

## Supporting Information

for

### *NDI integrated rotaxane/catene and their interactions with anions*

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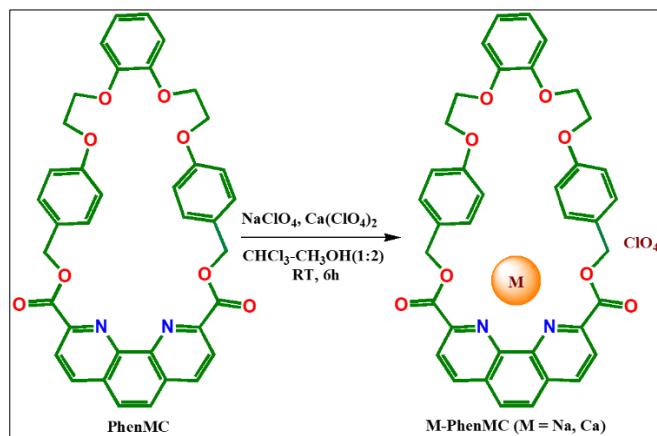
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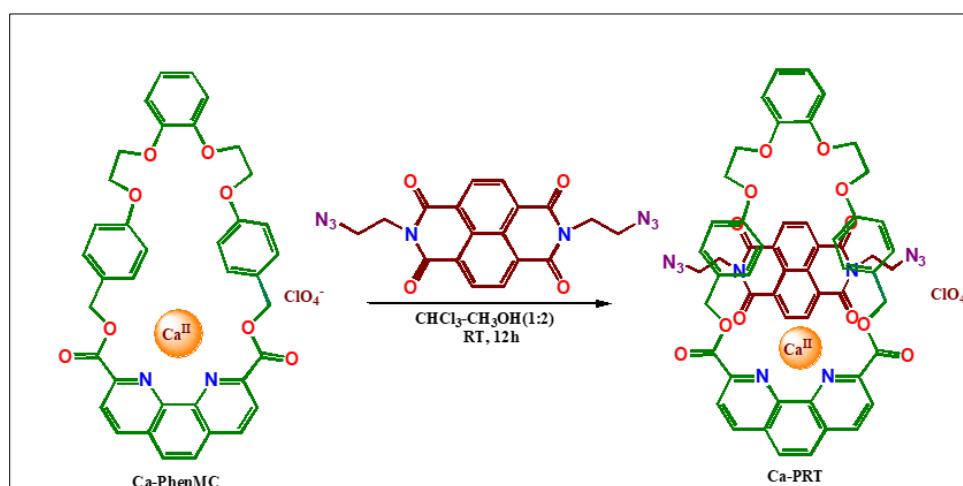
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## Synthetic Scheme

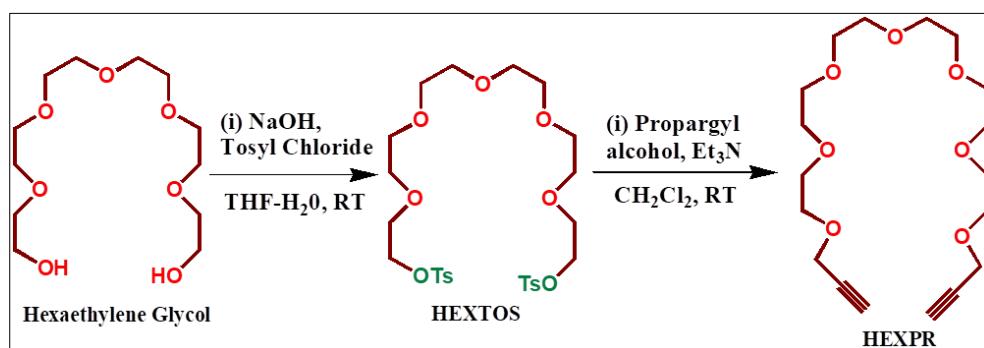
**Scheme S1:** Synthetic scheme of Na-PhenMC and Ca-PhenMC

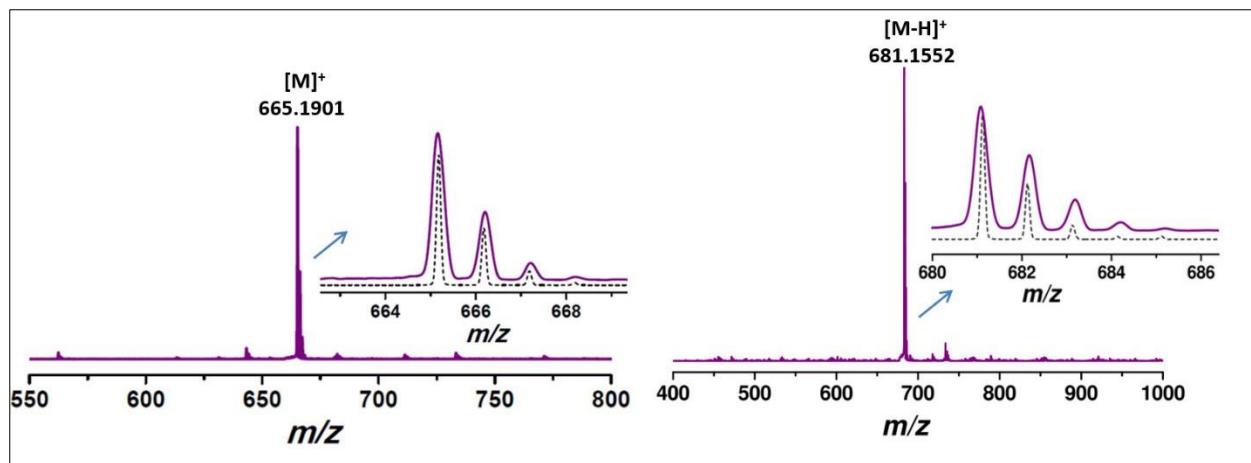


**Scheme S2:** Synthetic scheme of Ca-PRT

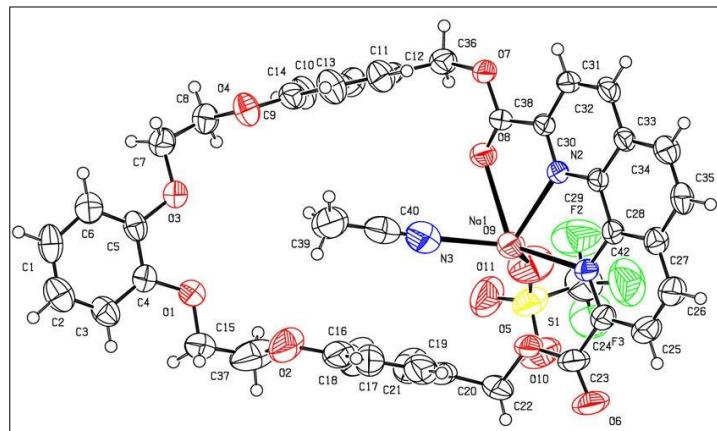


**Scheme S3:** Synthetic scheme of HEXPR





**Figure S1:** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectra of i) Na-**PhenMC** and ii) Ca-**PhenMC** at 298K. Inset picture shows the similarity between isotopic distribution pattern (dotted) and the calculated (bold) one.

