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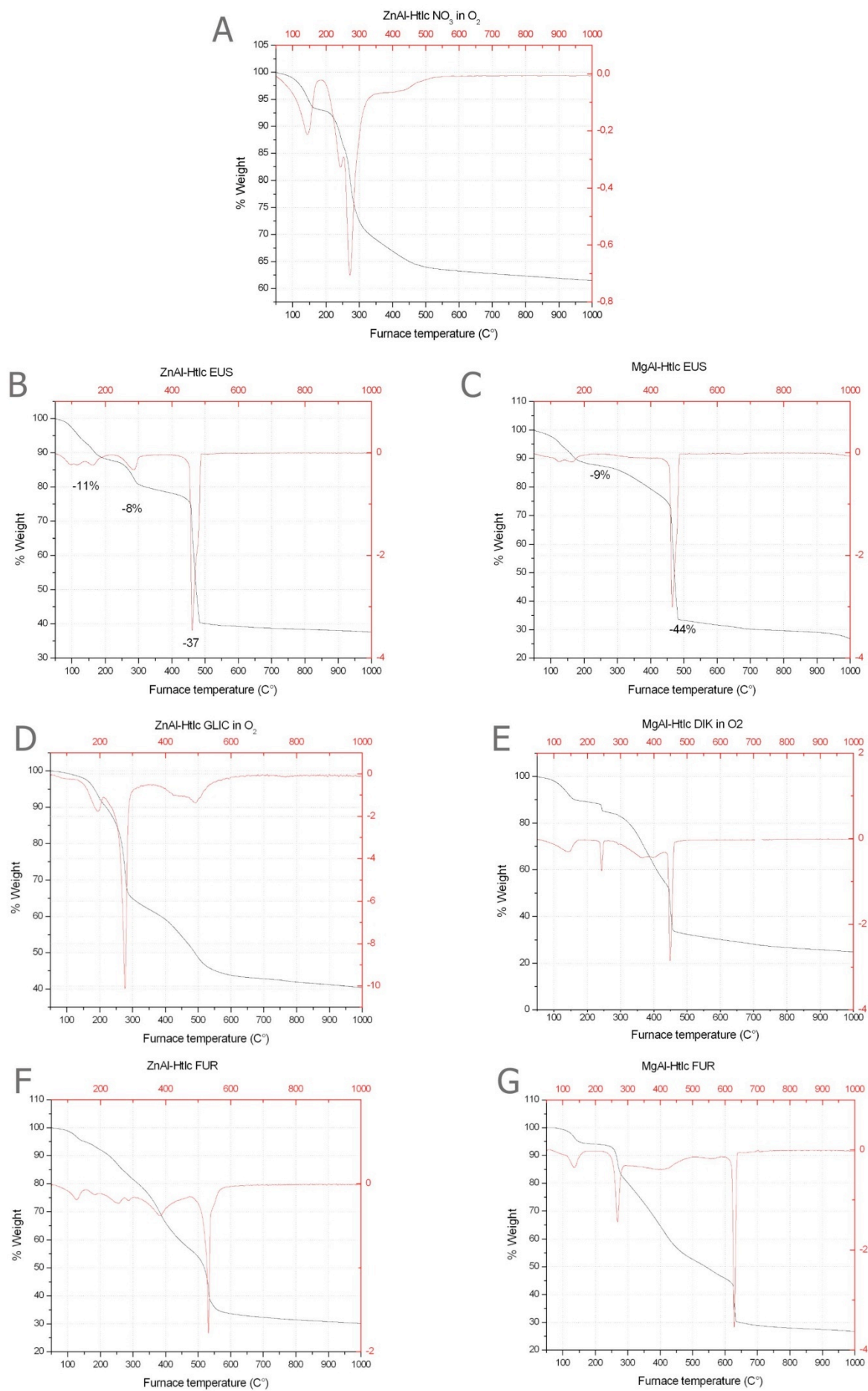
**STRUCTURAL CHARACTERIZATION, THERMAL STABILITY AND
PHARMACOKINETIC PROPERTIES OF ACTIVE MOLECULE/HYDROTALCITE
(LDH) NANOCOMPOSITES**

