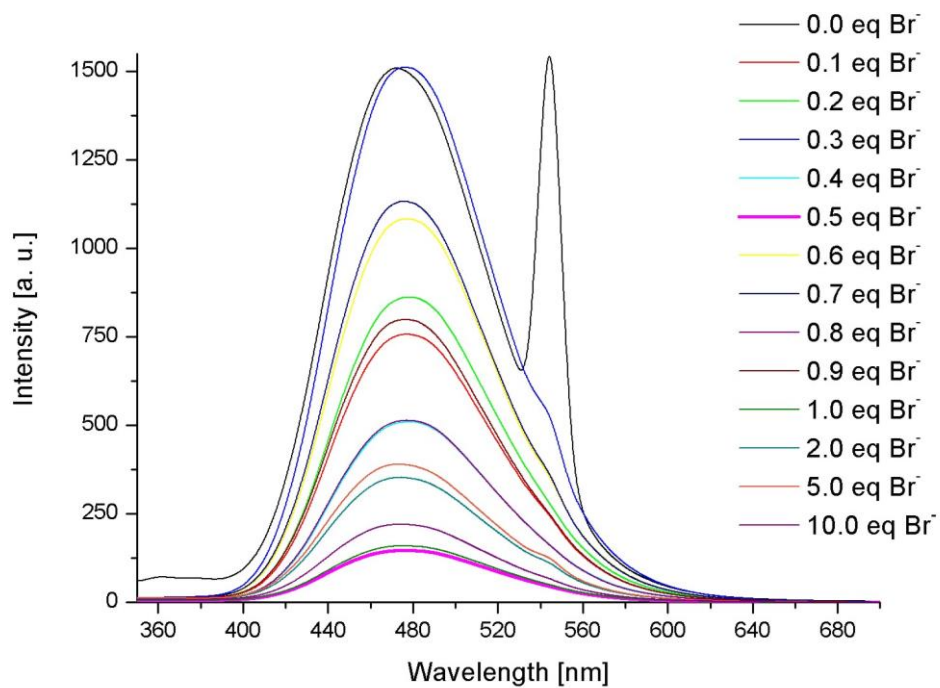


Figure S 24 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of Br⁻ (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, C₃ = 2·10⁻⁵ M, λ_{ex} = 270 nm).

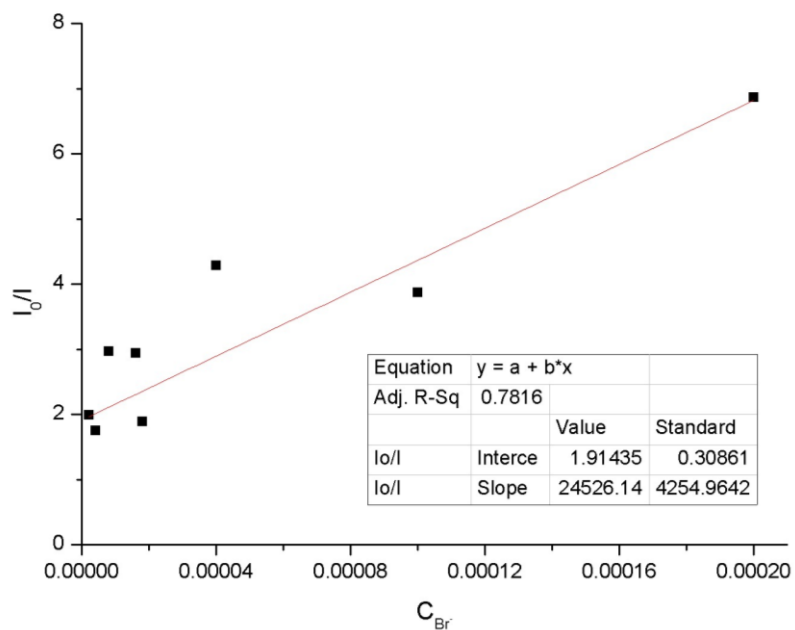


Figure S 25 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and Br^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

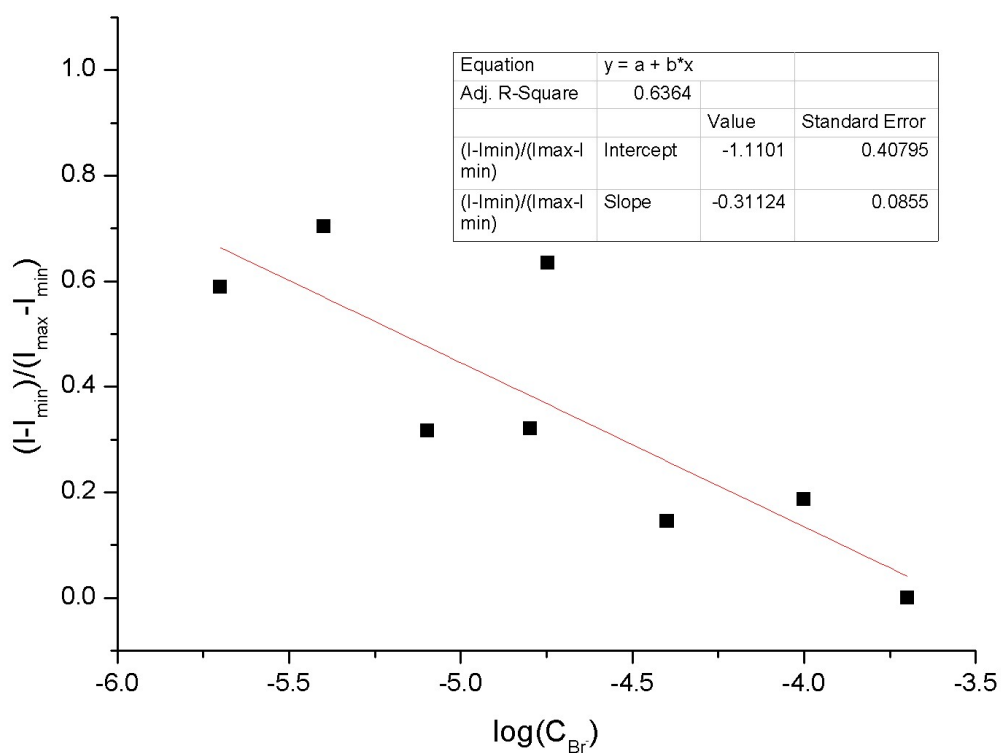


Figure S 26 Plot for $(I - I_{\text{min}})/(I_{\text{max}} - I_{\text{min}})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{Br}^-})$ of the interactions between **3** and Br^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

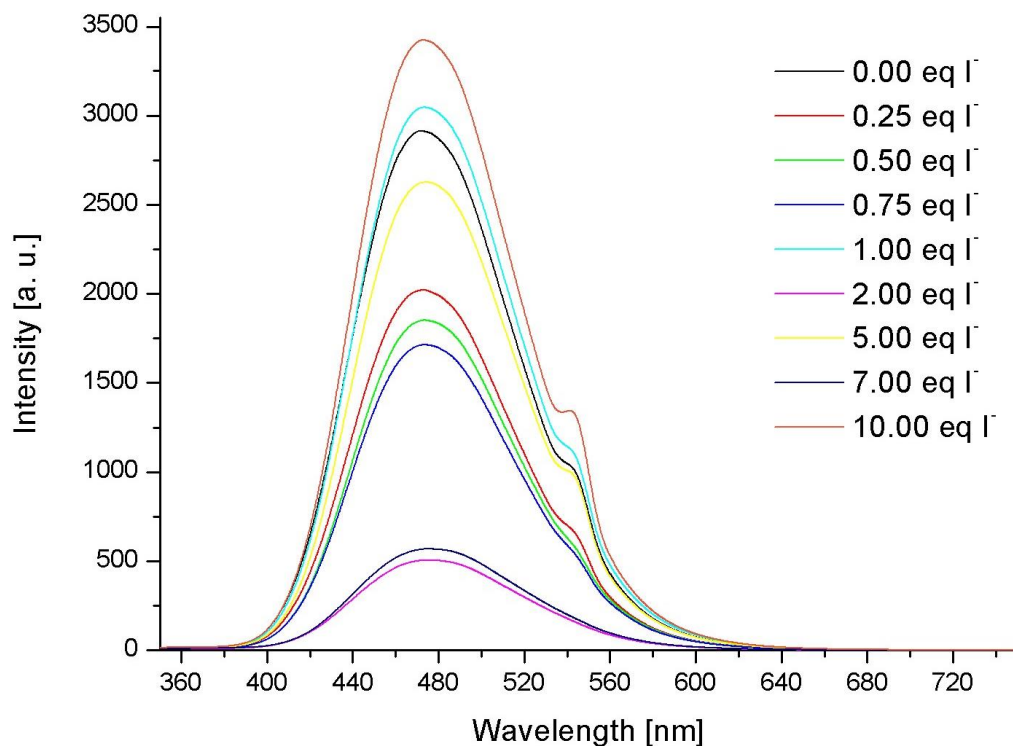


Figure S 27 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of I^- (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{ex} = 270$ nm).

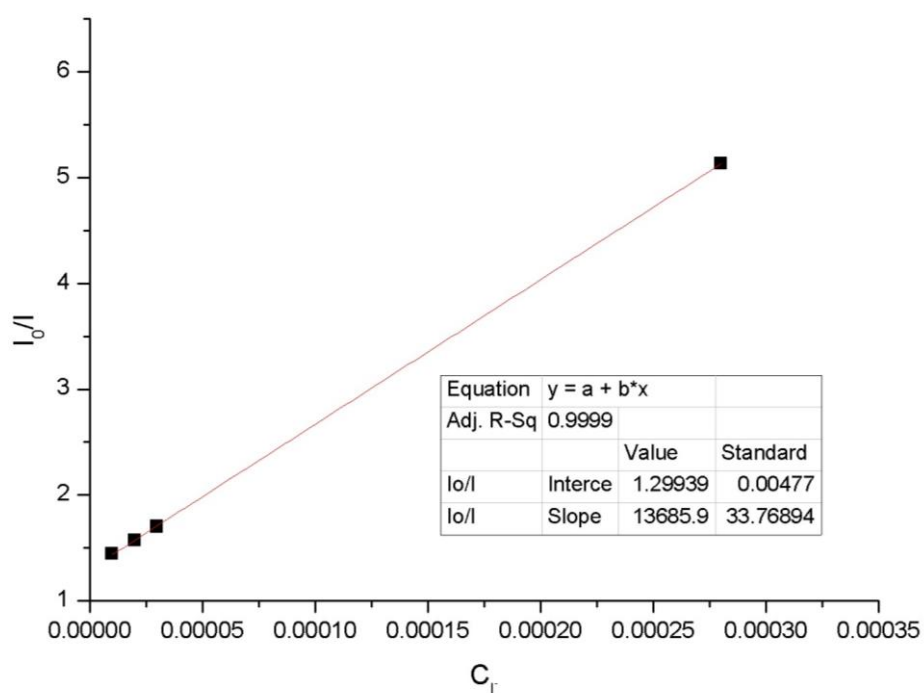


Figure S 28 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and I^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