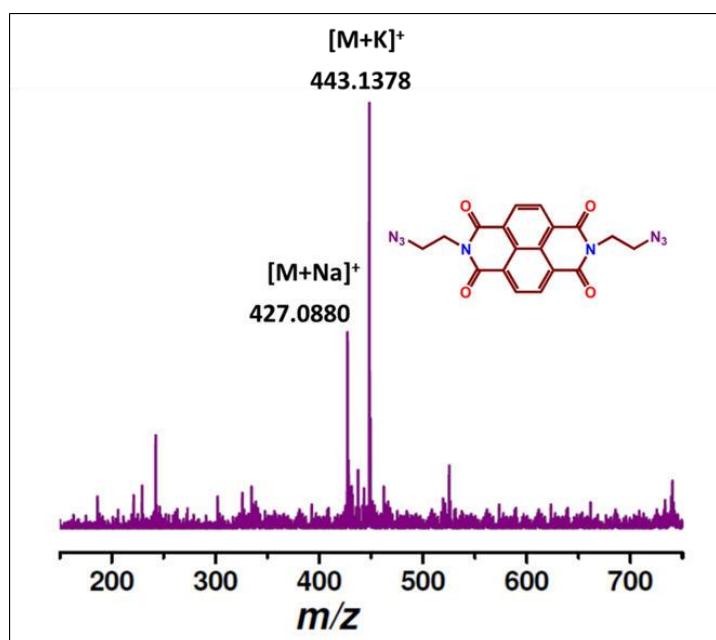


**Figure S2:** Single Crystal X-ray structure of Na-**PhenMC** (ellipsoid model using platon version)

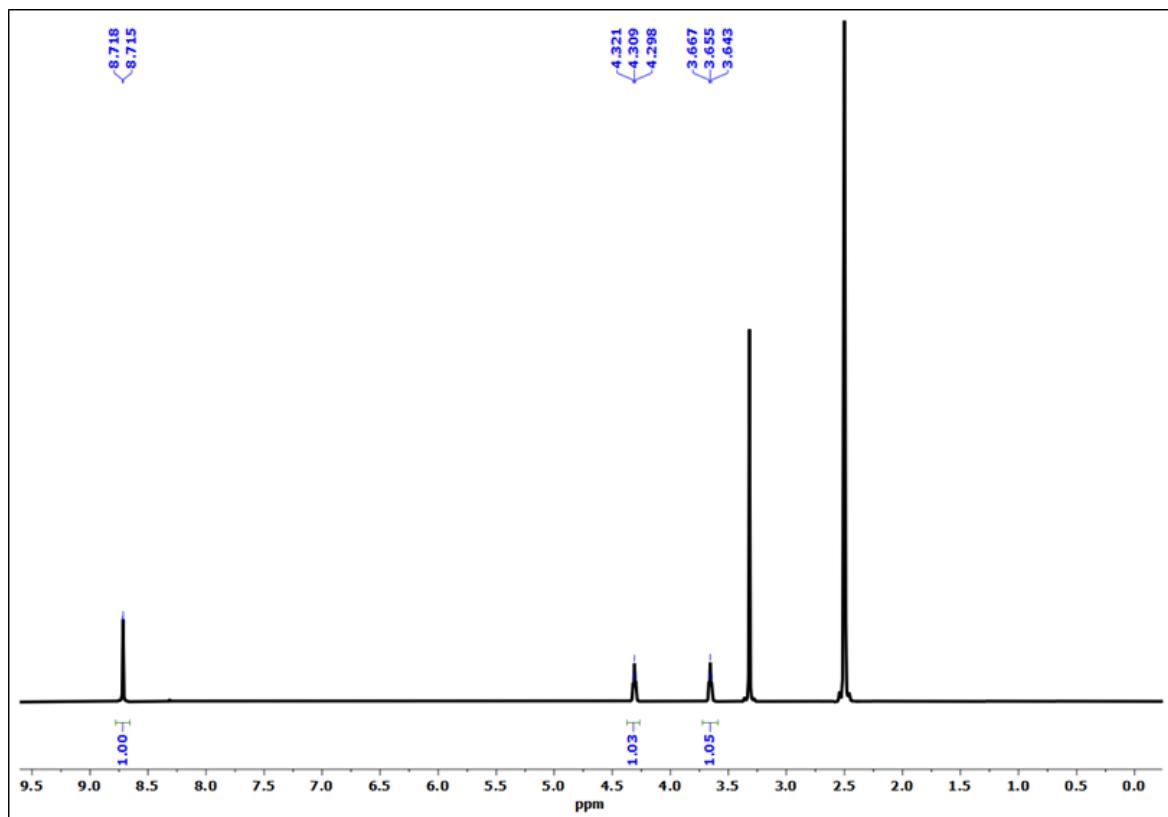
**Table S1:** Crystallographic details of **Na-PhenMC**

Compound reference	PHENMCNa
Chemical formula	C41 H33 F3 N3 Na O11 S
Formula Mass	855.75
Crystal system	Triclinic
<i>a</i> /Å	9.632(5)
<i>b</i> /Å	11.523(6)
<i>c</i> /Å	18.177(10)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90.087(19)
$\beta/^\circ$	93.53(2)
$\gamma/^\circ$	94.613(17)
Unit cell volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	2007.0(18)
Temperature/K	150(2)
Space group	<i>P</i> 1
No. of formula units per unit cell, <i>Z</i>	2
Radiation type	MoK $\alpha$
Absorption coefficient, $\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	0.170
No. of reflections measured	10968
No. of independent reflections	5249
$R_{int}$	0.0740
Final $R_I$ values ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0679
Final $wR(F^2)$ values ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.1670
Final $R_I$ values (all data)	0.1391
Final $wR(F^2)$ values (all data)	0.2151
Goodness of fit on $F^2$	1.000
CCDC number	2167711

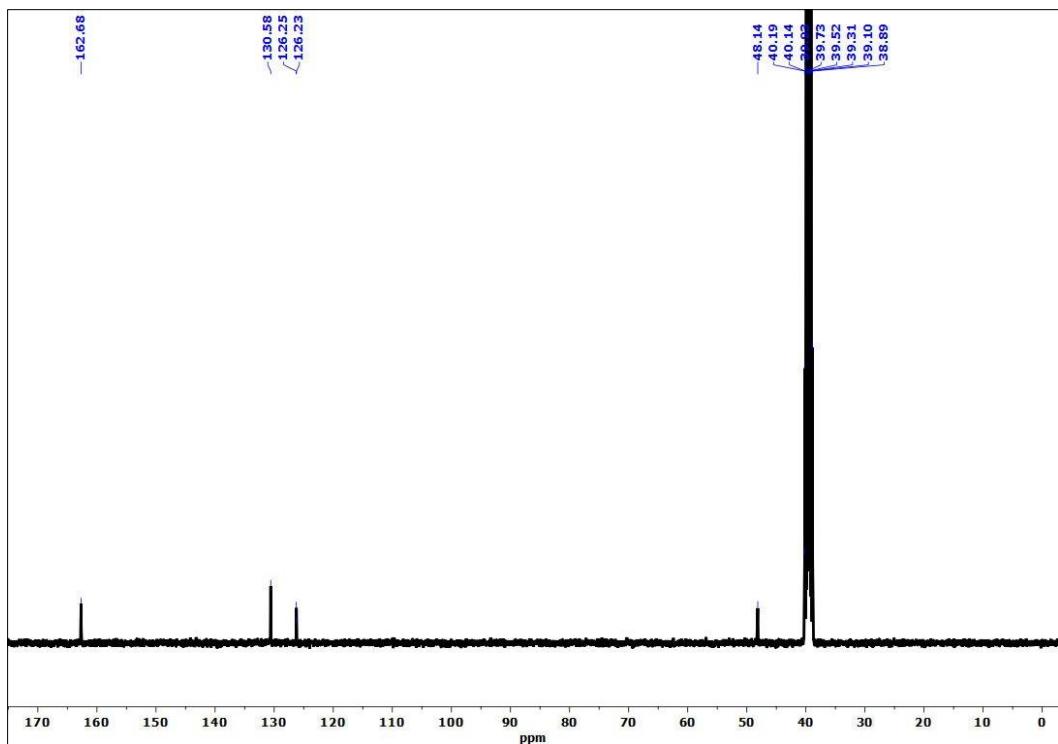
...



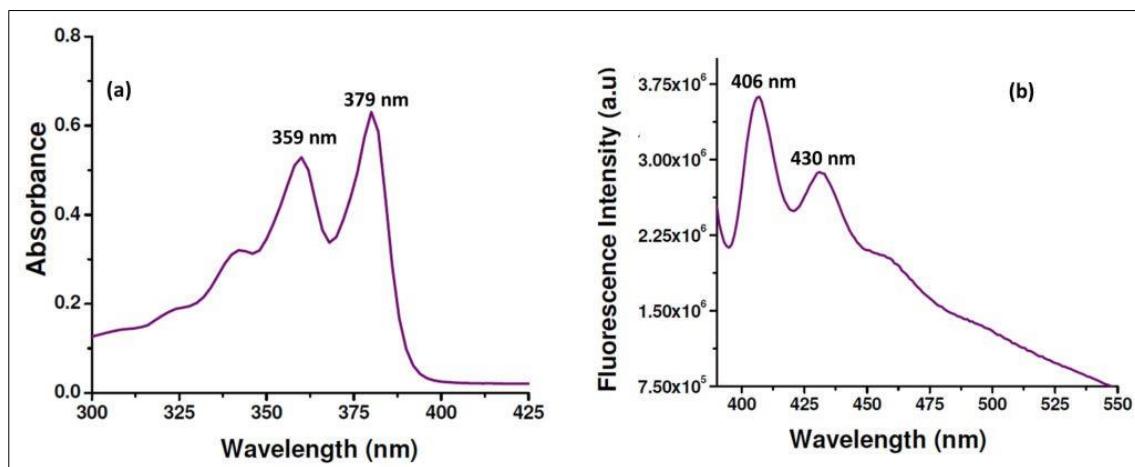
**Figure S3.** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectrum of NDIAz at 298K.



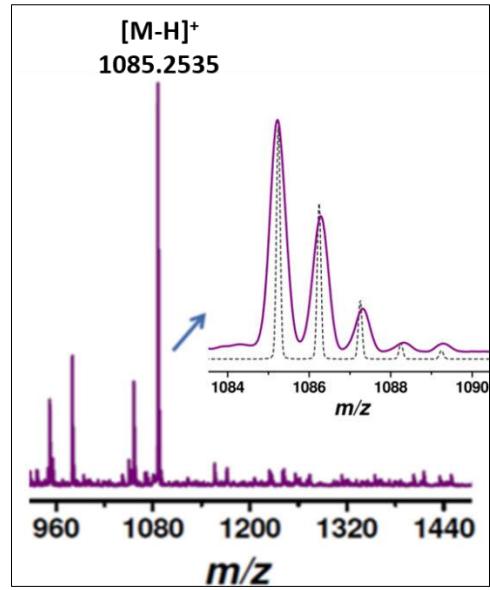
**Figure S4.**  $^1H$  NMR spectrum of NDIAz in  $DMSO-d_6$  (400MHz) at 298 K.