BY

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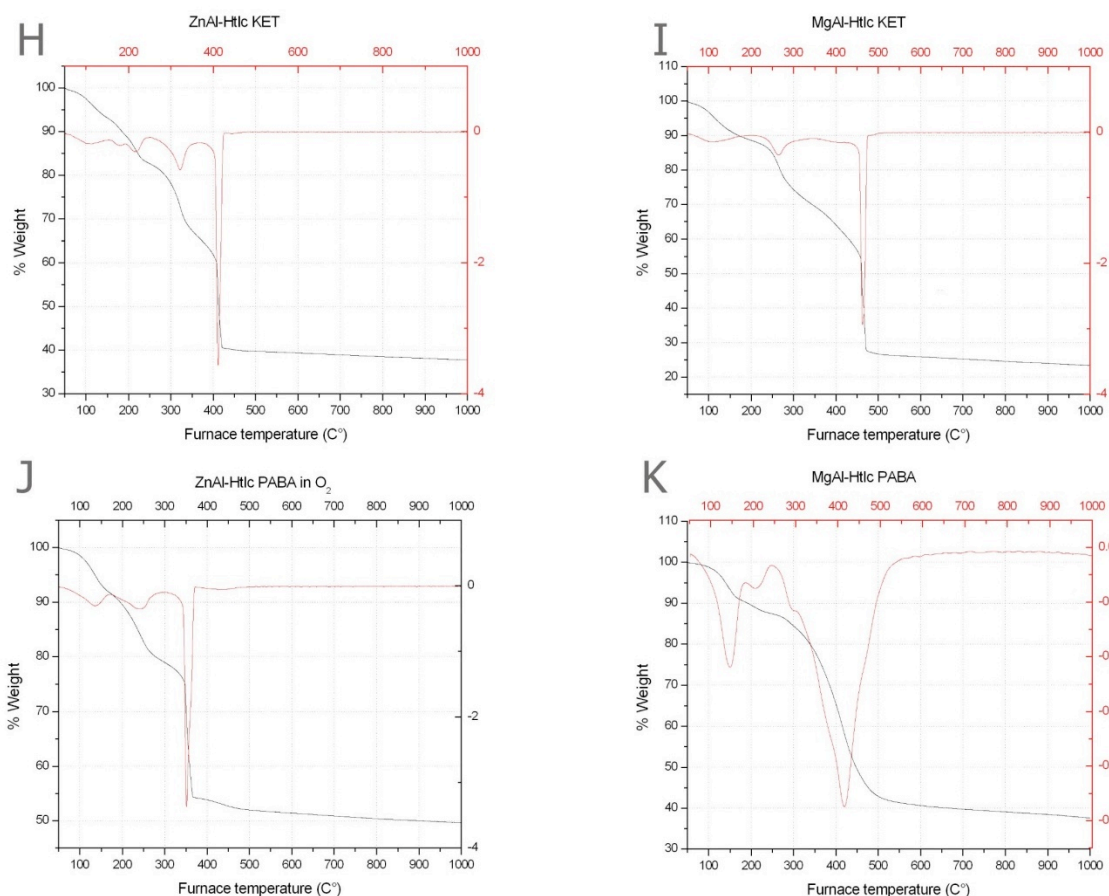


Figure S11: TGA analyses (a) and derivative (b), carried out using 20ml/min O₂ flux and a temperature ramp of 10°C/min for nitrate (A), EUS (B and C), GLIC (D), DIK (E), KET (F and G), FURO (H and I) PABA (J and K) hydrotalcites.

The TGA curve of Zn/Al₂LDH-NO₃ shows a loss of weight in the region between 70° and 200°C. The first weight loss (about 6-7%) is due to physisorbed water while the second and more consistent (about 20%) weight loss between 200° and 300° C is due to the layer deoxydrilation. The last weight loss of the 5%, around 450°C, is finally attributable to the nitrate and the eventual carbonate.