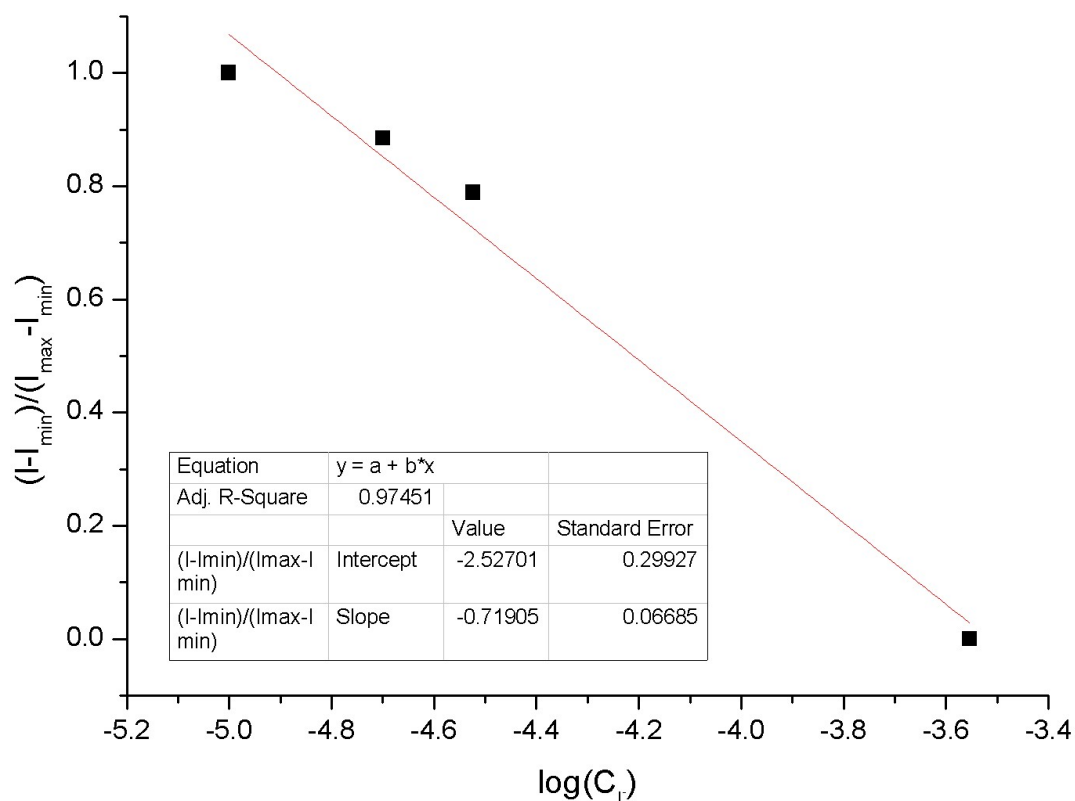


Figure S 29 Plot for $(I-I_{\min})/(I_{\max}-I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_1)$ regarding the interactions between **3** and Γ . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

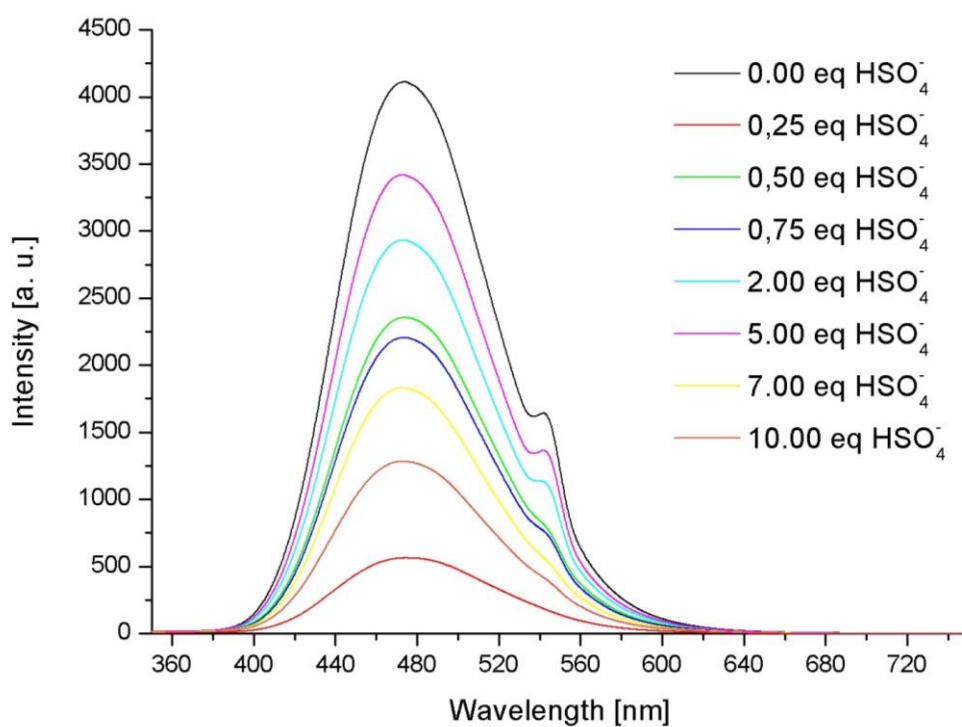


Figure S 30 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of HSO_4^- (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270$ nm).

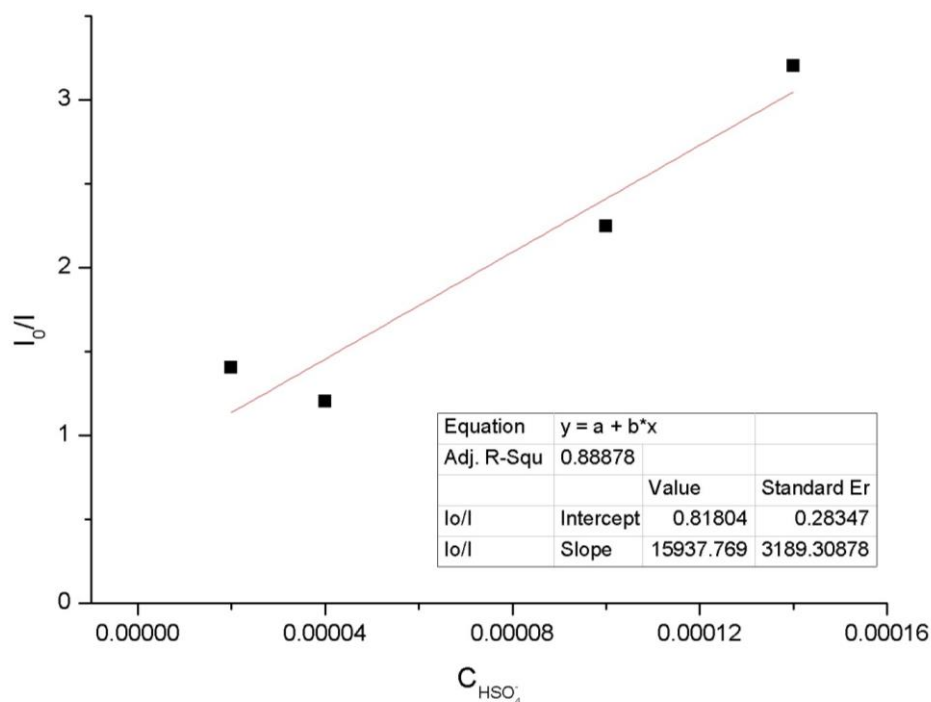


Figure S 31 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and HSO_4^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

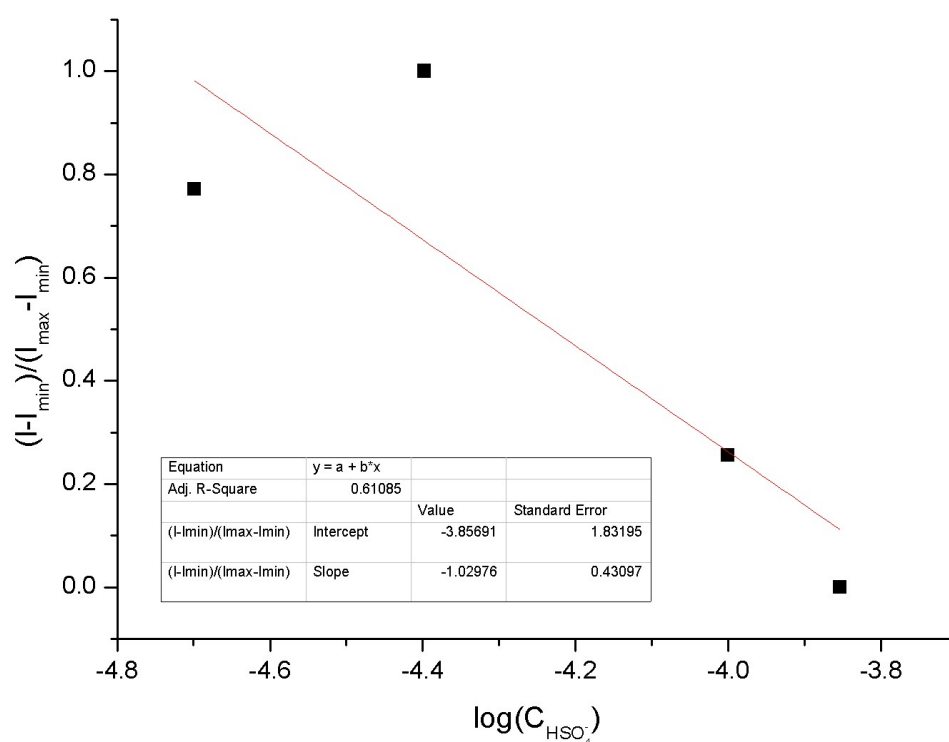


Figure S 32 Plot for $(I - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} - I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{HSO}_4^-})$ regarding the interactions between **3** and HSO_4^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

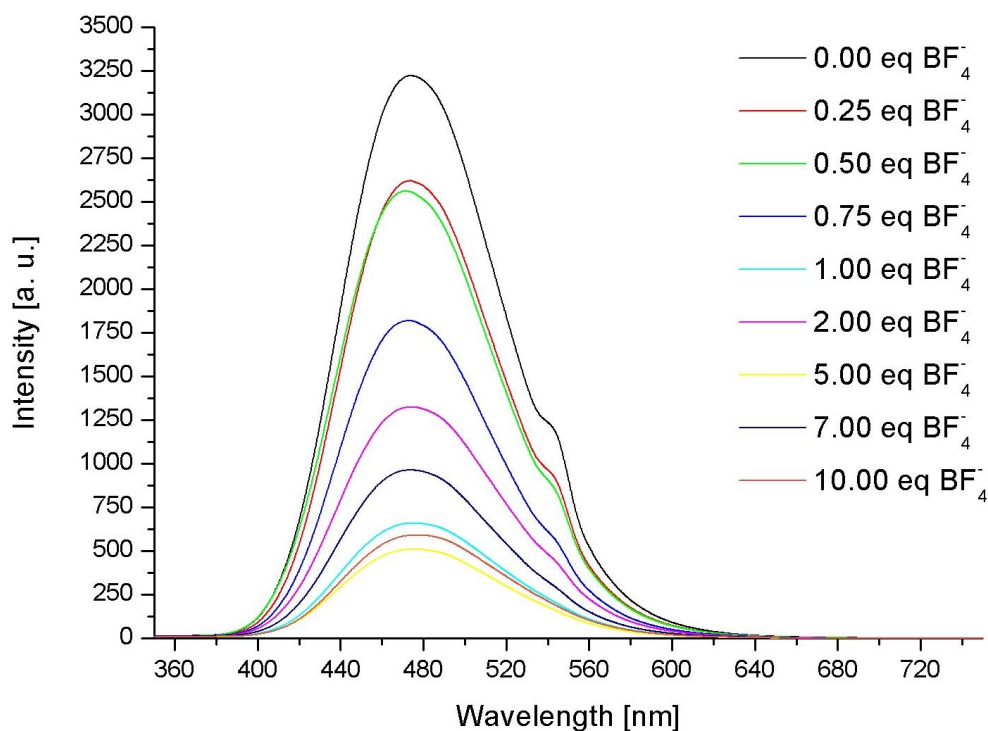


Figure S 33 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of BF_4^- (DMSO/ H_2O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270$ nm).