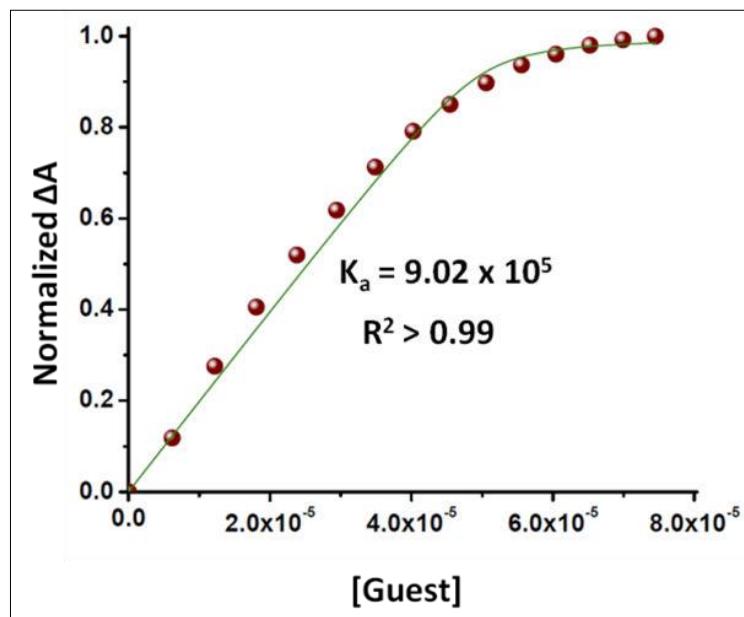
**Figure S5.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of NDIAz in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  (100MHz) at 298 K



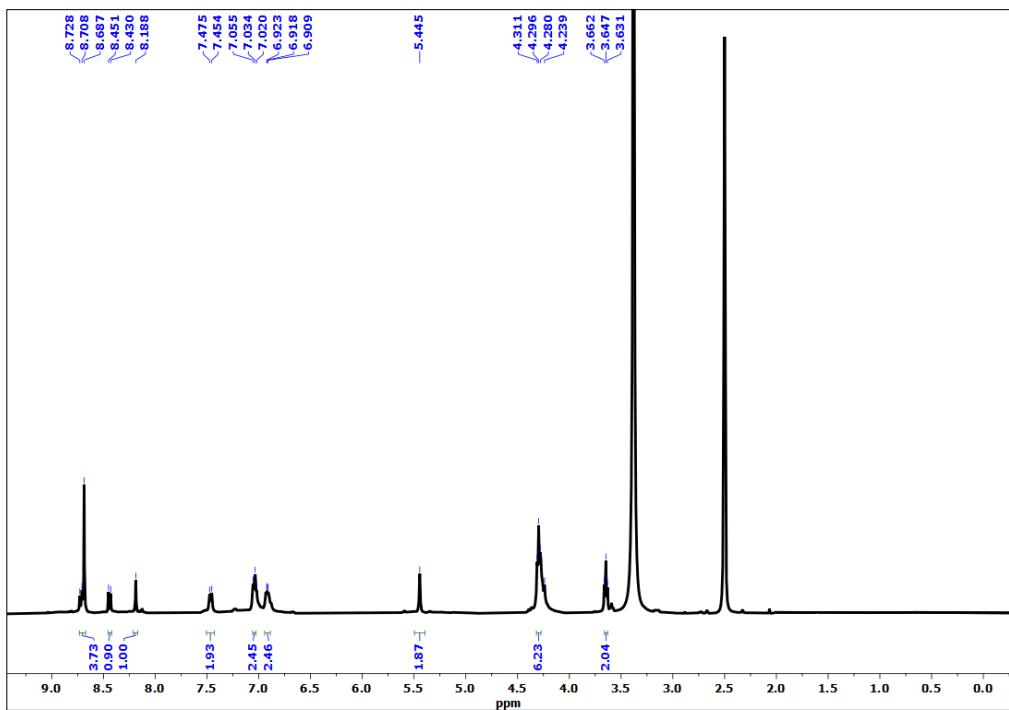
**Figure S6.** (a) UV-Vis and (b) PL spectrum of NDIAz in  $\text{CHCl}_3\text{-DMF}$  (4:1) at 298 K.



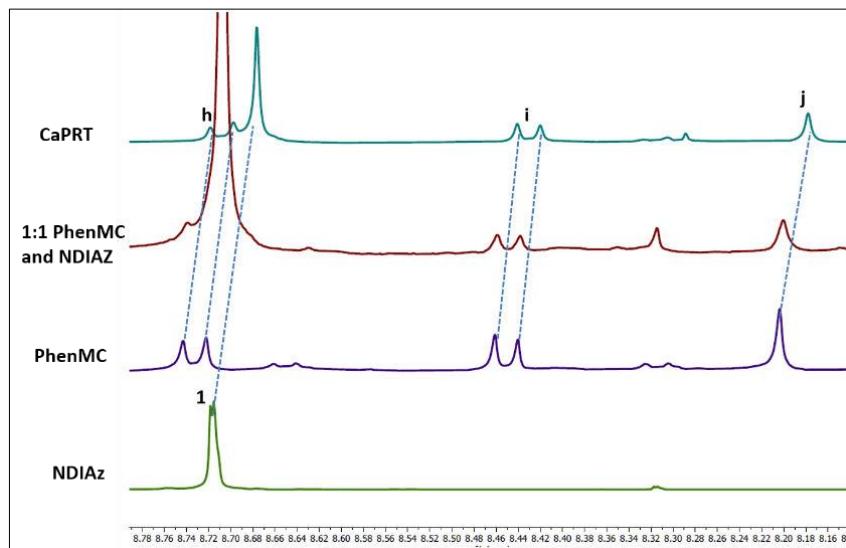
**Figure S7.** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectra of **Ca-PRT**. Inset picture shows the similarity between isotopic distribution pattern (dotted) and the calculated (bold) one.



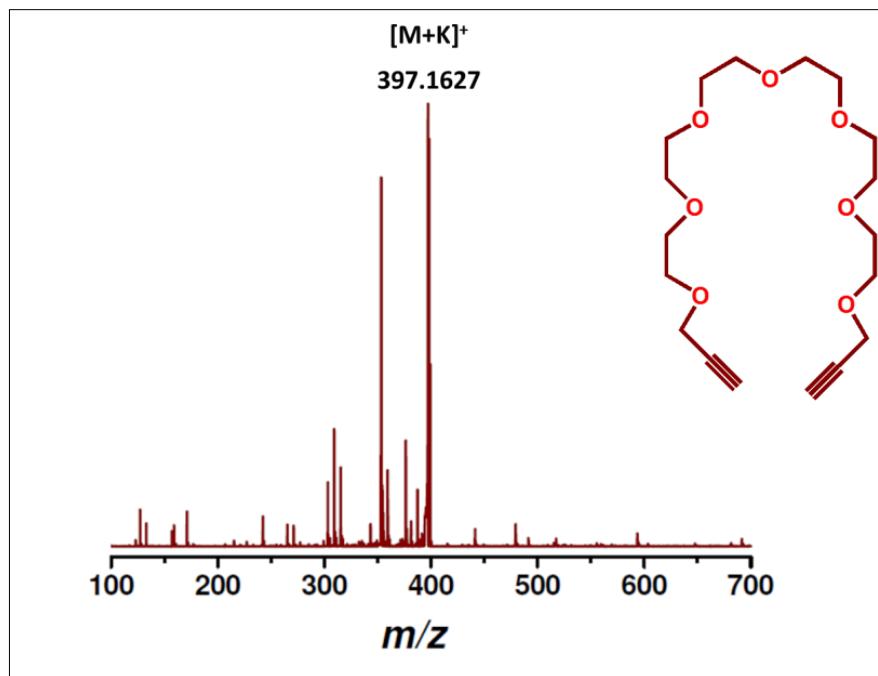
**Figure S8.** Non-linear 1:1 curve fitting plot from UV titration experiment to determine binding constant for the formation of **NDIAz** ( $2 \times 10^{-5} M$ ) and **Ca-PhenMC** ( $2 \times 10^{-4} M$ ) in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -DMF (4:1) at 298 K.



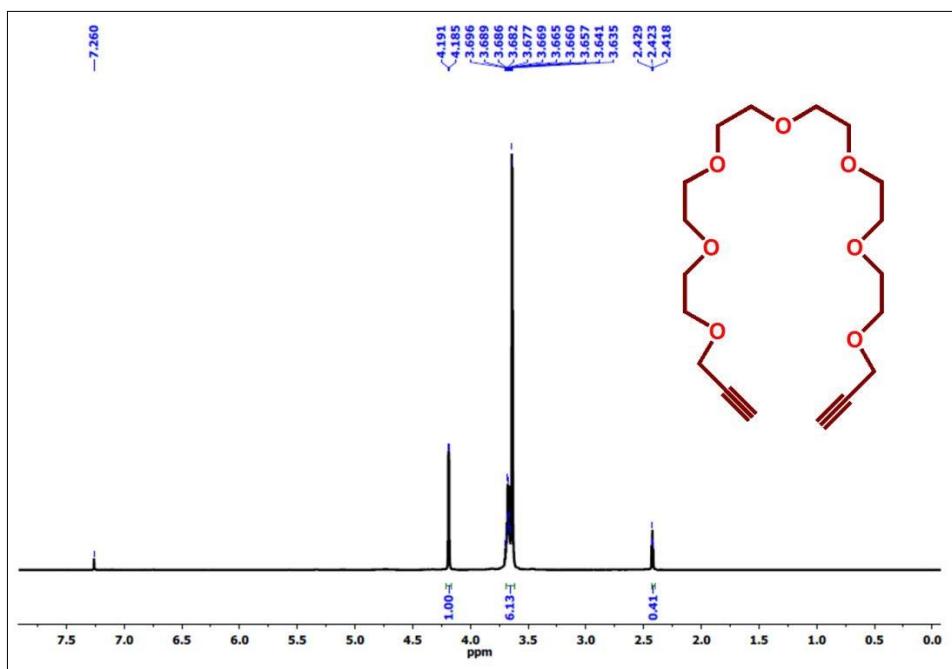
**Figure S9.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of Ca-PRT in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  (400 MHz) at 298 K.