TGA analysis was performed on all the samples and is reported for completeness although the same analysis on similar samples has been already published for the EUS¹, KET,² GLIC,³ and DIK,⁴ FURO⁵ and PABA⁶ samples. It is worth noting the difference between the curve of the Zn/Al sample and the Mg/Al one in almost all the cases, probably this is due to the different drug loading, already discussed in the paper and probably also to the different layer flexibility. In the Mg/Al₂LDH-DIK and Mg/Al₂LDH-FURO samples (Fig. S11 E and G) the sharp peak of the derivative curve at about 250°C can be attributed to the loss of the organic compound that is adsorbed on the surfaces and not intercalated. The intercalate compound is loss at a higher temperature demonstrating the “shielding effect” of the intercalation.

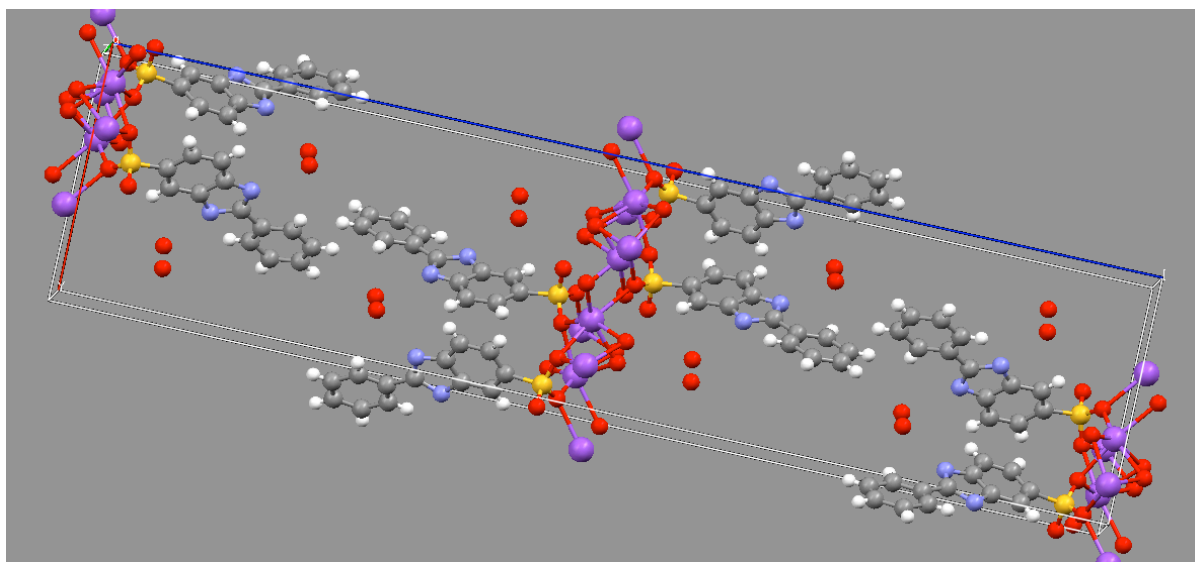


Figure SI2: Crystal packing of EUS_Na - The cell contains eight EUS molecules and four water molecules for each EUS unit. The sodium ion exhibits a distorted octahedral coordination environment with all the positions occupied by O-atoms, four belonging to the EUS molecule and two to water molecules. In the structure of the salt the proton is shared with adjacent water molecules and can be alternatively located either on one or the other N-atom. Layered-like structure is highlighted by the sodium disposition, used to calculate the stacking distance reported in table 4 in the manuscript. Color legend: sodium, purple; oxygen, red, carbon, grey, sulphur, yellow; nitrogen, light blue; hydrogen, white).