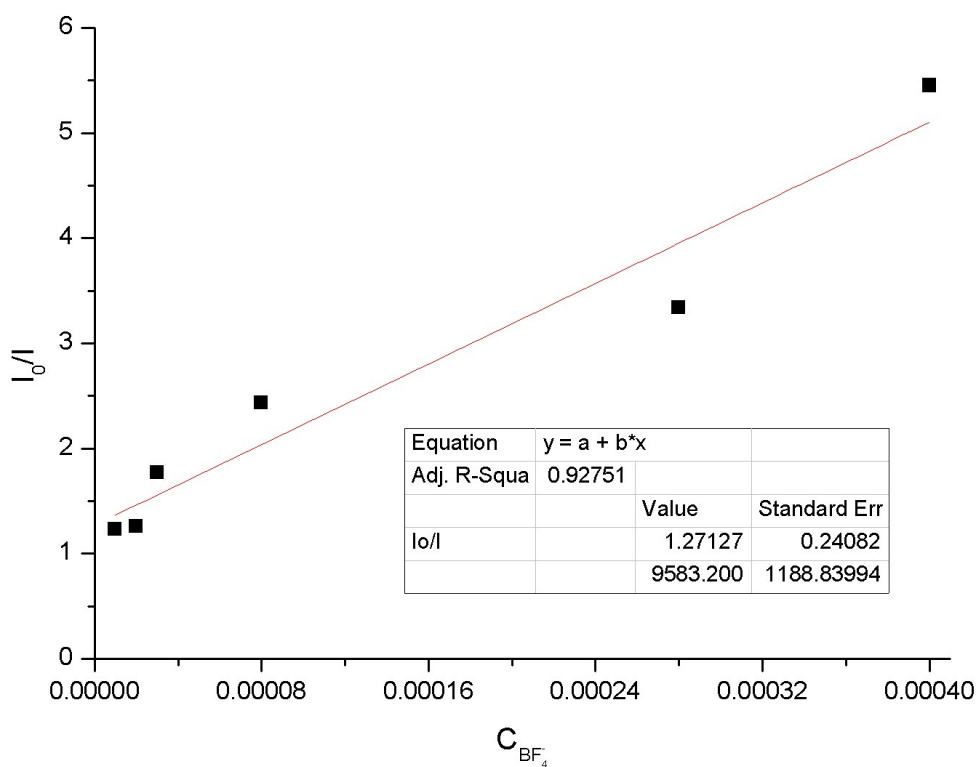


Figure S 34 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and BF_4^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

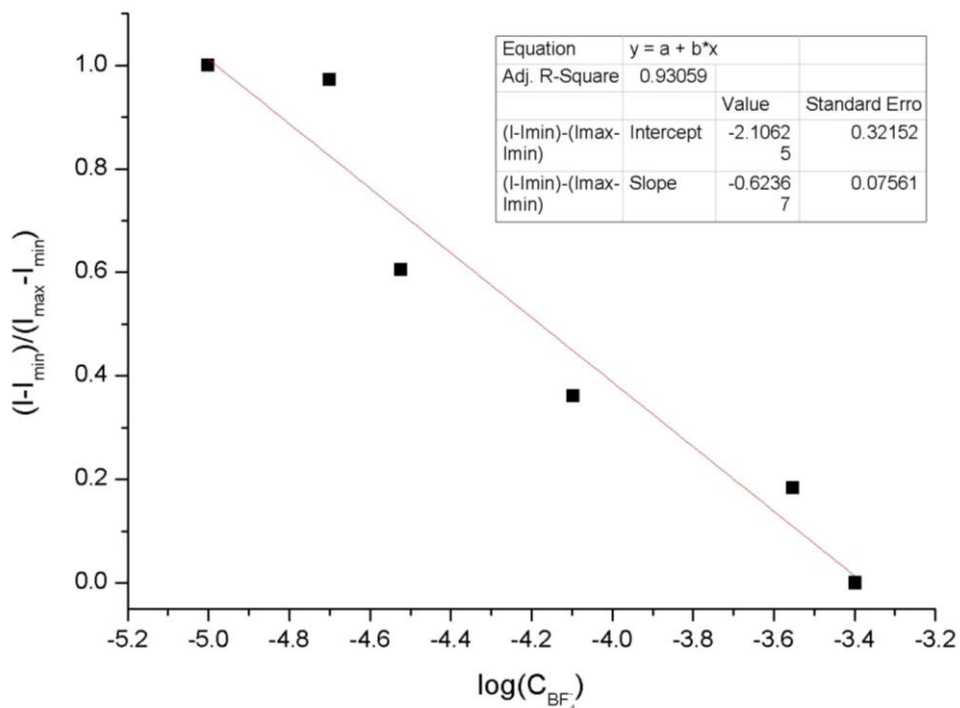


Figure S 35 Plot for $(I-I_{\min})/(I_{\max}-I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{BF}_4^-})$ regarding the interactions between **3** and BF_4^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

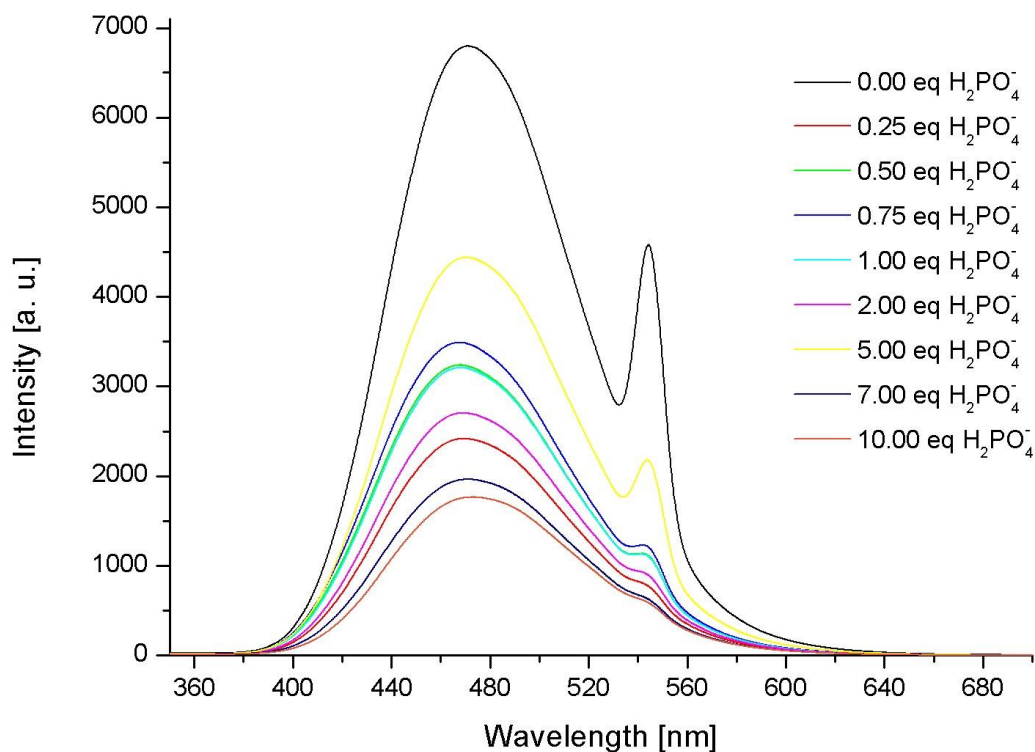


Figure S 36 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of H_2PO_4^- (DMSO/ H_2O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270$ nm).

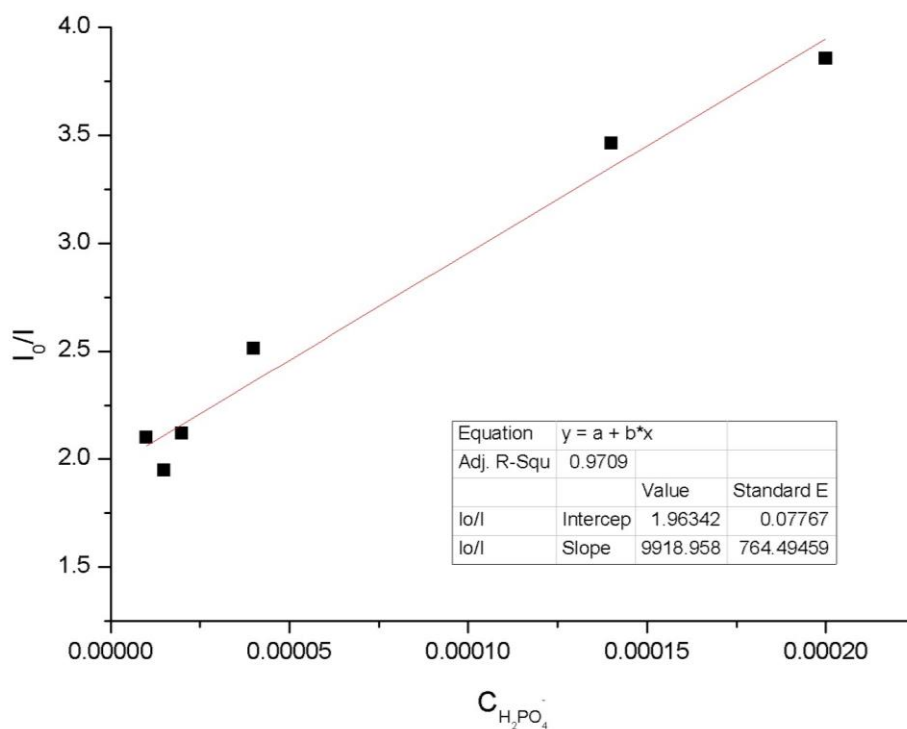


Figure S 37 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and H_2PO_4^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

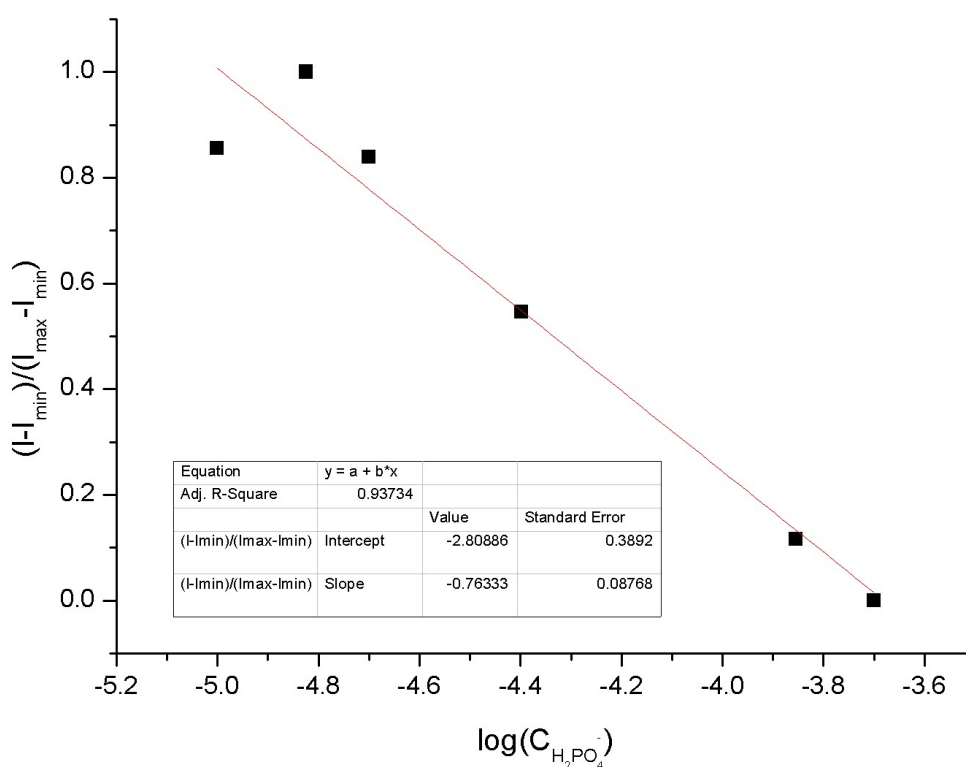


Figure S 38 Plot for $(I - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} - I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-})$ regarding the interactions between **3** and H_2PO_4^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

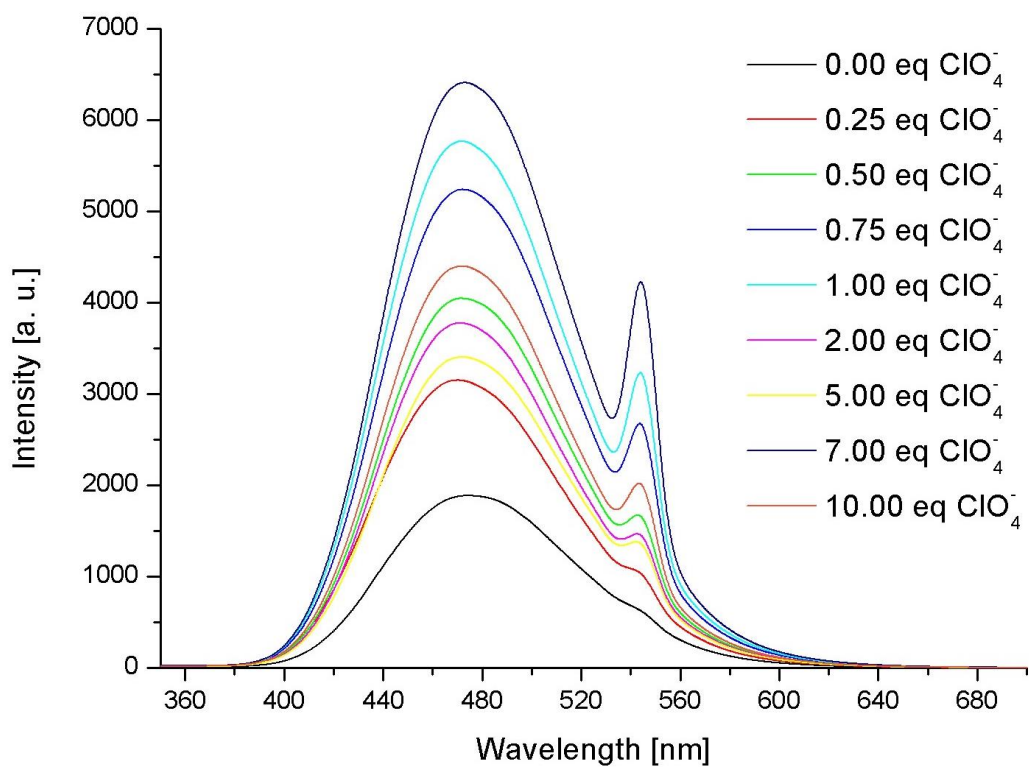


Figure S 39 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of ClO_4^- (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270$ nm).