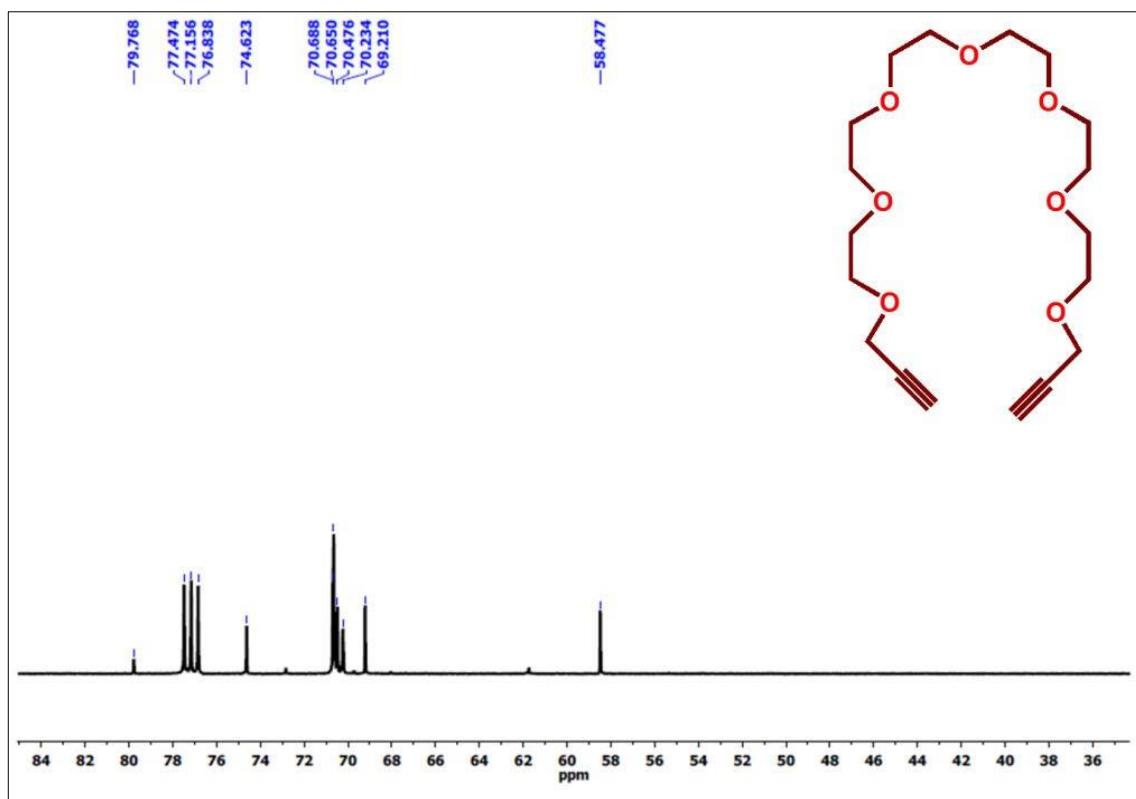
**Figure S9a.** Comparative  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of Ca-PRT, 1:1 PhenMC-NDIAz, PhenMC and NDIAz in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  (400 MHz) at 298 K.



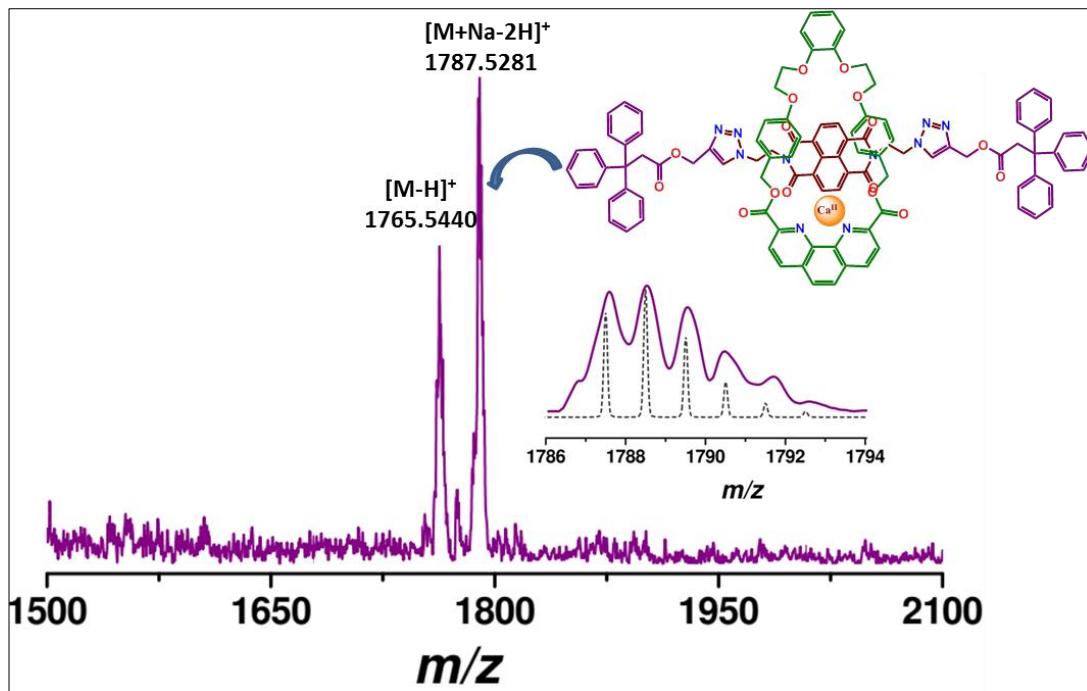
**Figure S10.** ESI-MS ( $+ve$  ion) spectrum of **HEXPR**.



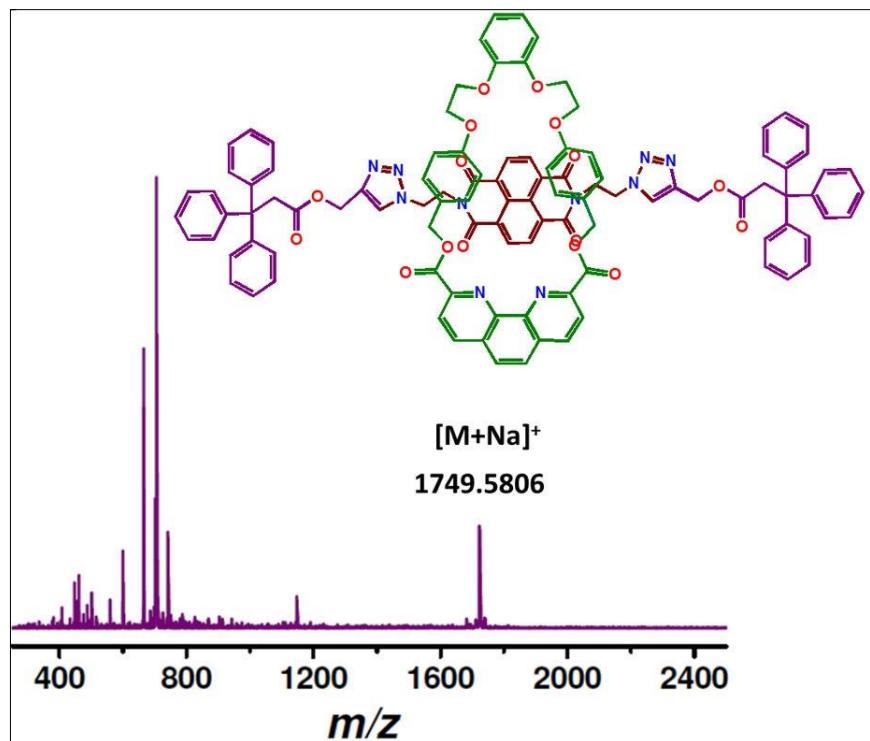
**Figure S11.**  $^1H$  NMR spectrum of **HEXPR** in  $CDCl_3$  (400MHz) at 298 K



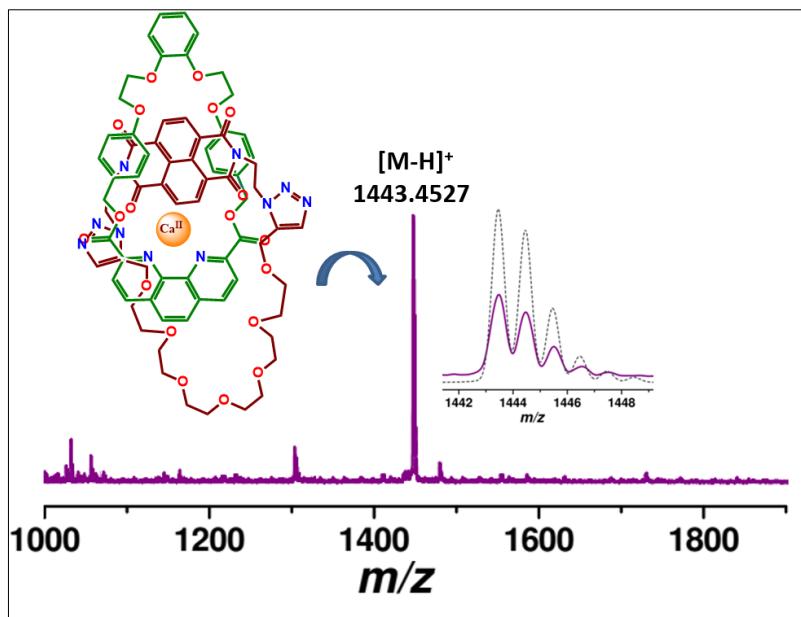
**Figure S12.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of HEXPR in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (100MHz) at 298 K