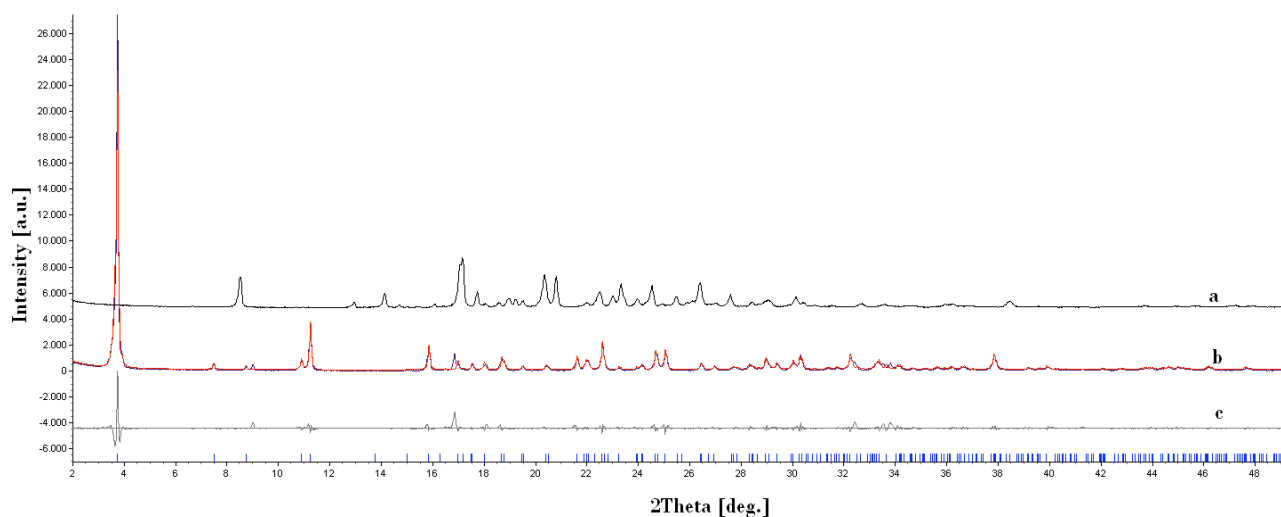


Figure SI3: Rietveld refinement (using the structure from single crystal data as reported in table SI1) of XRPD data from EUS_Na, proving that the sample used for SS-NMR and Raman spectroscopy analyses is homogeneous, approximately 95% pure (in fact only a very small un-indexed peak is present at $2\theta \approx 17^\circ$) and statistically identical to the single crystal used to solve its structure. XRPD patterns of: (a) EUS acid to exclude its presence in experimental data and of (b) EUS_Na with in blue the experimental data and in red the calculated pattern. (c) is the difference curve between the observed and calculated pattern confirming the goodness of the fit.

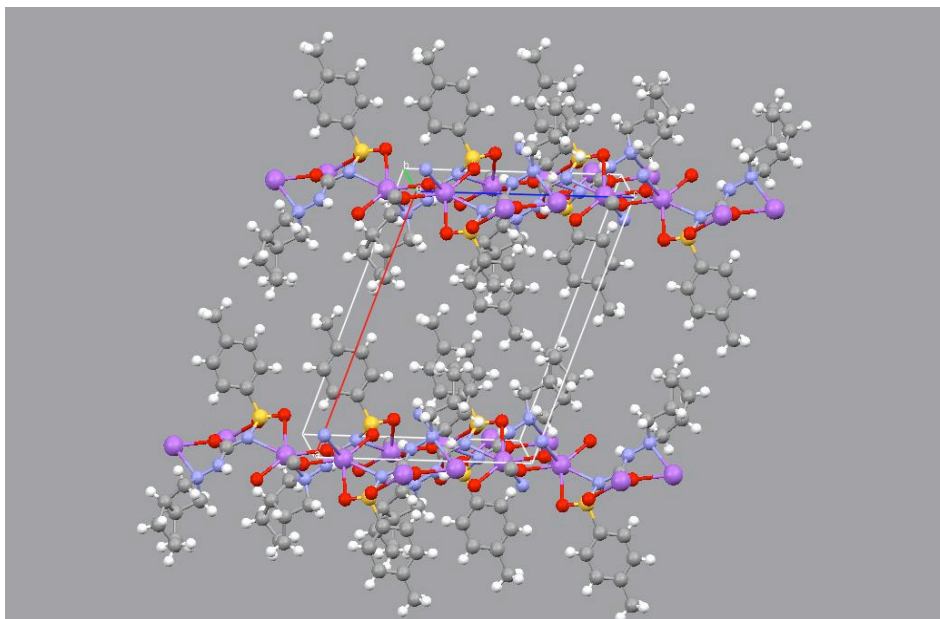


Figure S14: Crystal packing of GLIC_Na. Layered-like structure is highlighted by the sodium (purple) disposition, used to calculate the stacking distance reported in table 4 in the manuscript; color legend as in figure S12.