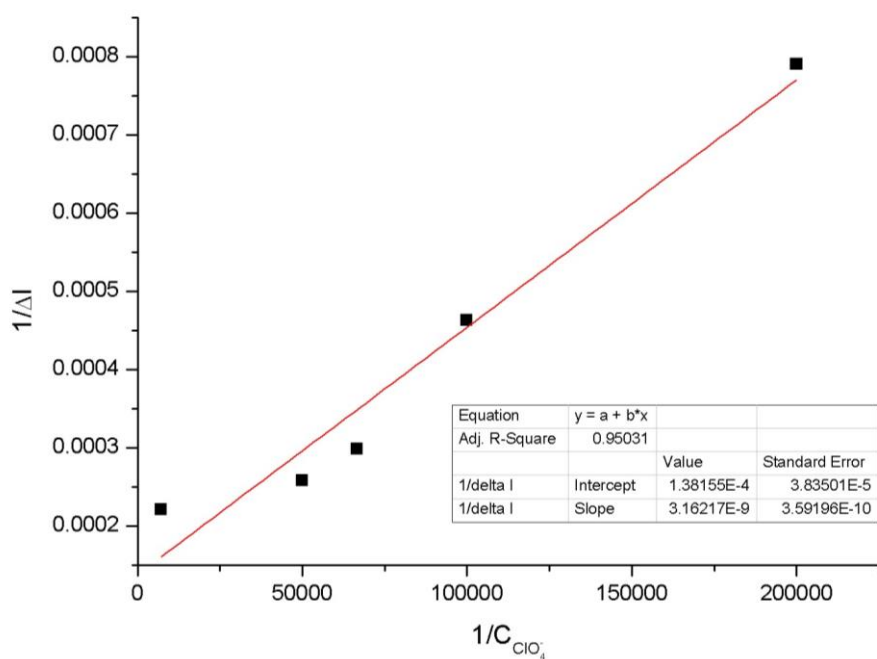


Figure S 40 Benesi-Hildebrand plots regarding the interactions between **3** and ClO_4^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

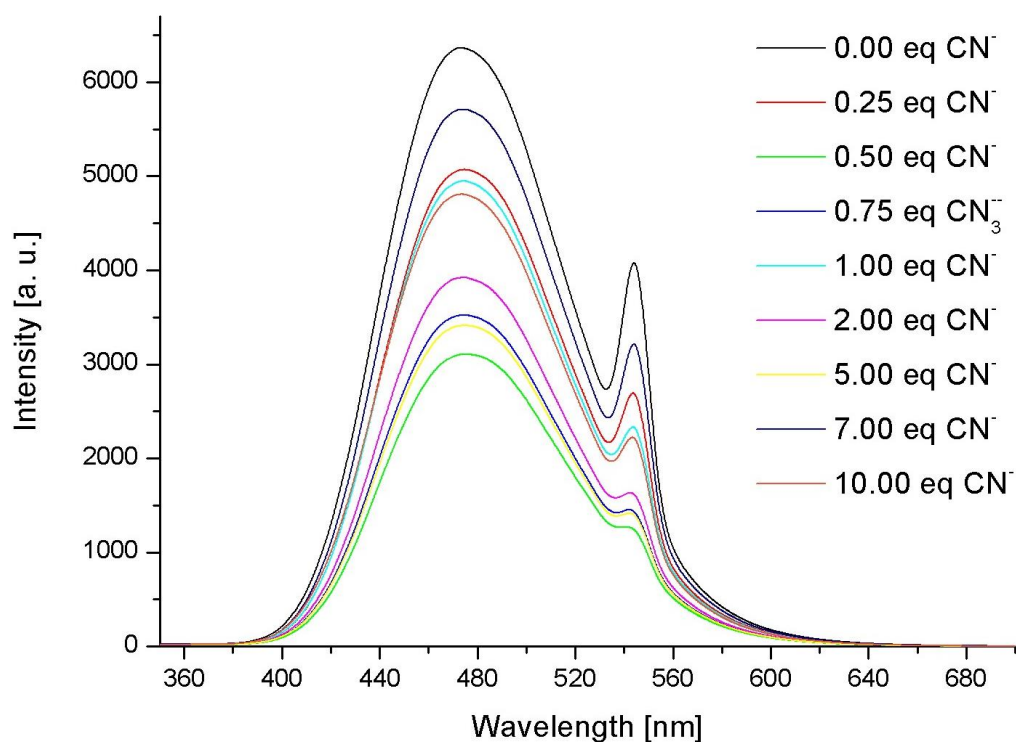


Figure S 41 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of CN^- (DMSO/ H_2O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270$ nm).

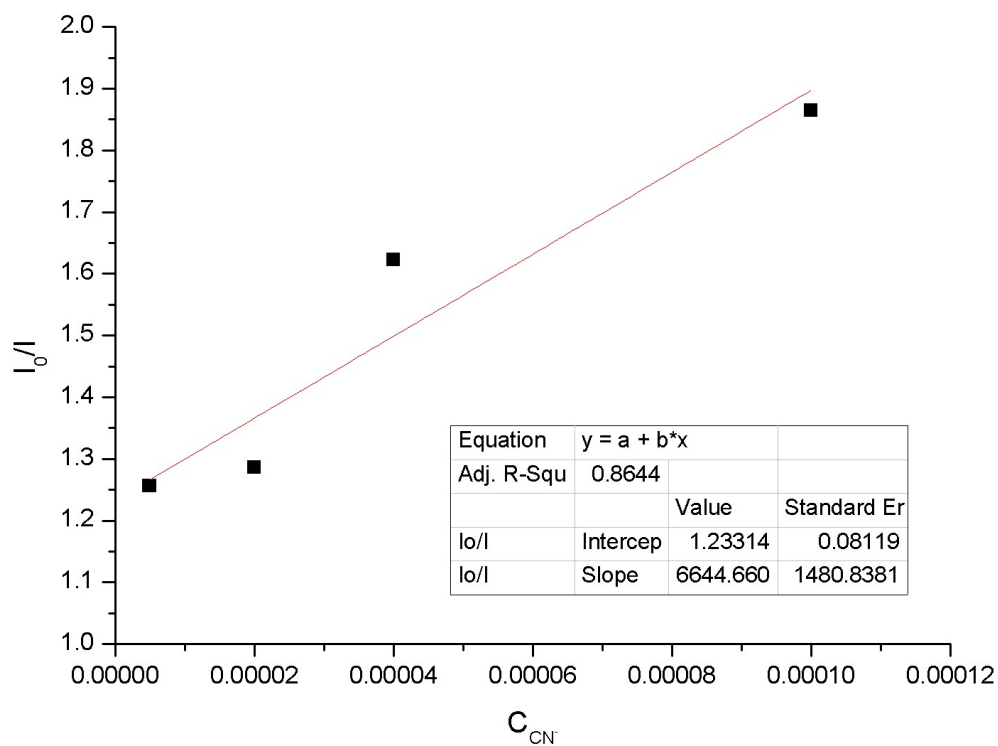


Figure S 42 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and CN^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

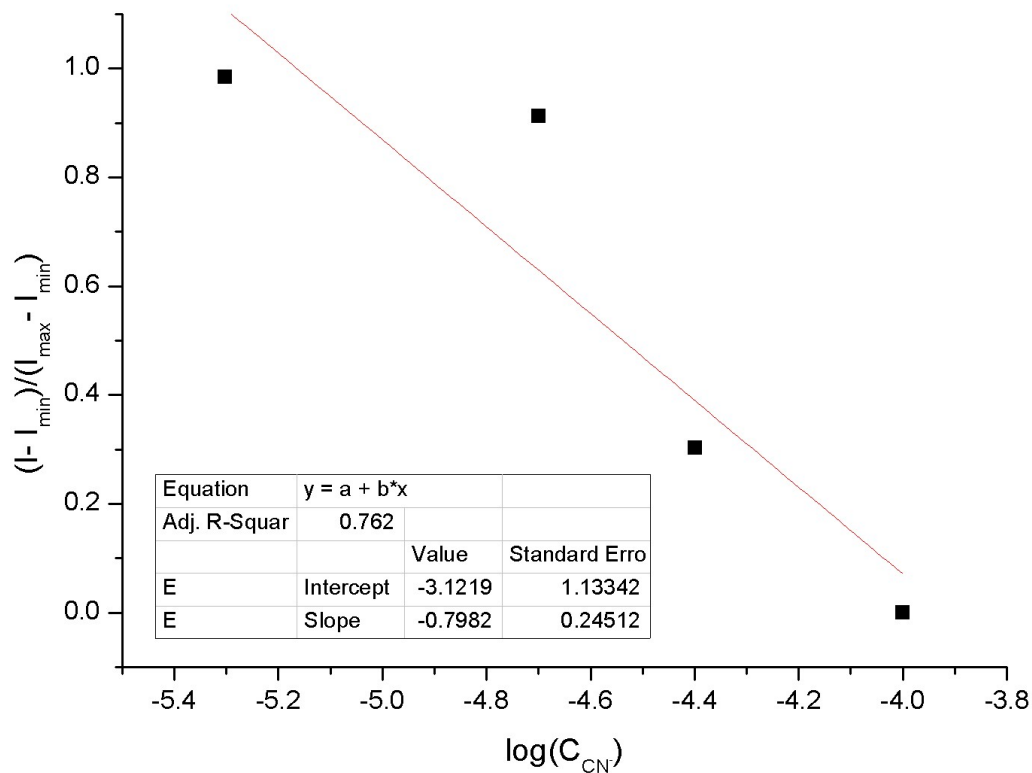


Figure S 43 Plot for $(I - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} - I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{CN}^-})$ regarding the interactions between **3** and CN^- . The data for the linear plot are also presented.

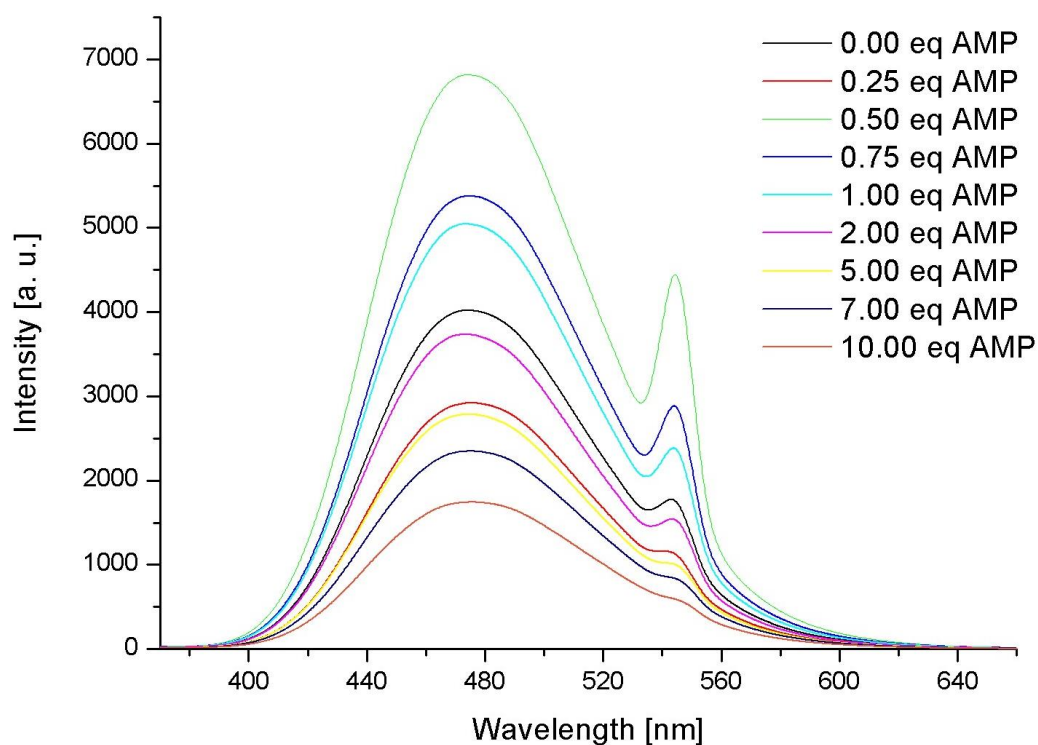


Figure S 44 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of **AMP** (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270$ nm).

