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Towards a systemic view of water

Many share the feeling that we are at the beginning of a paradigm shift in our perception of water; a shift from the current molecular-level based approach (focusing on individual or several molecules) that underpinned our perception of water, into a new, systemic view of water. A paradigm in which water is perceived as an active substance which adaptively responds to external and internal constraints, and signals, responses that can have singular effects on substances immersed in water and in particular on the functioning of biological constituents, from molecules to living cells. I will present evidence and reflect on the question whether we are at the doorstep towards a systemic view of water as an active substance imbued with life-giving properties. And that the notion of water as "life's solvent" should give way to the new realization of water as an active "Fabric of Life"; continuously engaging and interacting with bio-molecules in complex subtle ways.