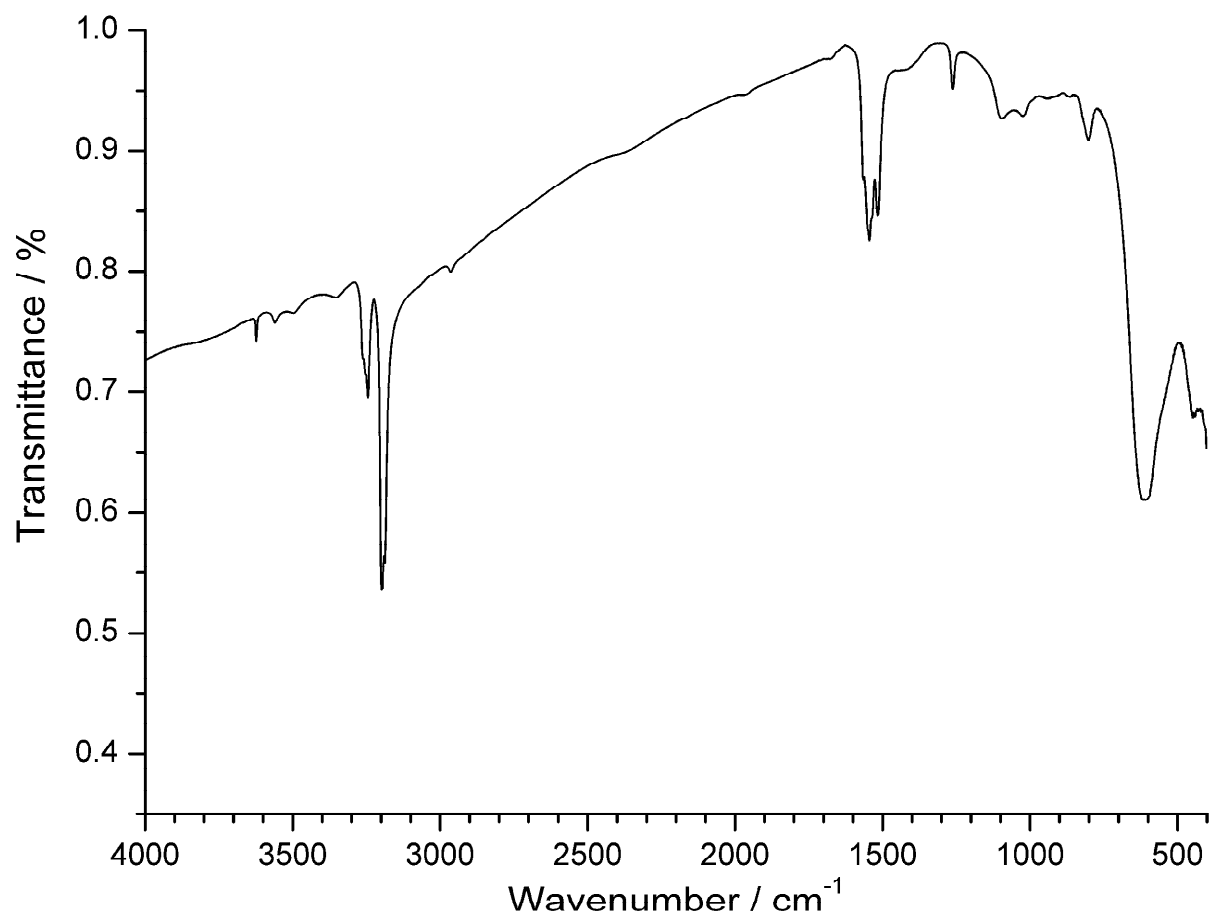
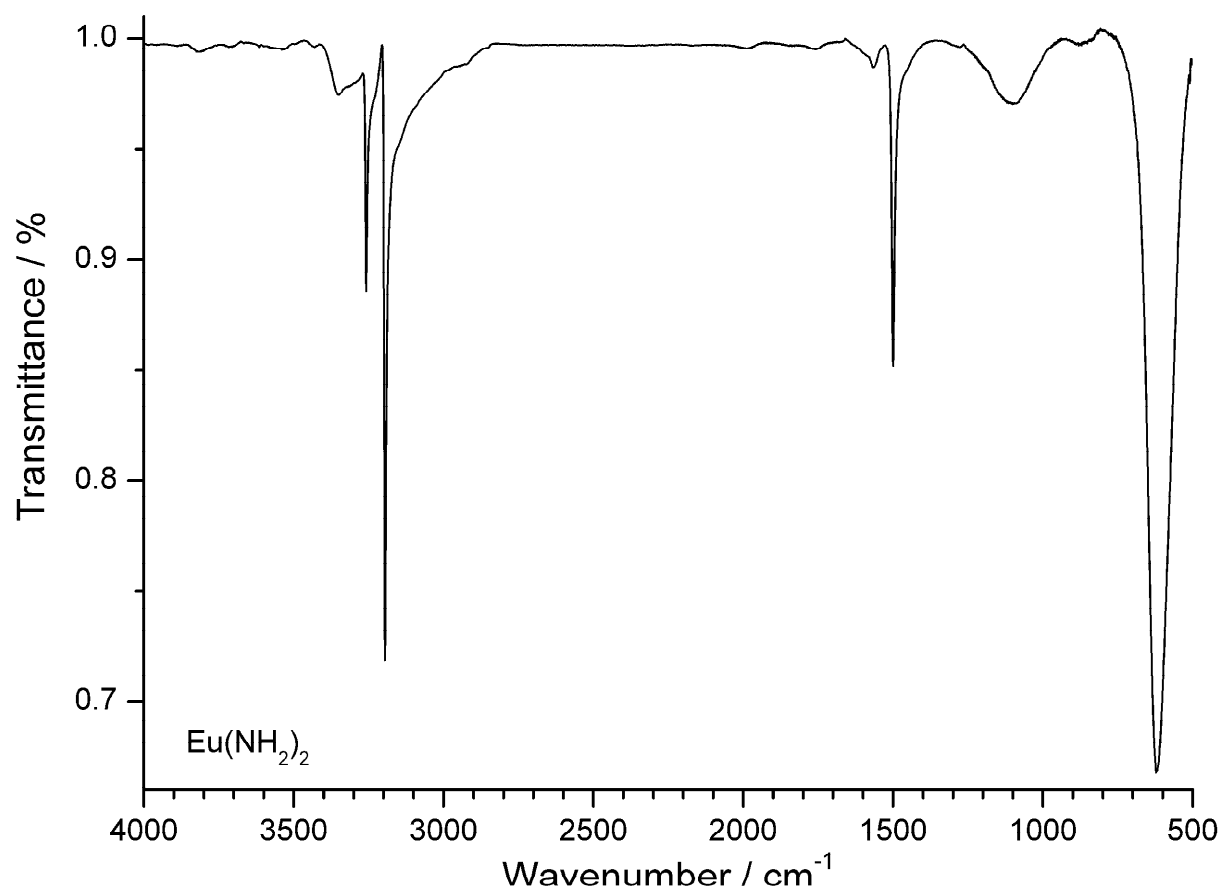