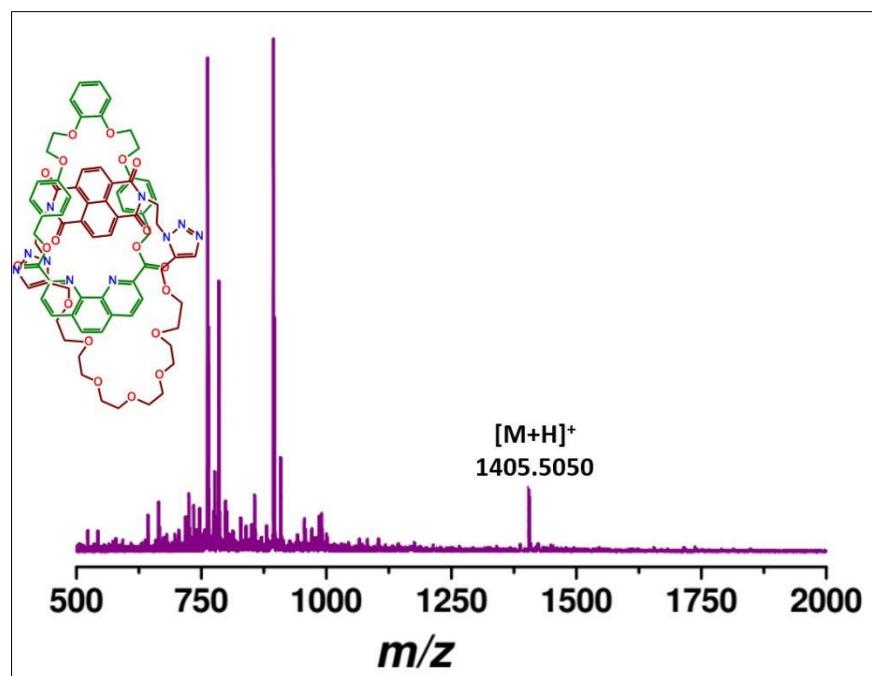
**Figure S13.** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectrum of Ca-NDIRO



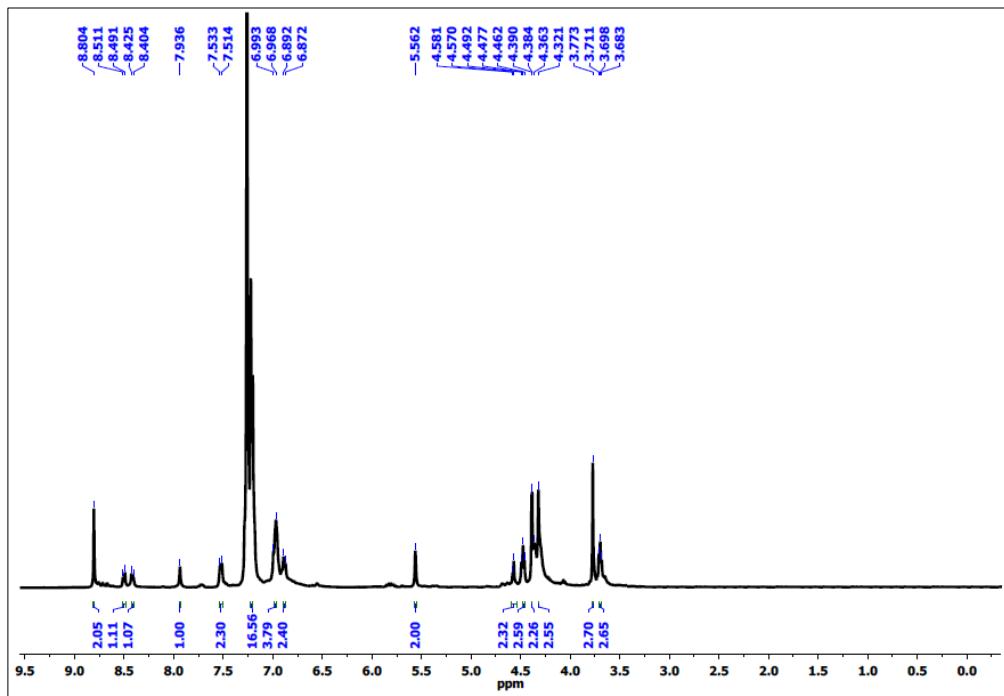
**Figure S14.** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectrum of NDIROT



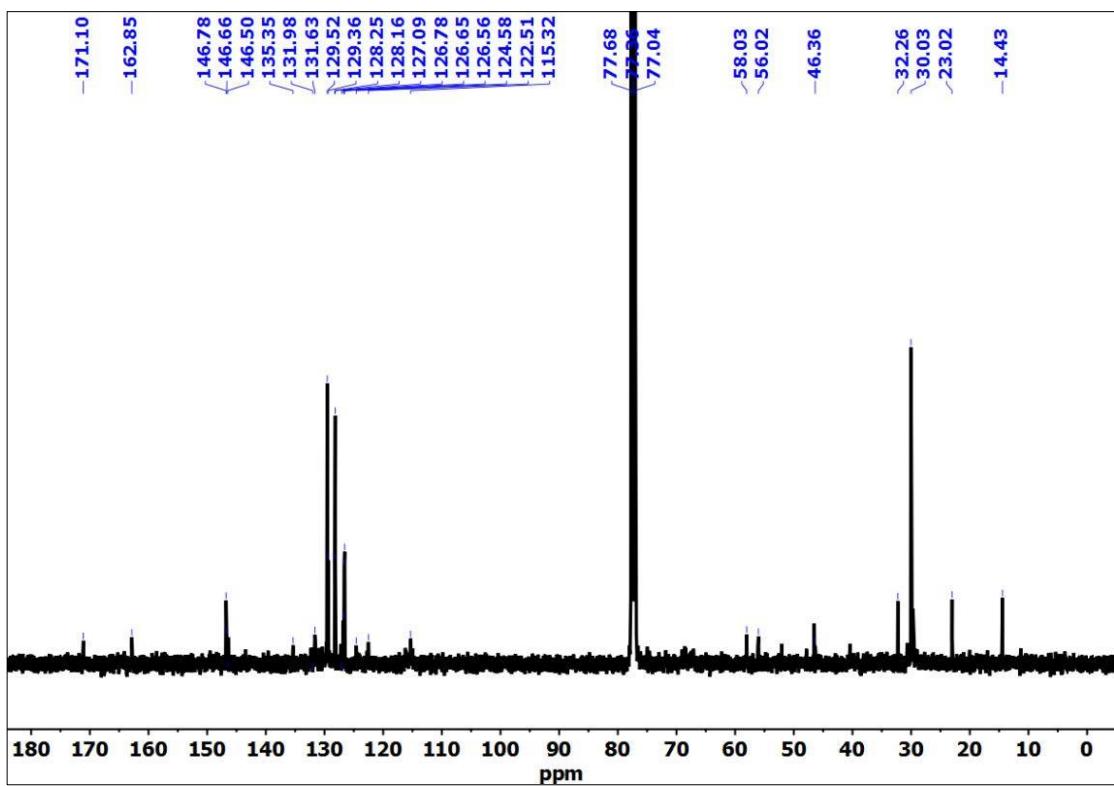
**Figure S15.** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectrum of Ca-NDICAT



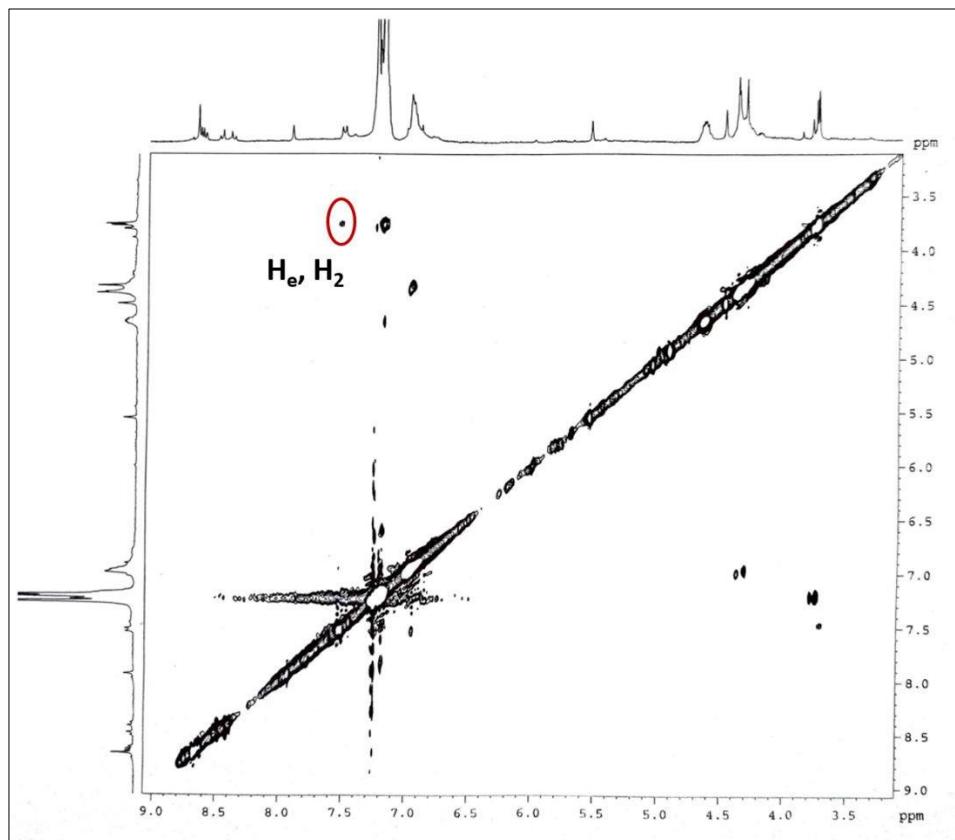
**Figure S16.** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectrum of NDICAT