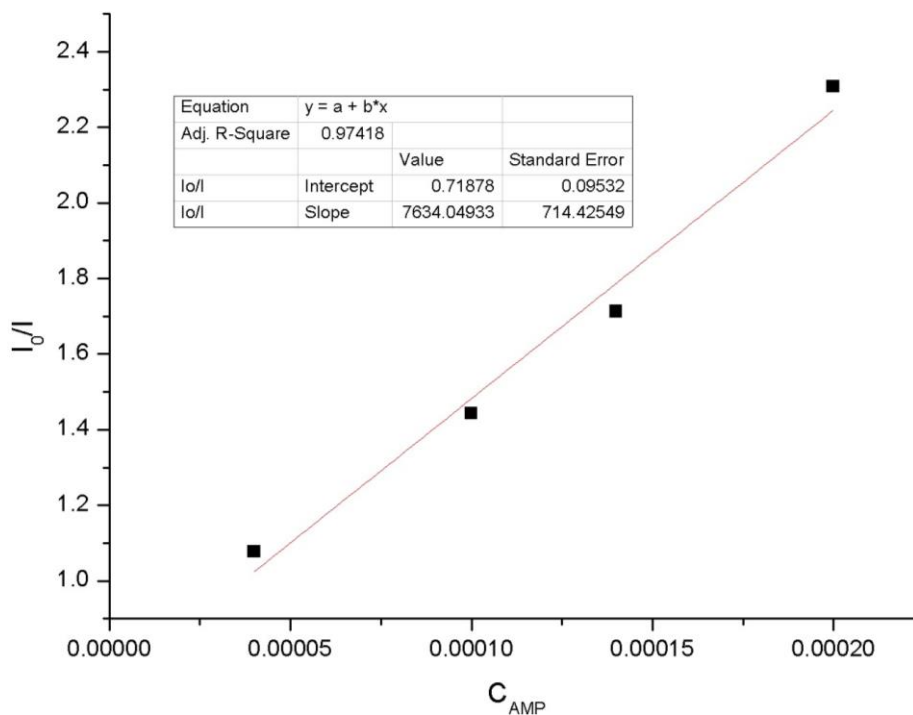


Figure S 45 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and **AMP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

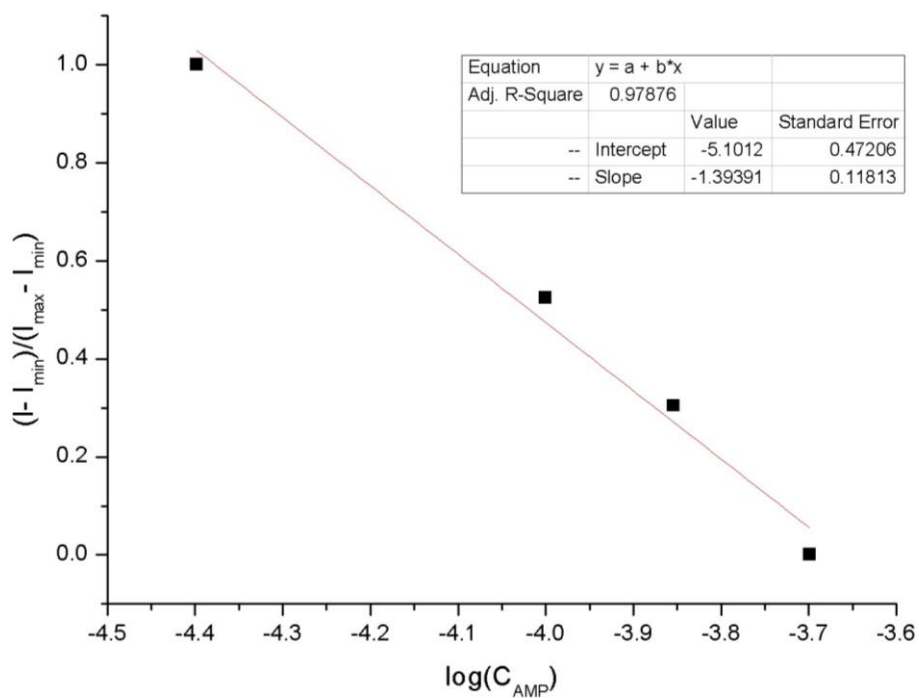


Figure S 46 Plot for $(I - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} - I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{AMP}})$ of the interactions between **3** and **AMP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

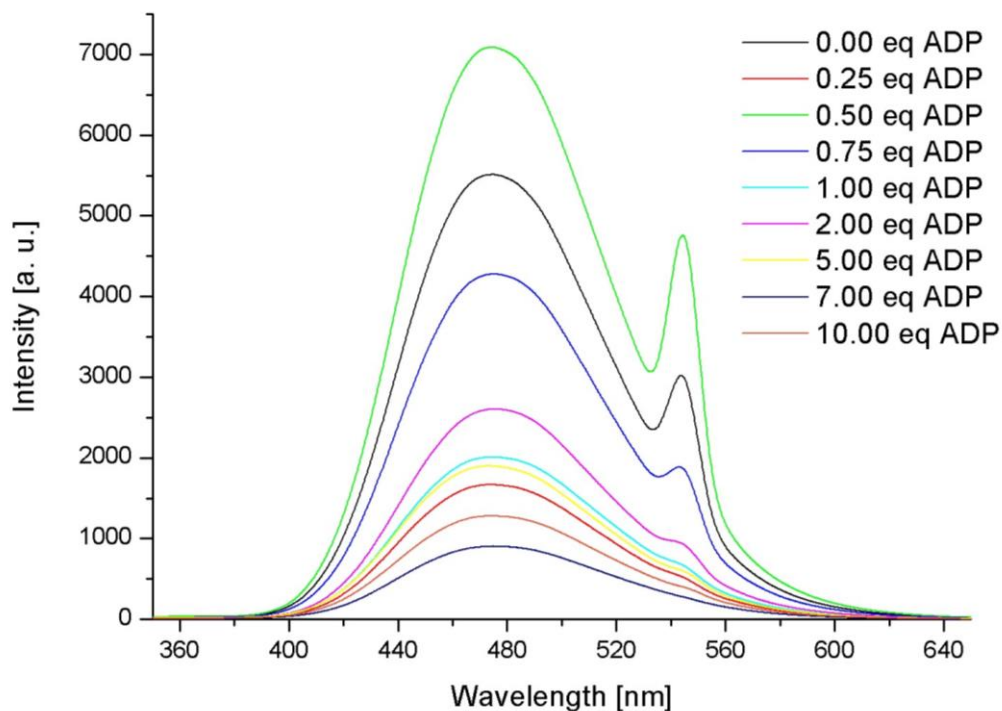


Figure S 47 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of **ADP** (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, C₃ = 2·10⁻⁵ M, λ_{ex} = 270 nm).

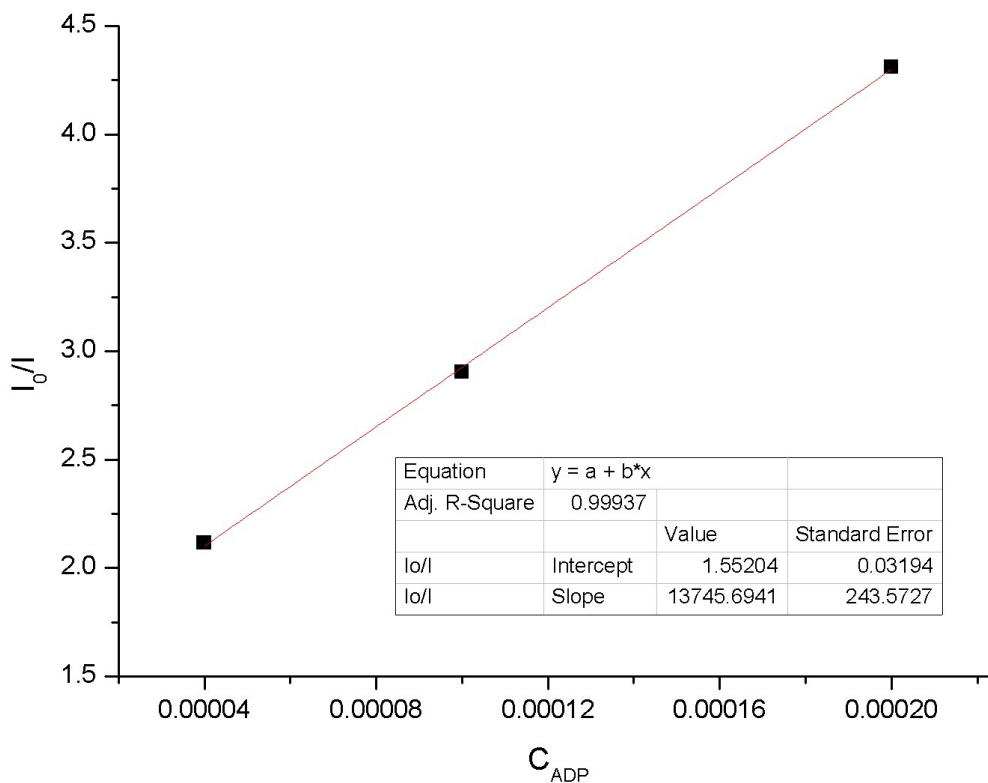


Figure S 48 Stern-Volmer plot regarding the interactions between **3** and **ADP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

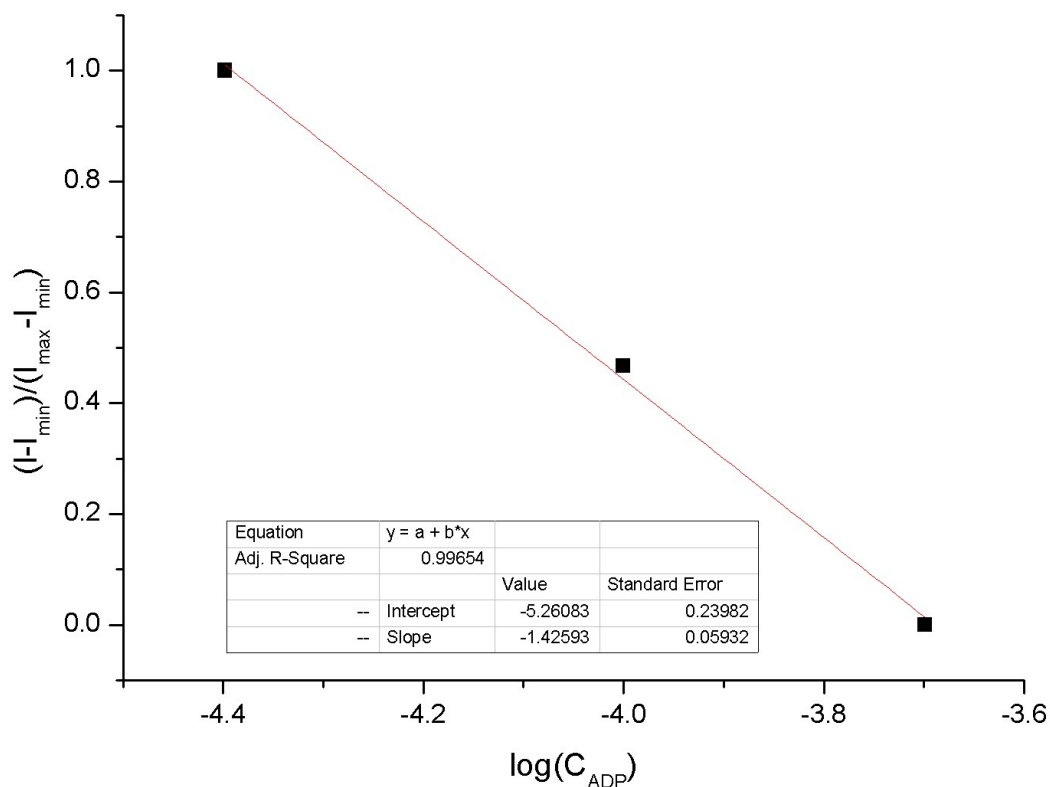


Figure S 49 Plot for $(I - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} - I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{ADP}})$ of the interactions between **3** and **ADP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