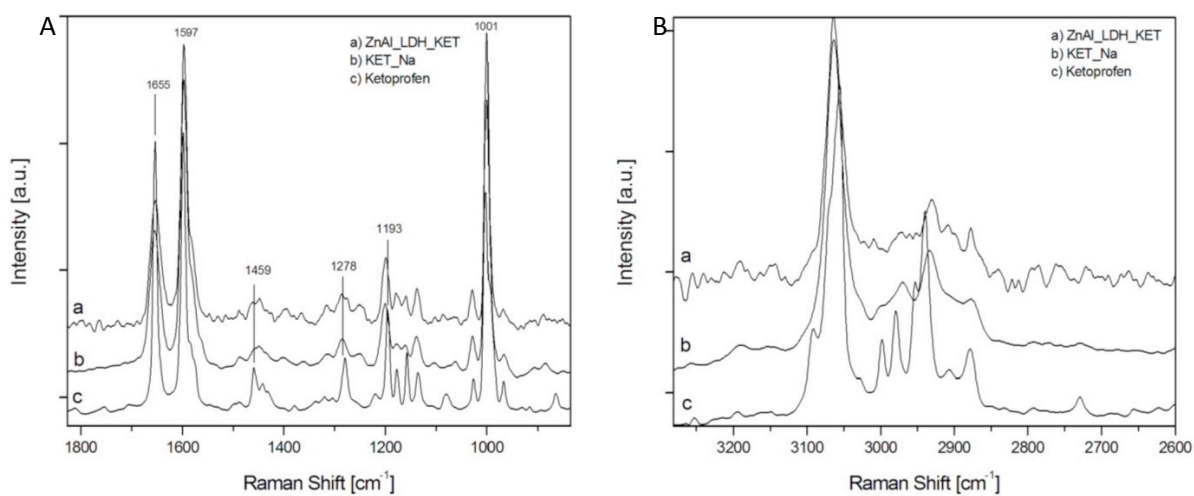


Figure S15: Raman spectra of Ketoprofen (c), of the sodium salt ketoprofen (b) and of the LDH intercalated compound (a) in the low(A) and high (B) shift region.

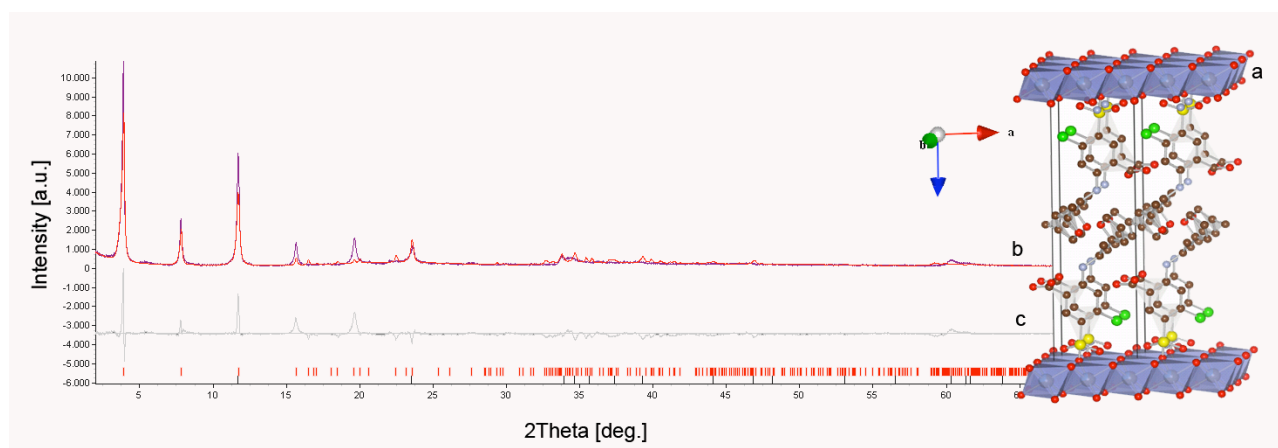


Figure S16: (a) Approximated crystal structure from structure solution by simulated annealing. The crystal quality hampered the location of a reliable and correct structure, but the packing can be still inferred ($R_{wp} = 26.25$). Data are reported in supplementary materials for sake of completeness, as suggested by one of the reviewers. XRPD pattern of Zn/Al-LDH_FURO (b) (in purple the experimental pattern and the calculated one in red); calculated difference curve between experimental pattern and calculated one (c). The ticks on the x axis mark the peak positions for the Zn/Al-LDH_FURO phase (in red) and the Zn/Al-LDH_CO₃ phase (in black) that was added to the fit as its presence in the sample as impurity is unavoidable.