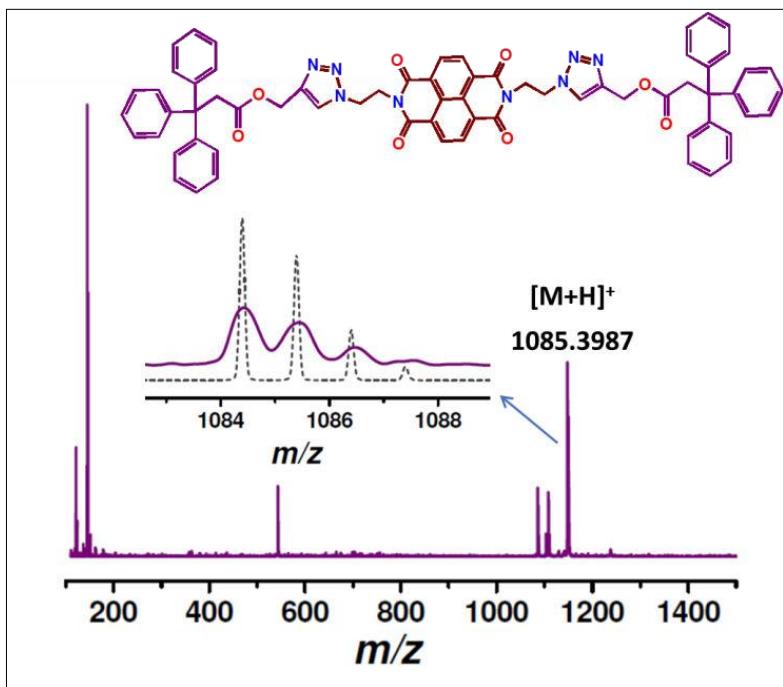
**Figure S17.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NDIROT in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (400MHz) at 298 K



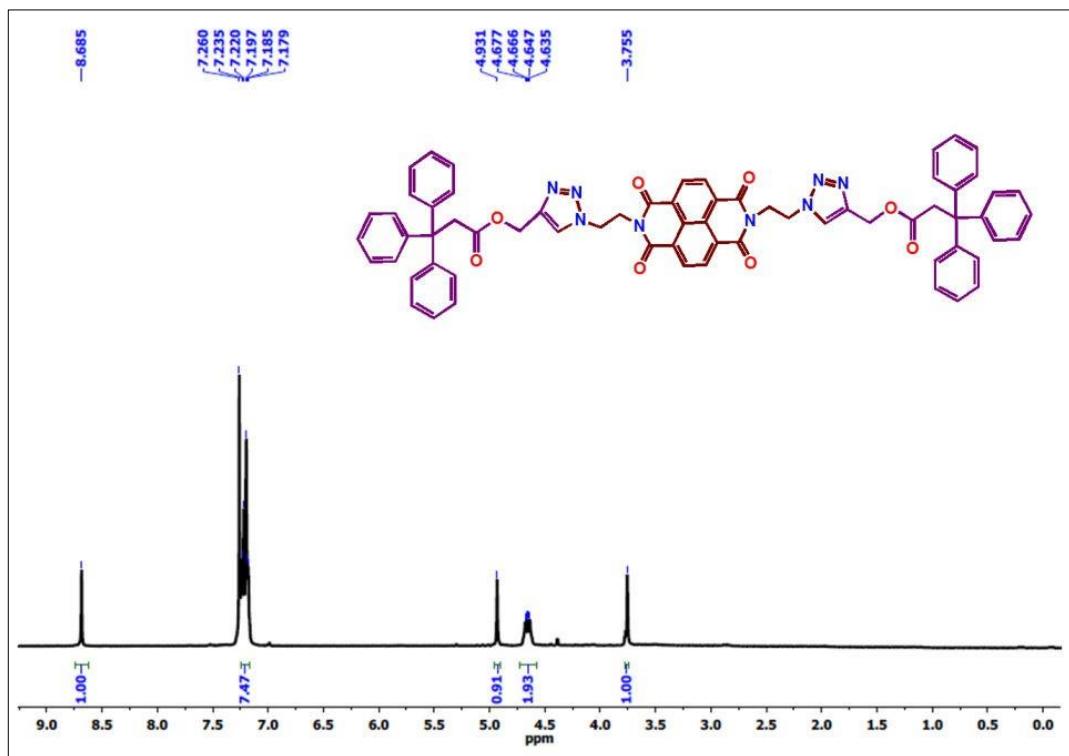
**Figure S18.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of NDIROT in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (100MHz) at 298 K



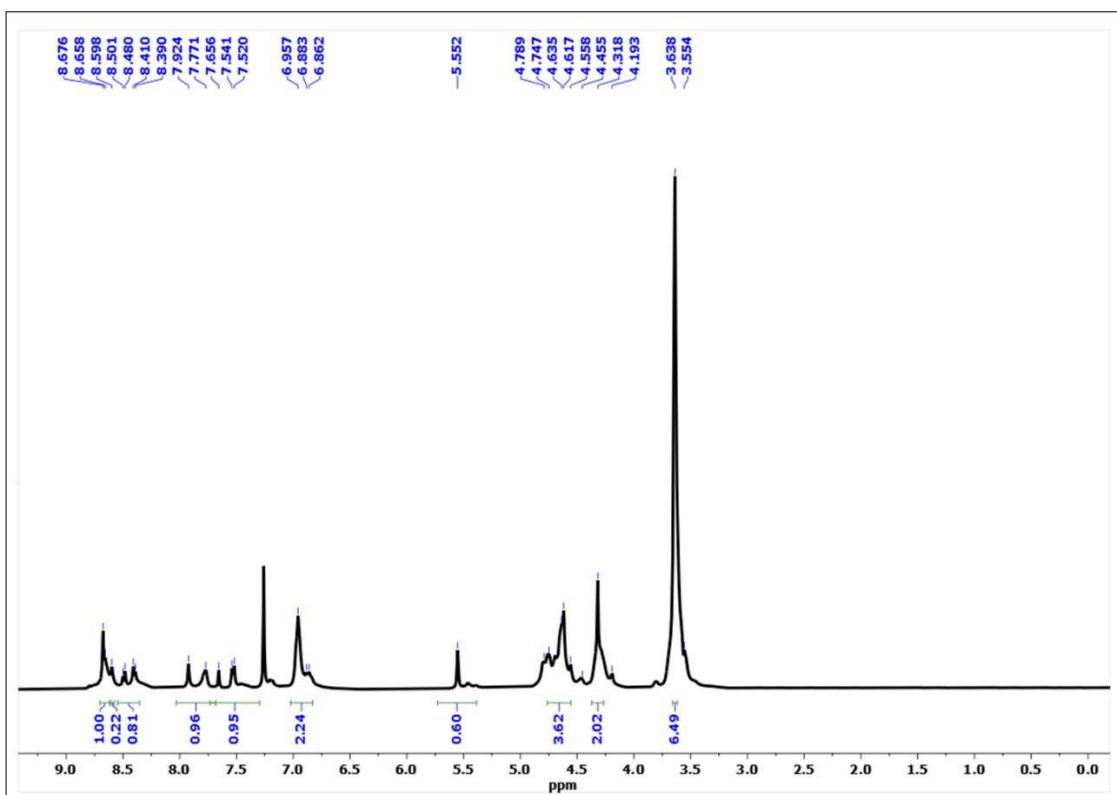
**Figure S18a.** ROESY spectrum of NDIROT in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (300MHz) at 298 K



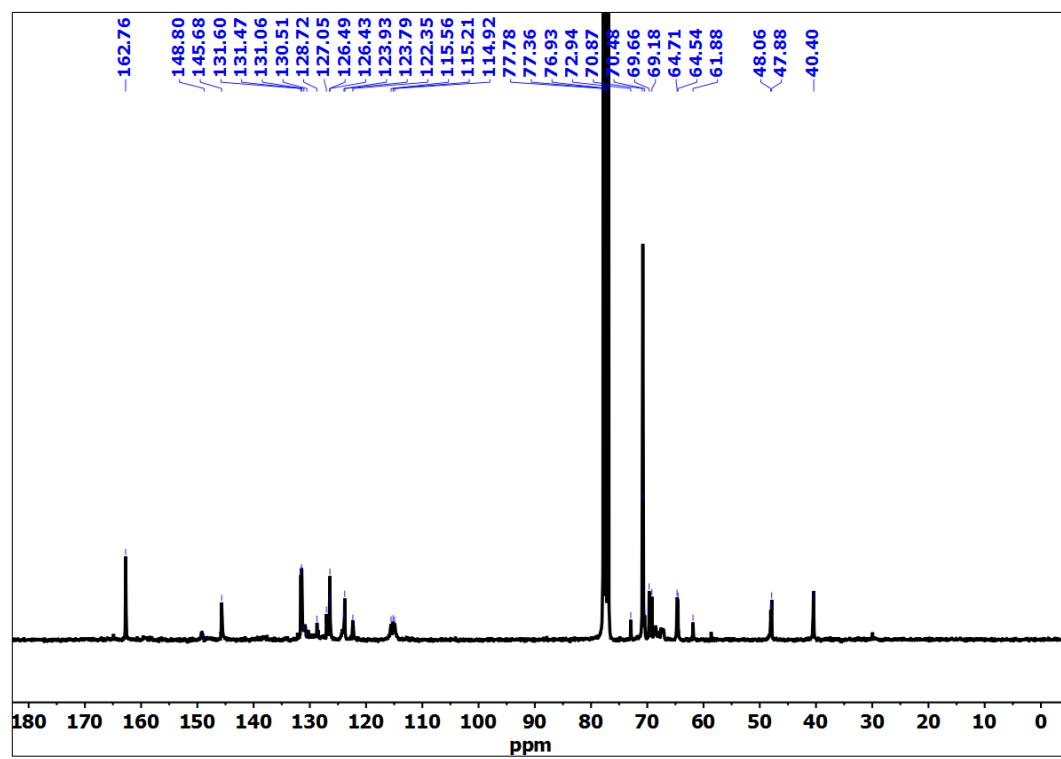
**Figure S19.** ESI-MS (+ve ion) spectrum of NDI-AXSTP