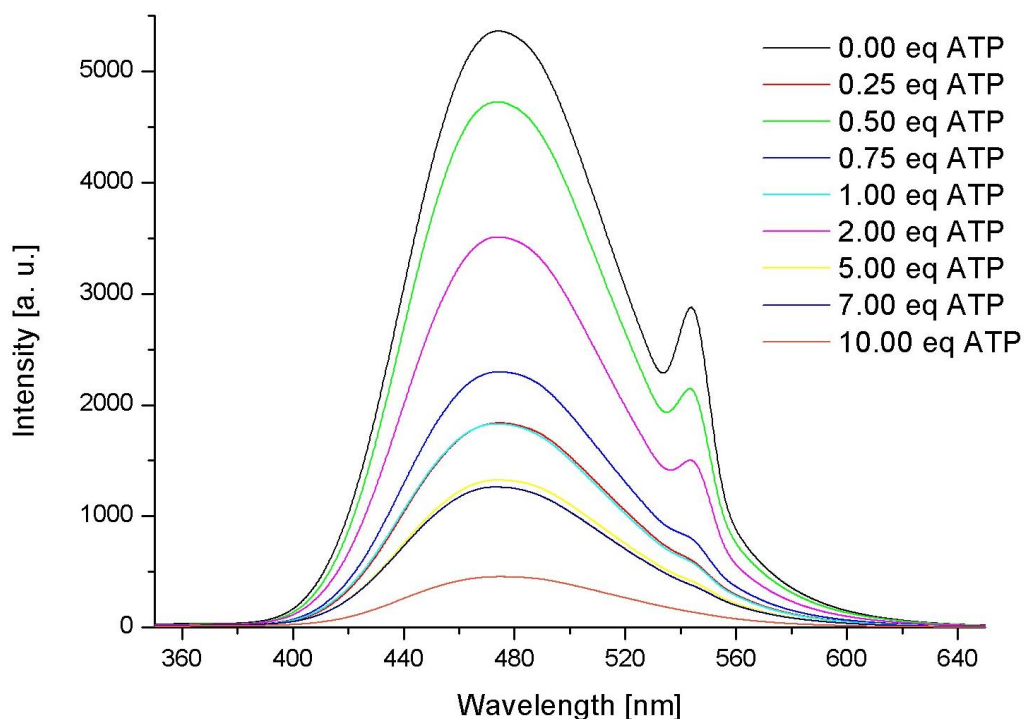


Figure S 50 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of **ATP** (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, $C_3 = 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 270$ nm).

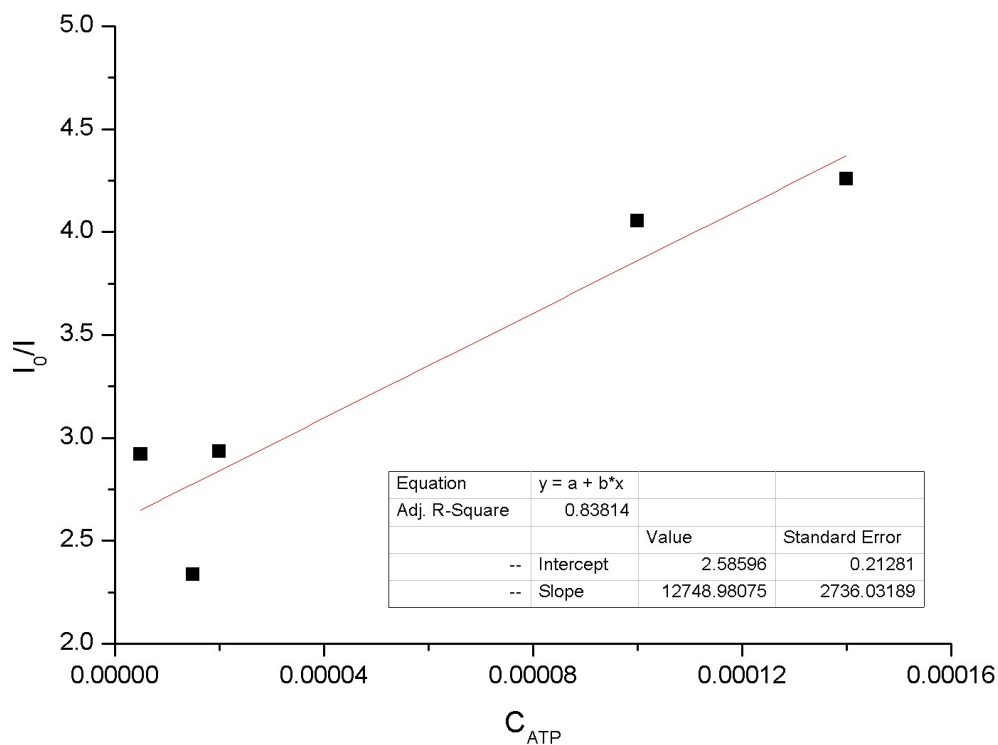


Figure S 51 Stern-Volmer plot of the interactions between **3** and **ATP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

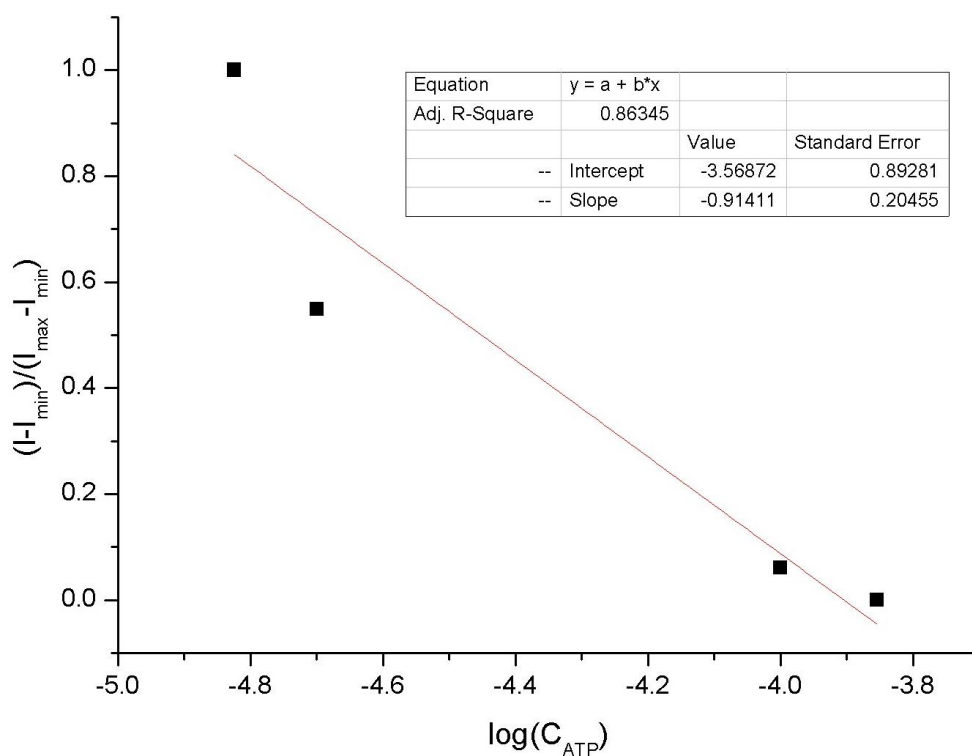


Figure S 52 Plot for $(I - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} - I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{ATP}})$ of the interactions between **3** and **ATP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

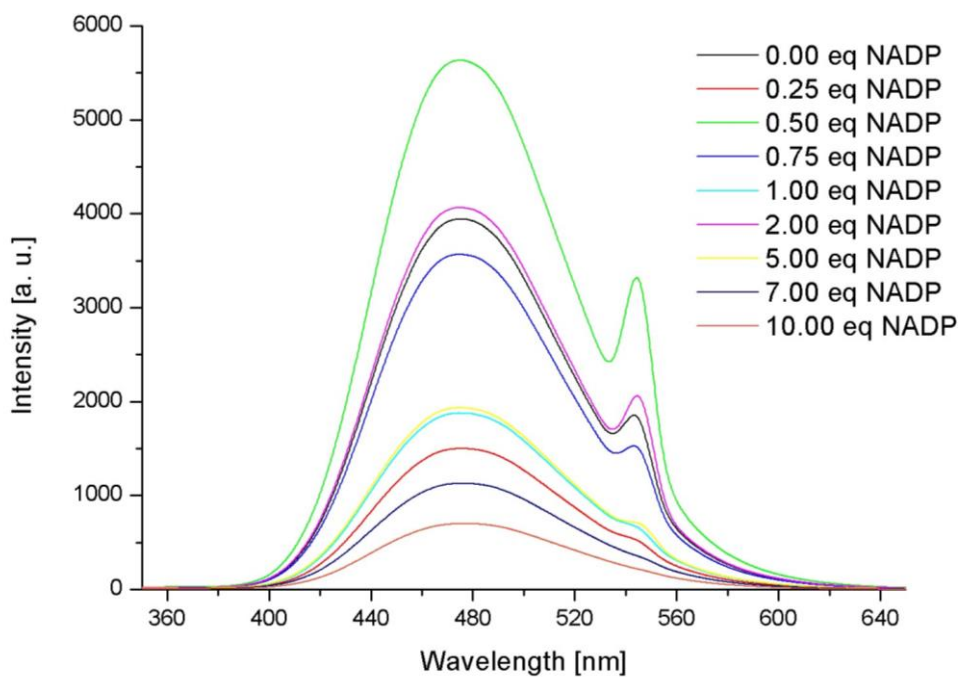


Figure S 53 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of **NADP** (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, C₃ = 2·10⁻⁵ M, λ_{ex} = 270 nm).

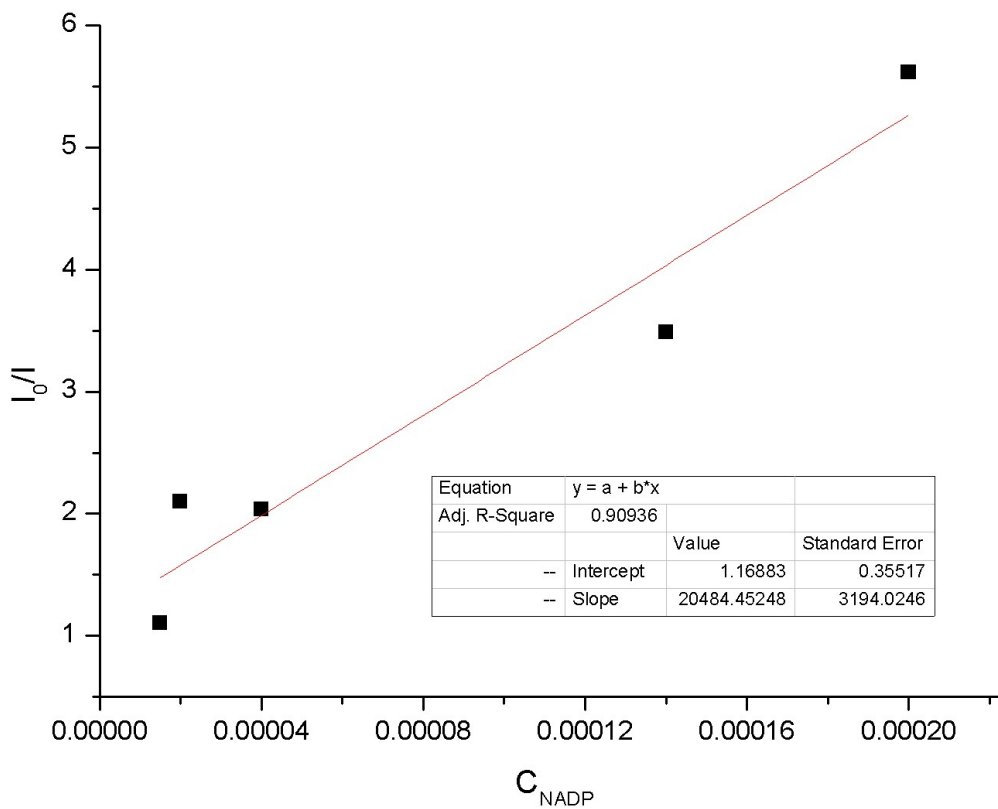


Figure S 54 Stern-Volmer plot of the interactions between **3** and **NADP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