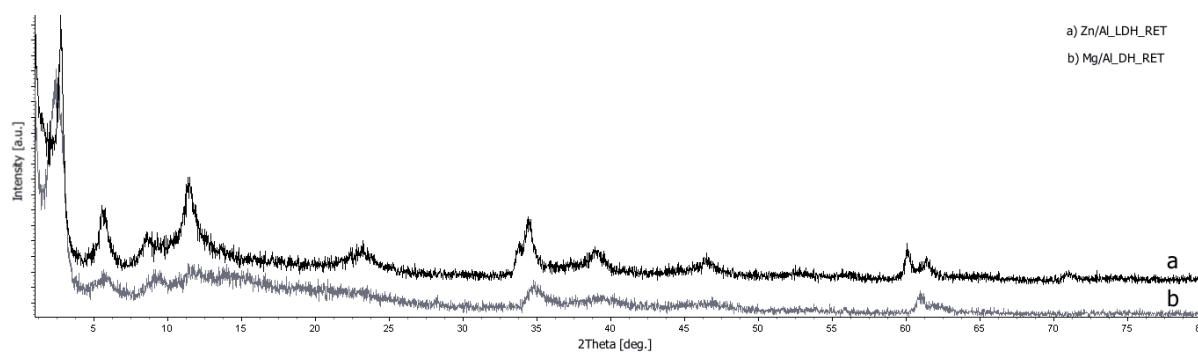


Figure S17: XRPD powder pattern of Zn/Al-LDH_RET_st (a) and Mg/Al-LDH_RET_st (b)

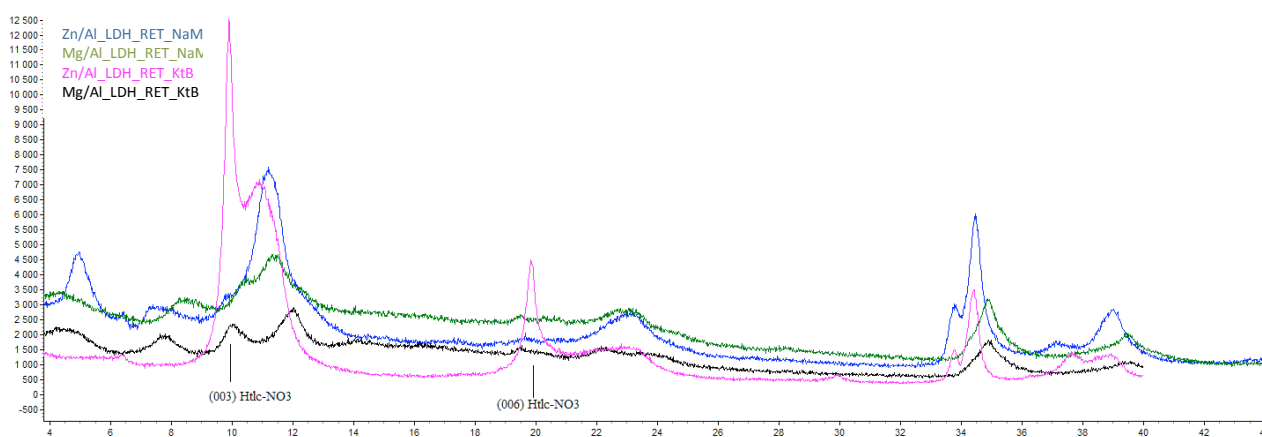


Fig. S18: XRPD patterns of Zn/Al-LDH_RET_NaM (blue), Mg/Al-LDH_RET_NaM (green), Zn/Al-LDH_RET_KtB (magenta), Mg/Al-LDH_RET_KtB (black).

