



Showcasing research from Professor Li Wang's laboratory, School of Chemistry, Capital Normal University, Beijing, China.

A step forward in unraveling the lanthanide discrimination puzzle: structure–selectivity relationship based on phenanthroline diimide ligands towards europium and terbium detection in water

Two isomeric phenanthroline diimides were found to be capable of selectively sensing europium(III) and terbium(III) in aqueous solutions, which could contribute to a fundamental understanding of selective photoluminescence sensing of rare earth elements (REEs) and represents the first investigation into Eu(III)/Tb(III) sensing and discrimination in water.

### As featured in:



See Xiaoyan Tang, Li Wang *et al.*,  
*J. Mater. Chem. C*, 2024, **12**, 6056.