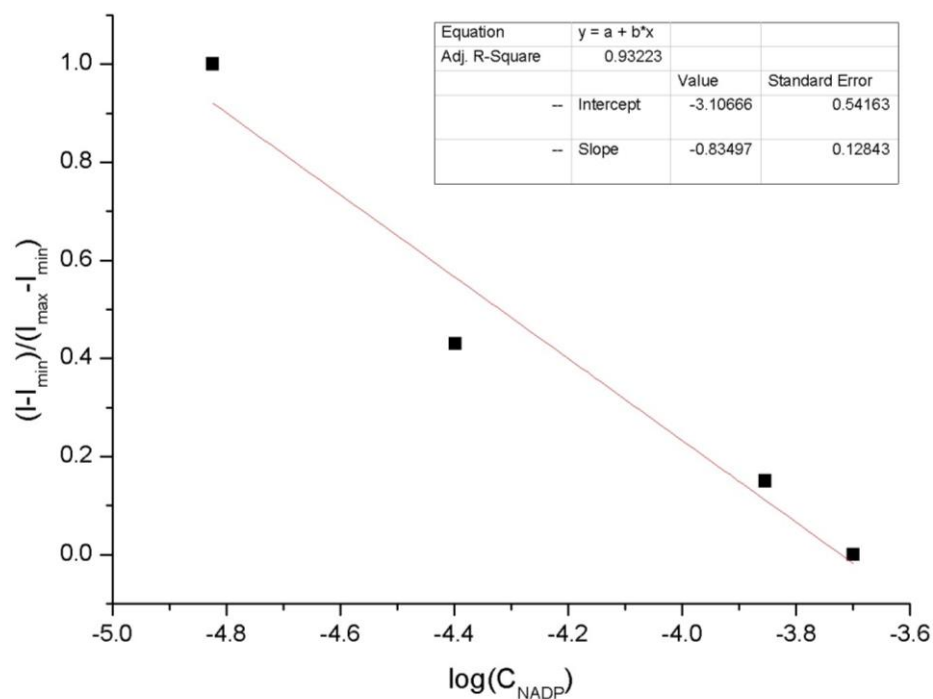


Figure S 55 Plot for $(I - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} - I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{NADP}})$ regarding the interactions between **3** and **NADP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

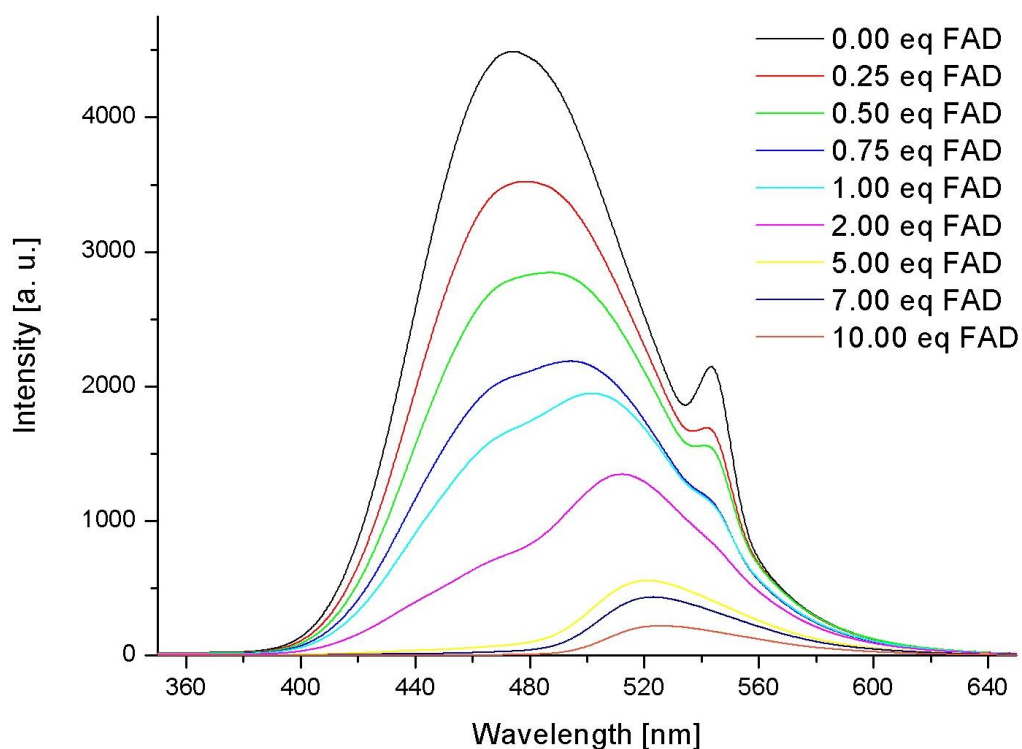


Figure S 56 Emission spectra of **3** in the presence of various molar equivalents of **FAD** (DMSO/H₂O 1:1 v/v, C₃ = 2 · 10⁻⁵ M, λ_{ex} = 270 nm).

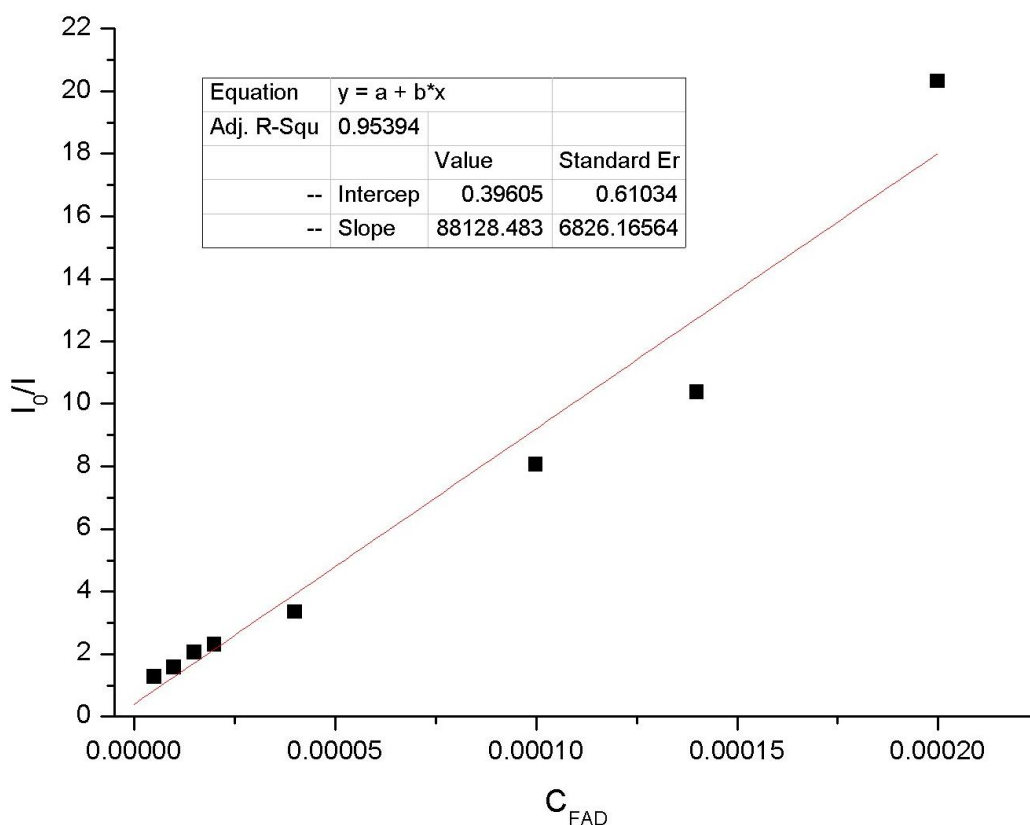


Figure S 57 Stern-Volmer plot of the interactions between **3** and **FAD**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

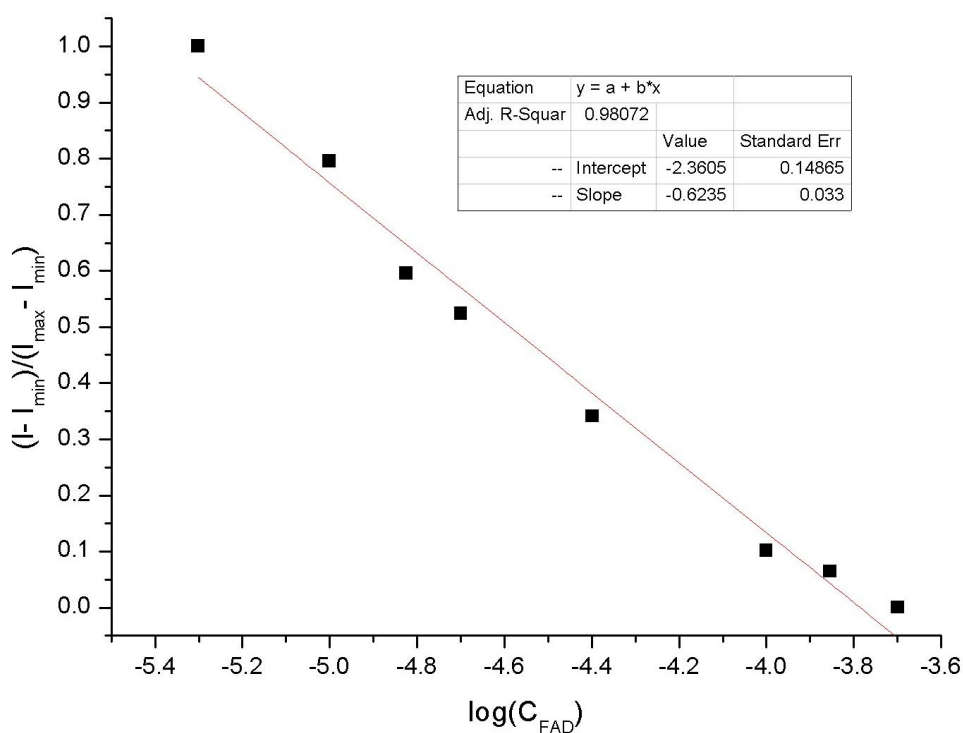


Figure S 58 Plot for $(-I_{\min})/(I_{\max}-I_{\min})$ versus $\log(C_{\text{AMP}})$ of the interactions between **3** and **NADP**. The data for the linear plot are also presented.