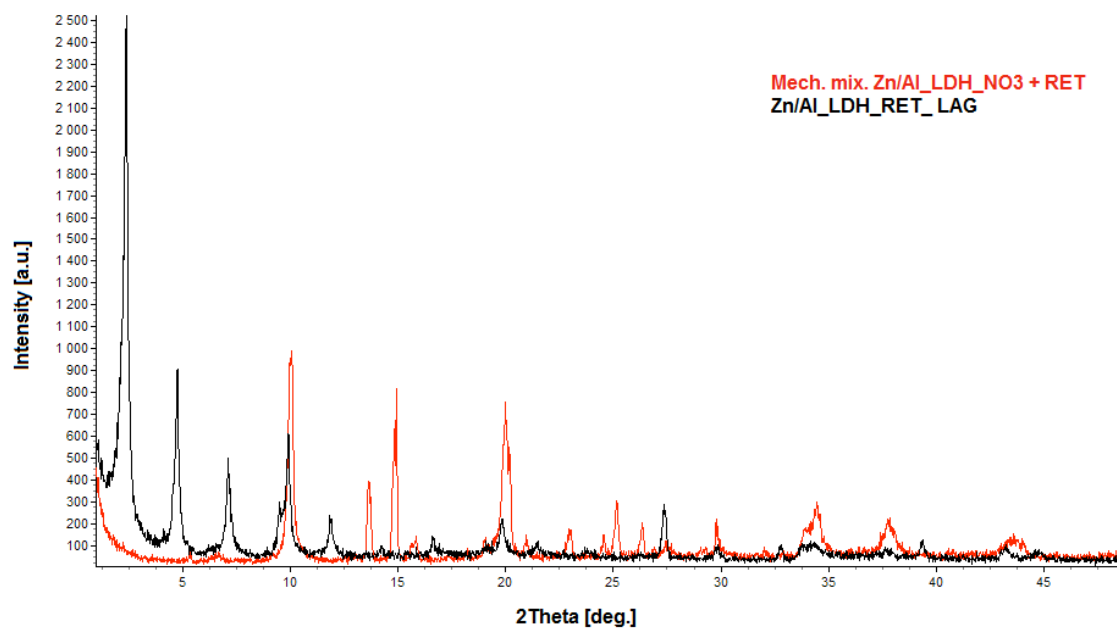


Figure S19: XRPD pattern of the mechanical mixture of Zn/Al_LDH_NO₃ and retinoic acid (in red) and of the LAG intercalated compound Zn/Al_LDH_RET_LAG (in black)

Table S11: Crystallographic information of GLICNa and EUSNa single crystal structures

Identification code	EUSNa	GLICNa
Empirical formula	C ₁₃ H ₁₀ N ₂ Na O ₃ S	C ₁₅ H ₂₀ N ₃ Na O ₃ S
Formula weight	297.28	345.39
Temperature	293(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic
Space group	Pbca	P ₂ ₁ /c
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.116 Å	a = 15.428 Å
	b = 5.810 Å	b = 9.845 Å
	c = 46.919 Å	c = 12.306 Å
Volume	3030.2 Å ³	1759.3 Å ³
Z	8	4
Density (calculated)	1.303 Mg/m ³	1.304 Mg/m ³
Absorption coefficient	0.248 mm ⁻¹	0.225 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	1224	728
Crystal size	0.6 x 0.5 x 0.5 mm ³	0.6 x 0.6 x 0.2 mm ³
Theta range for data collection	4.17 to 30.49°	4.21 to 30.34°
Index ranges	-15 ≤ h ≤ 15, -8 ≤ k ≤ 8, -64 ≤ l ≤ 64	-21 ≤ h ≤ 21, -13 ≤ k ≤ 13, -16 ≤ l ≤ 17
Reflections collected	41190	25394
Independent reflections	4401 [R(int) = 0.2358]	4888 [R(int) = 0.0319]
Completeness to theta = 30.49°	95.3 %	92.6 %
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Data / restraints / parameters	4401 / 0 / 208	4888 / 0 / 208
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.031	0.904
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.1190, wR2 = 0.2460	R1 = 0.0576, wR2 = 0.1706
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.2399, wR2 = 0.2835	R1 = 0.0867, wR2 = 0.2105
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.429 and -0.545 e.Å ⁻³	0.569 and -0.407 e.Å ⁻³

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