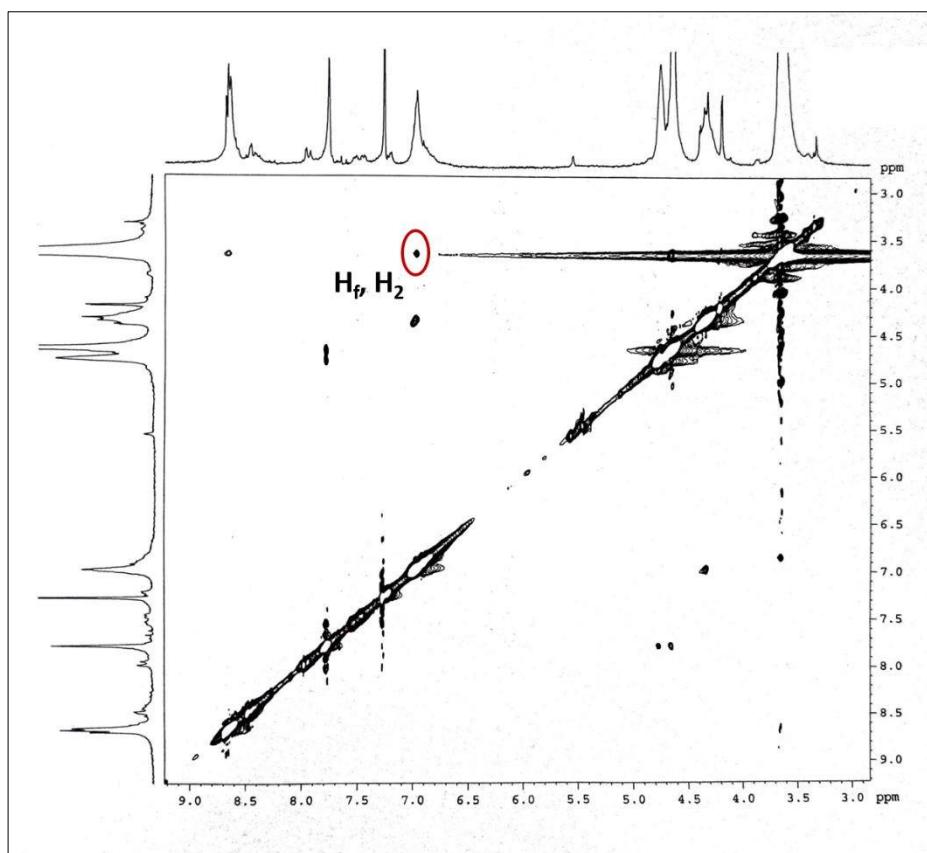
**Figure S20.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NDI-AXSTP in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (400MHz) at 298 K



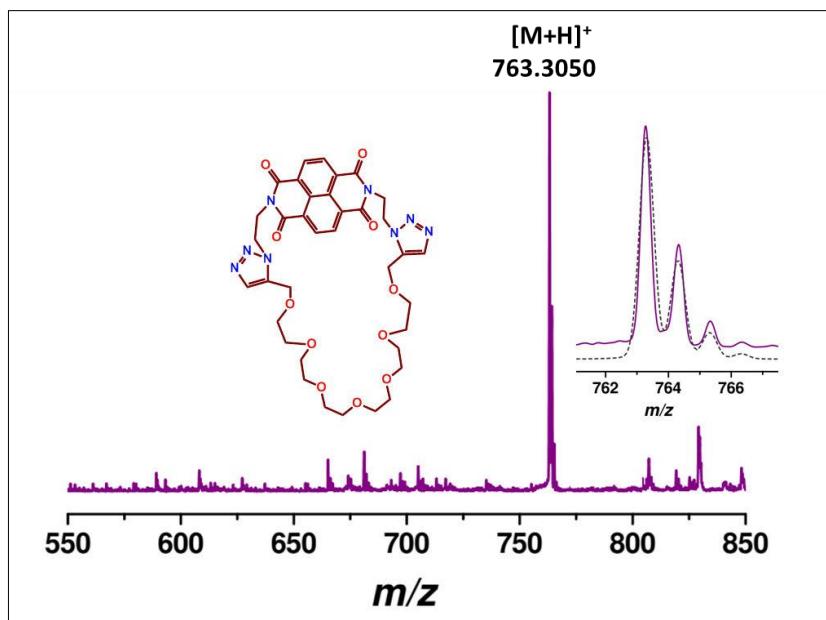
**Figure S21.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NDICAT in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (400MHz) at 298 K



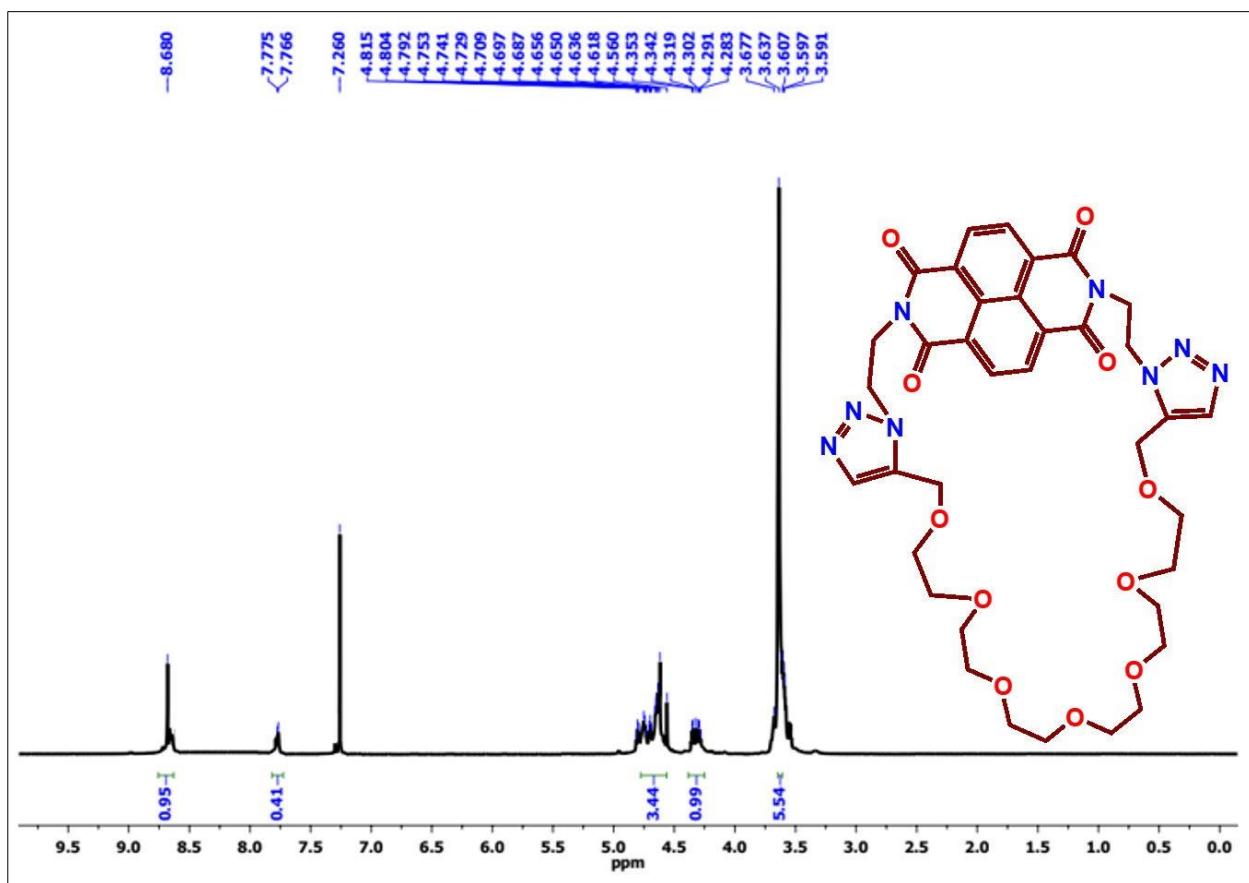
**Figure S22.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of NDICAT in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (75MHz) at 298 K



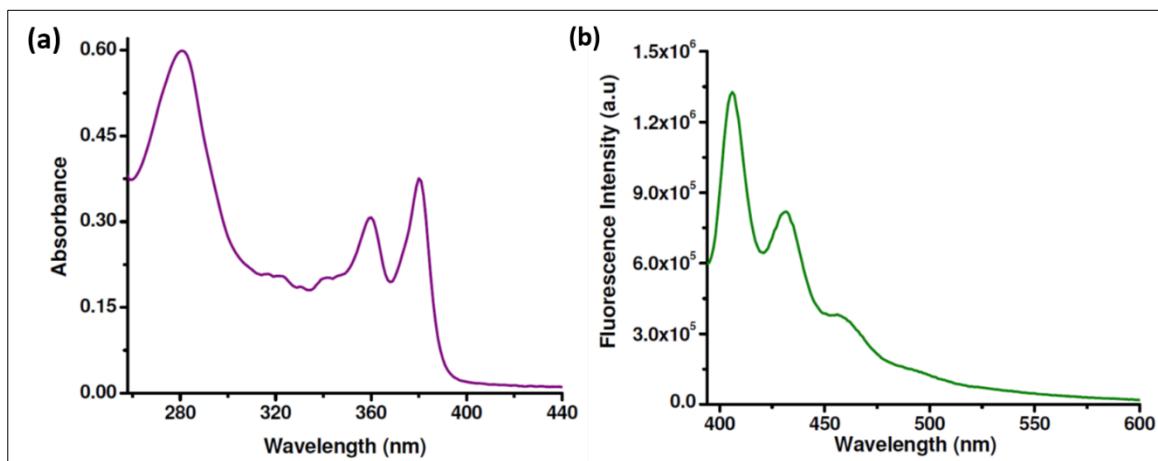
**Figure S22a.** ROESY spectrum of NDICAT in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (300MHz) at 298 K