S6. DLS measurements

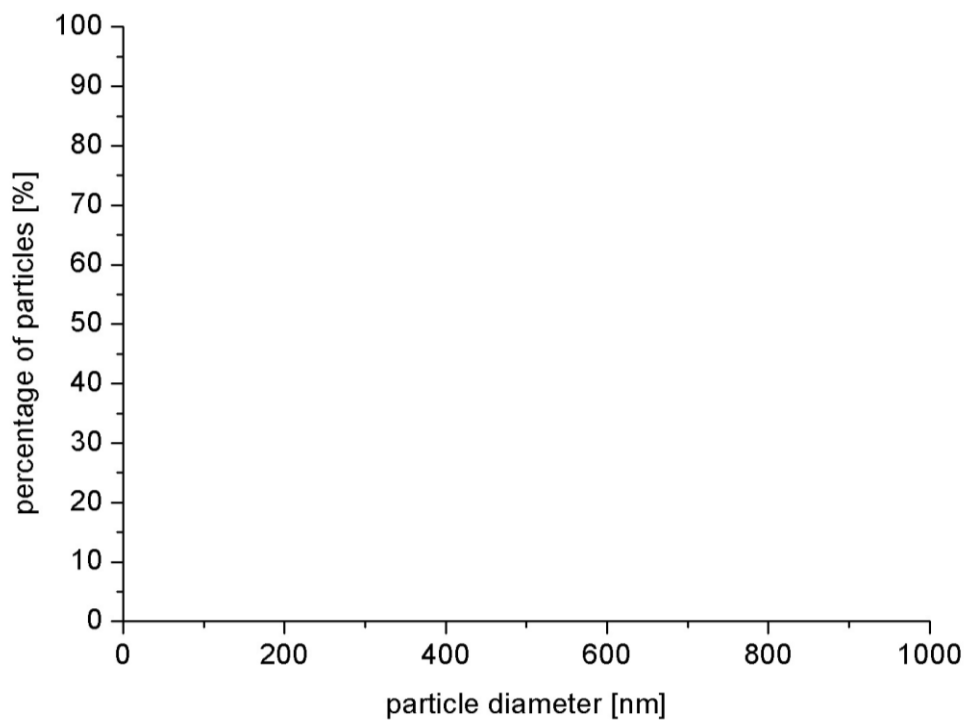


Figure S 59 Size distribution pattern of **3** in DMSO

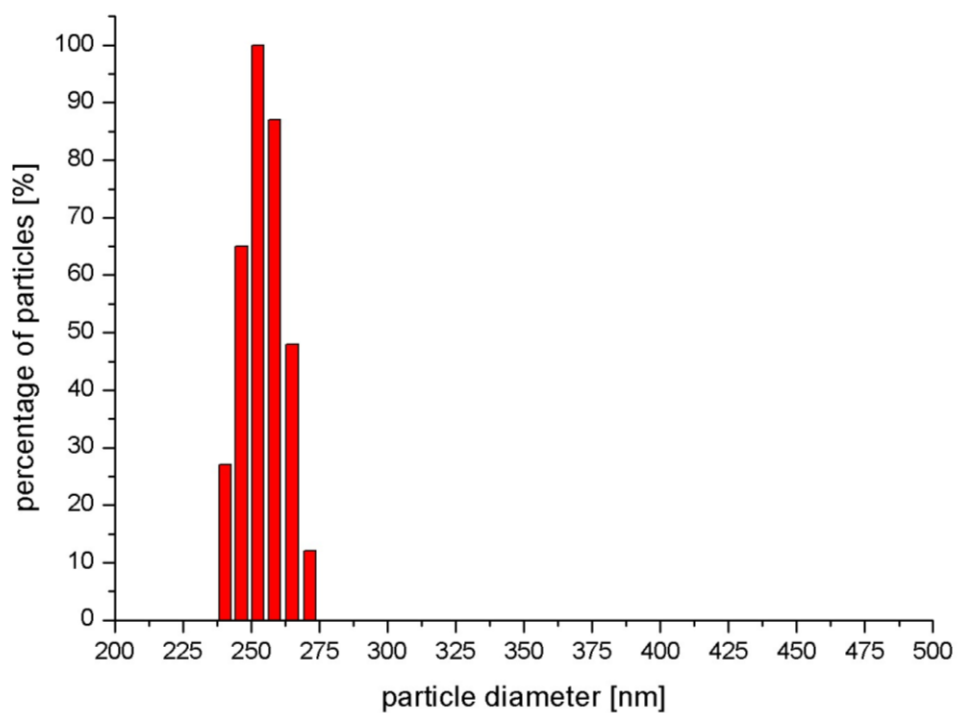


Figure S 60 Size distribution pattern of **3** in DMSO/H₂O = 1/1 v/v system

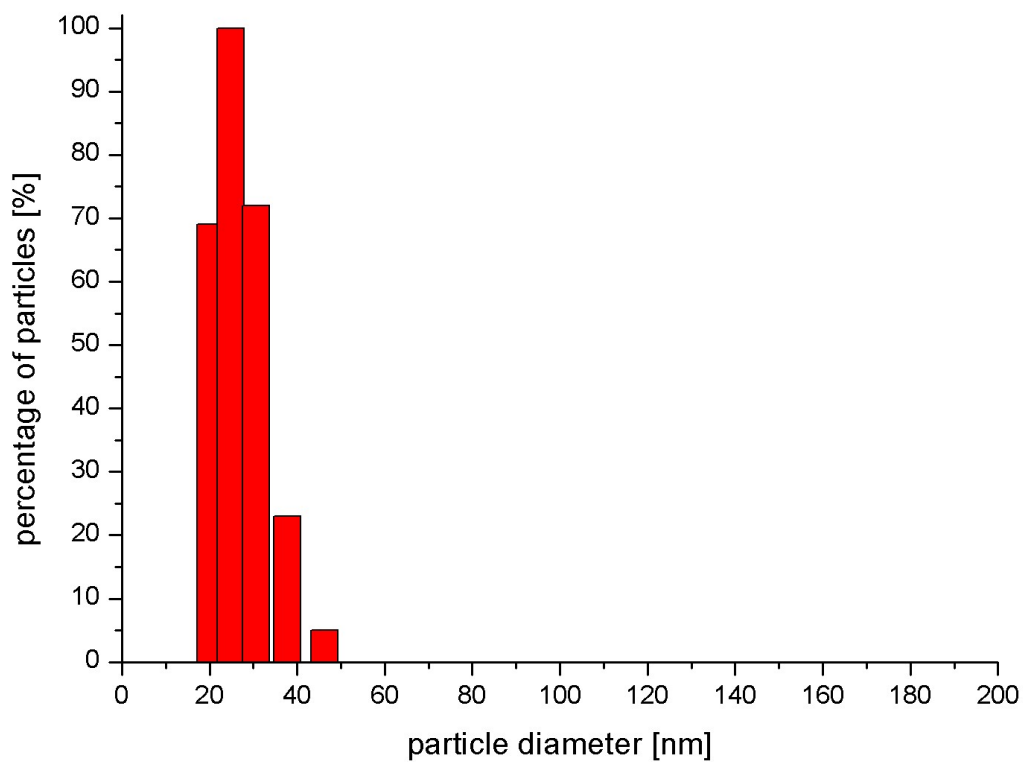


Figure S 61 Size distribution pattern of **3** in DMSO/H₂O = 9/1 v/v system

S7 SEM images

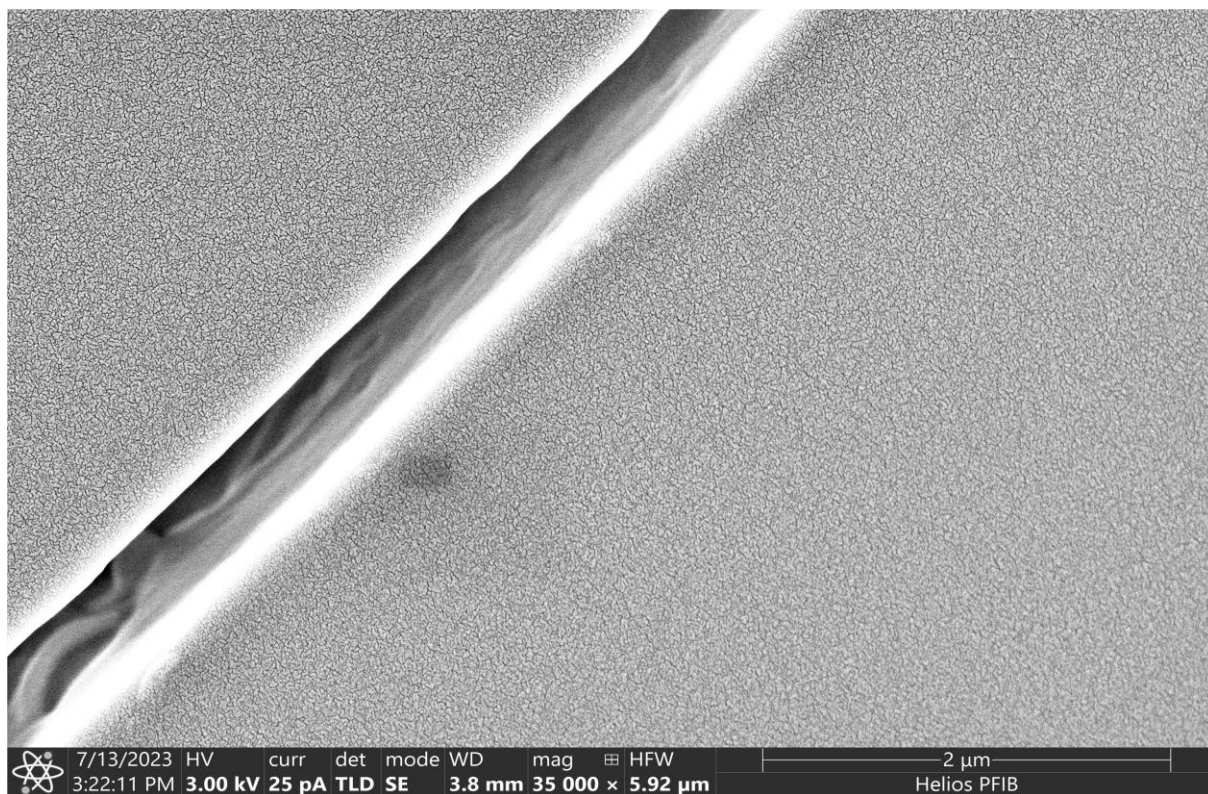


Figure S 62 SEM image of solid **3** obtained after column chromatography

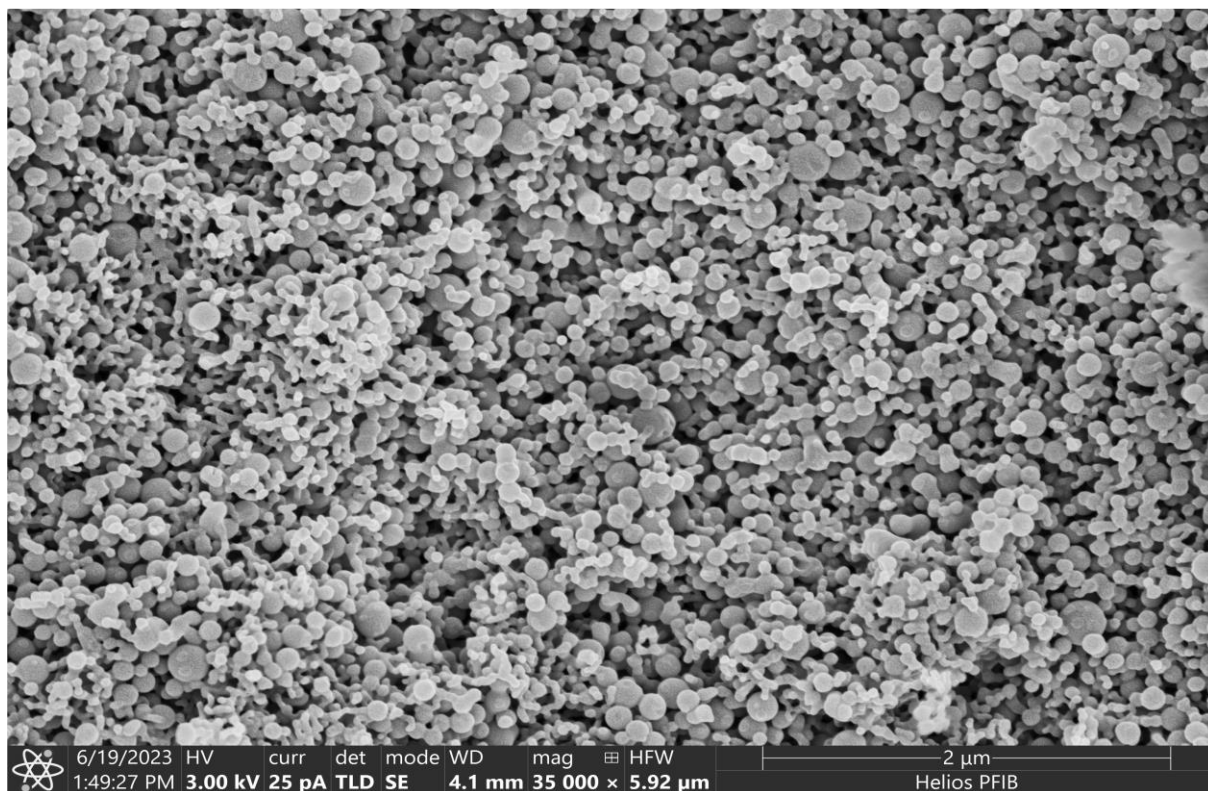


Figure S 63 SEM image of dried aggregates of **3**

S8 Supporting references

1. Brouwer, A. M. Standards for photoluminescence quantum yield measurements in solution (IUPAC Technical Report). *Pure Appl. Chem.* **83**, 2213–2228 (2011).
2. Würth, C., Grabolle, M., Pauli, J., Spieles, M. & Resch-Genger, U. Relative and absolute determination of fluorescence quantum yields of transparent samples. *Nat. Protoc.* **8**, 1535–1550 (2013).
3. Brouwer, A. M. Standards for photoluminescence quantum yield measurements in solution (IUPAC Technical Report). *Pure Appl. Chem.* **83**, 2213–2228 (2011).
4. Benesi, H. A. & Hildebrand, J. H. A Spectrophotometric Investigation of the Interaction of Iodine with Aromatic Hydrocarbons. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **71**, 2703–2707 (1949).
5. Goswami, S. *et al.* A highly selective and sensitive probe for colorimetric and fluorogenic detection of Cd²⁺ in aqueous media. *The Analyst* **138**, 1903 (2013).
6. Wang, D. *et al.* Efficient Gene Delivery Based on Guanidyl-Nucleic Acid Molecular Interactions. *Adv. Funct. Mater.* **30**, 2004783 (2020).