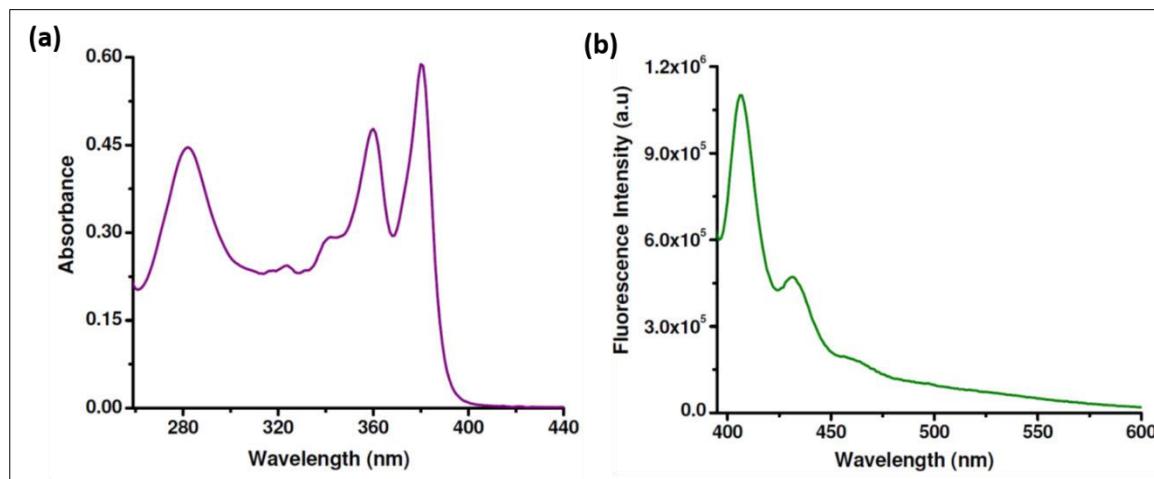
**Figure S23.** ESI-MS (<sup>+ve</sup> ion) spectrum of NDIMC.



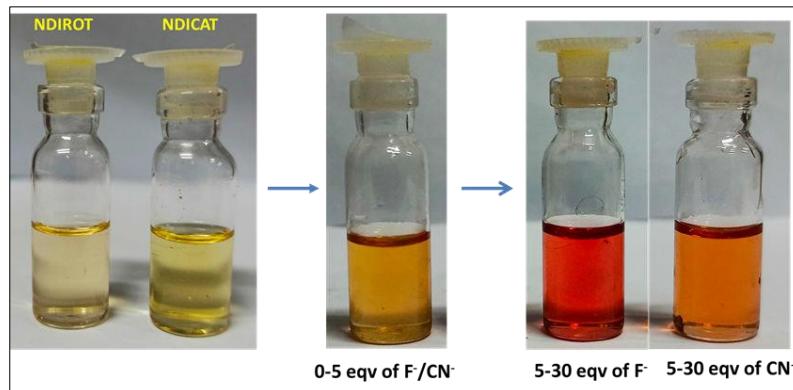
**Figure S24.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of NDIMC in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (400MHz) at 298 K



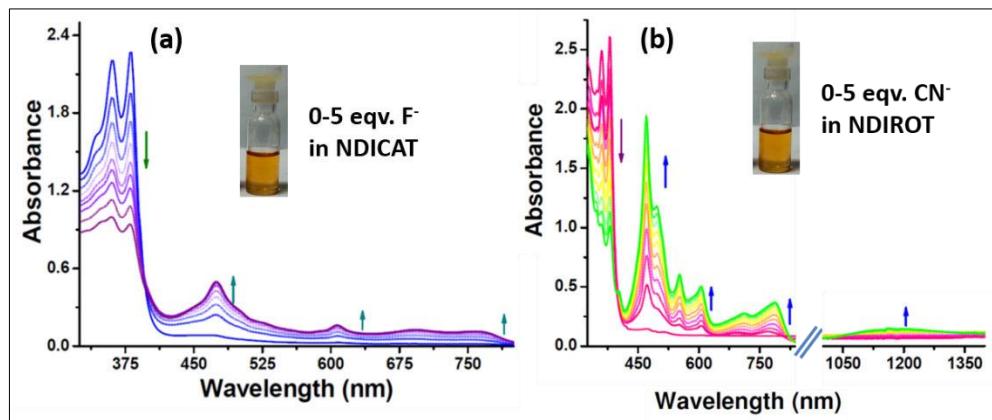
**Figure S25.** a) UV-Vis and b) PL spectrum of NDIMC in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  at 298K



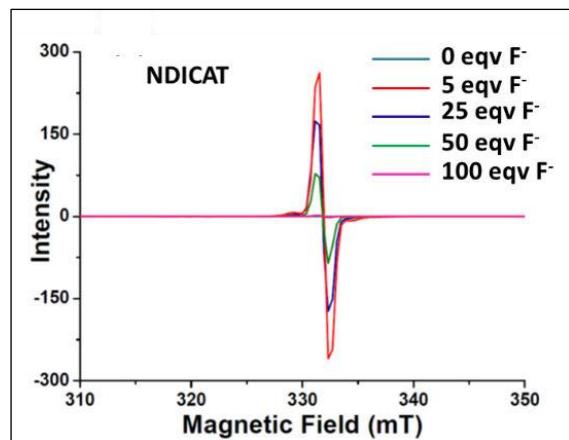
**Figure S26.** a) UV-Vis and b) PL spectrum of **NDICAT** in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  at 298K



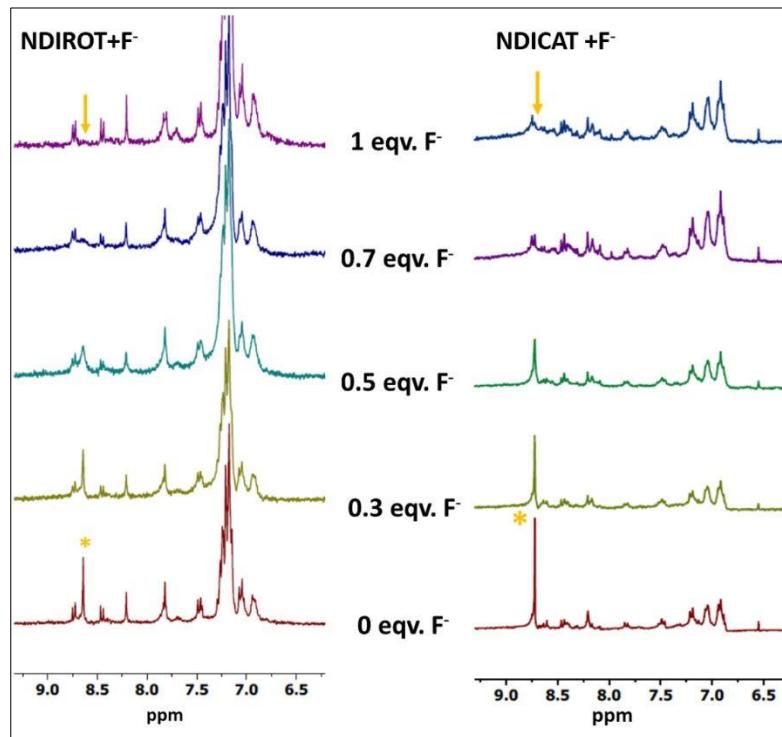
**Figure S27.** Snapshot of characteristic colour changes of (a) **NDIROT** and (b) **NDICAT** during addition 0.5 to 100 eqv. of  $\text{F}^-$  and  $\text{CN}^-$  in DMSO.



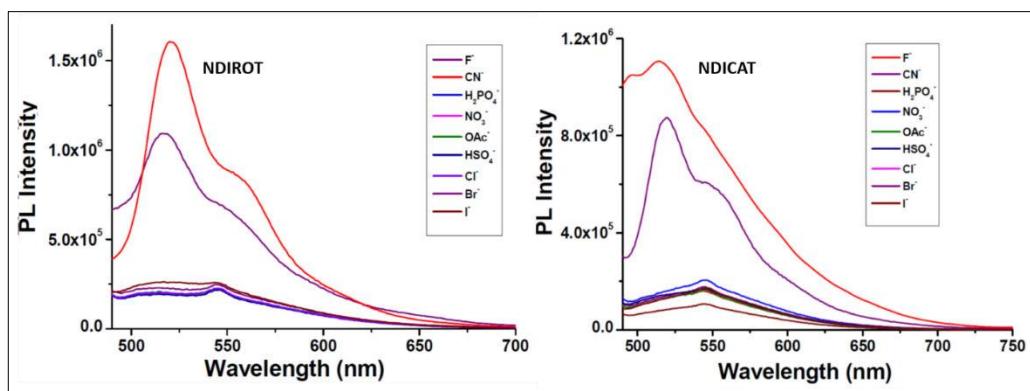
**Figure S28.** UV-Vis-NIR changes of (a) **NDICAT** (0.2mM) upon addition of  $\text{F}^-$  and (b) **NDIROT** (0.2mM) upon addition of  $\text{CN}^-$  in DMSO at 298K.



**Figure S29.** X-band EPR spectra of NDICAT (0.2 mM) in DMSO at 298 K.



**Figure S30.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of NDIROT/NDICAT (0.2 mM) after treatment with different equivalents of  $\text{F}^-$  in  $\text{d}_6$ -DMSO at 298 K.



**Figure S31.** Comparative PL spectra of **NDIROT** (0.2mM) and **NDICAT** (0.2mM) upon addition of various anions of TBA salts at 298K in DMSO.