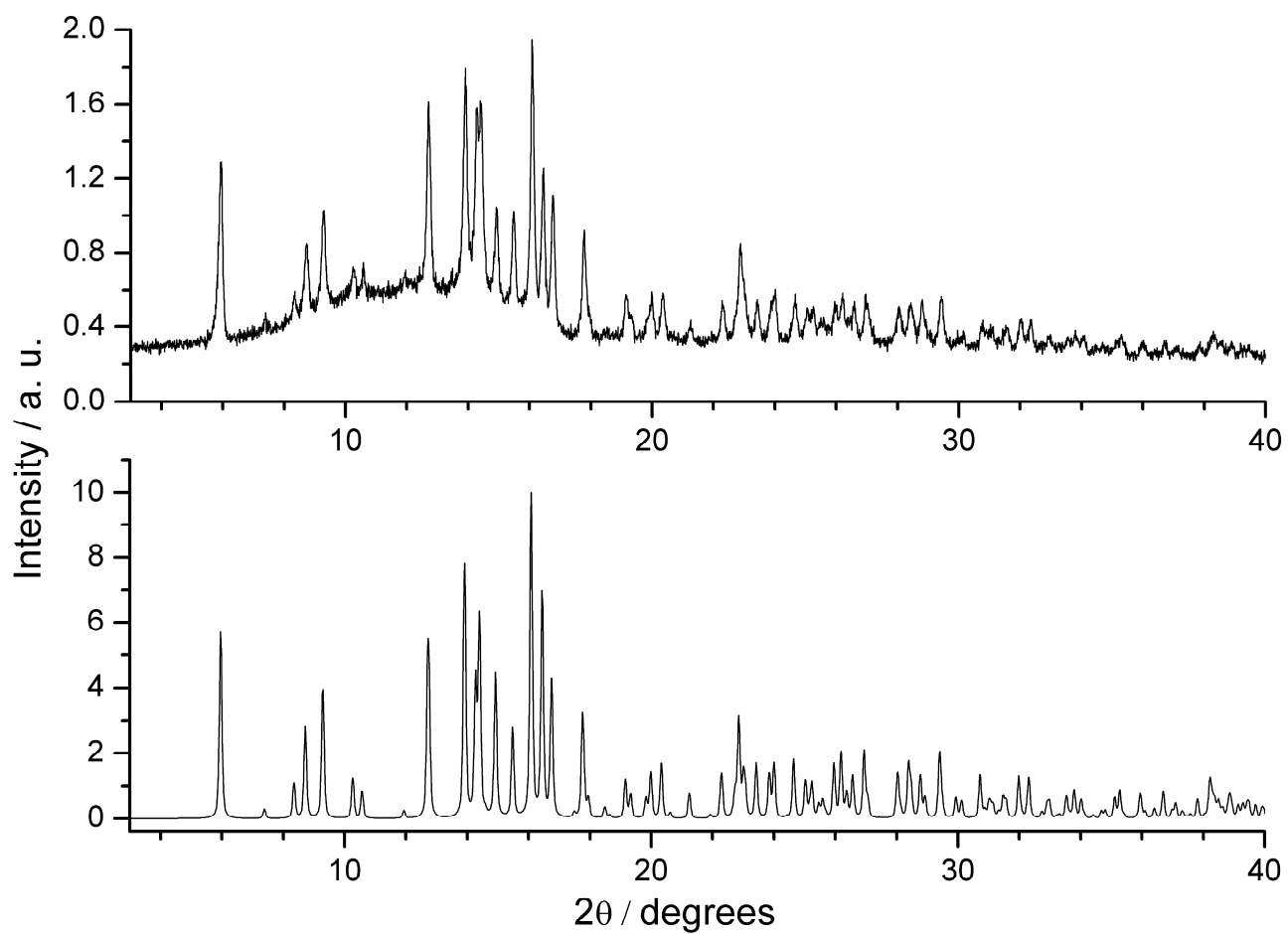
**Supporting information available:** IR-spectra of  $M(\text{NH}_2)_2$  ( $M = \text{Ba}, \text{Eu}$ ).



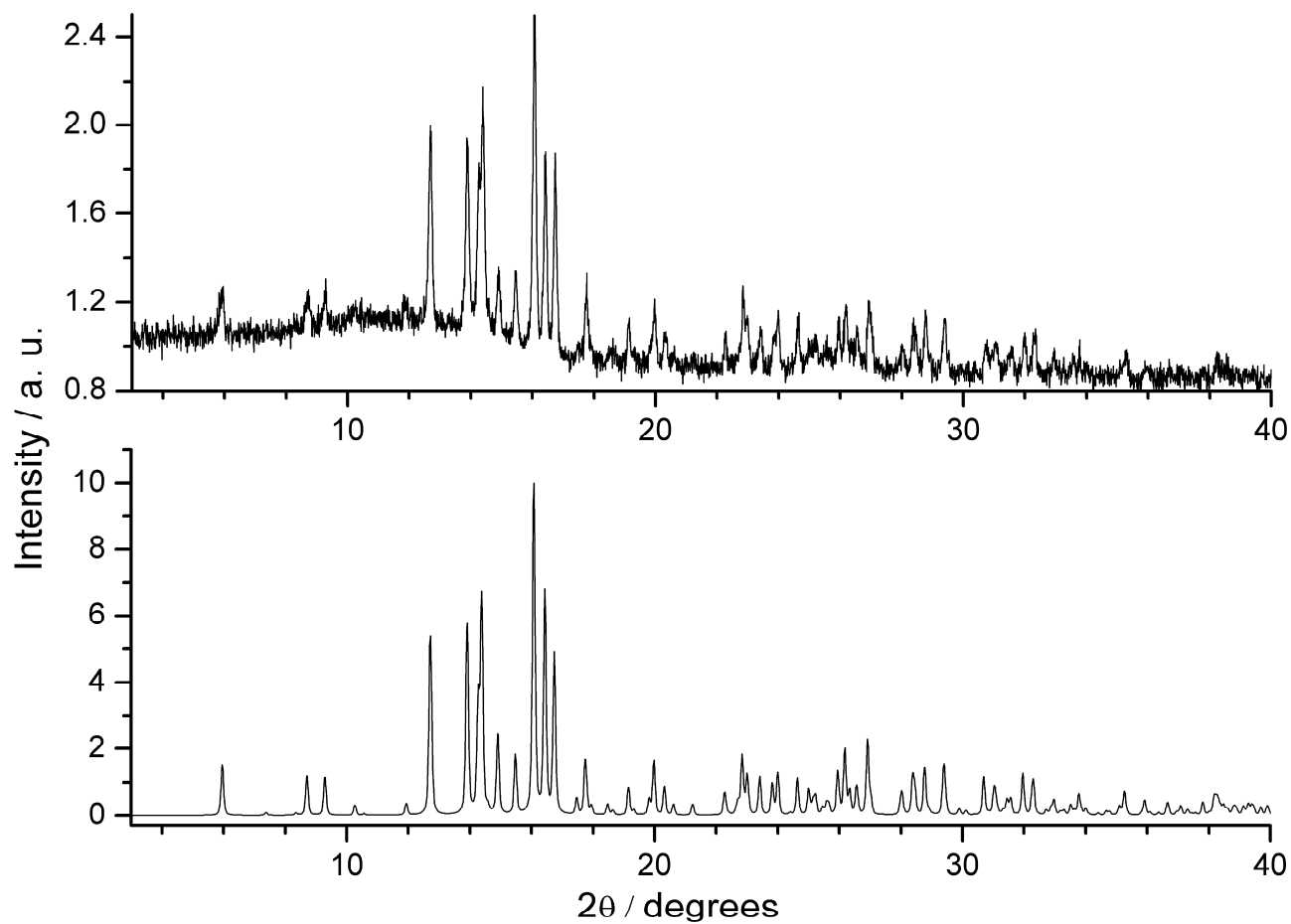
**Figure S1.** IR-spectrum of  $\text{Ba}(\text{NH}_2)_2$ .



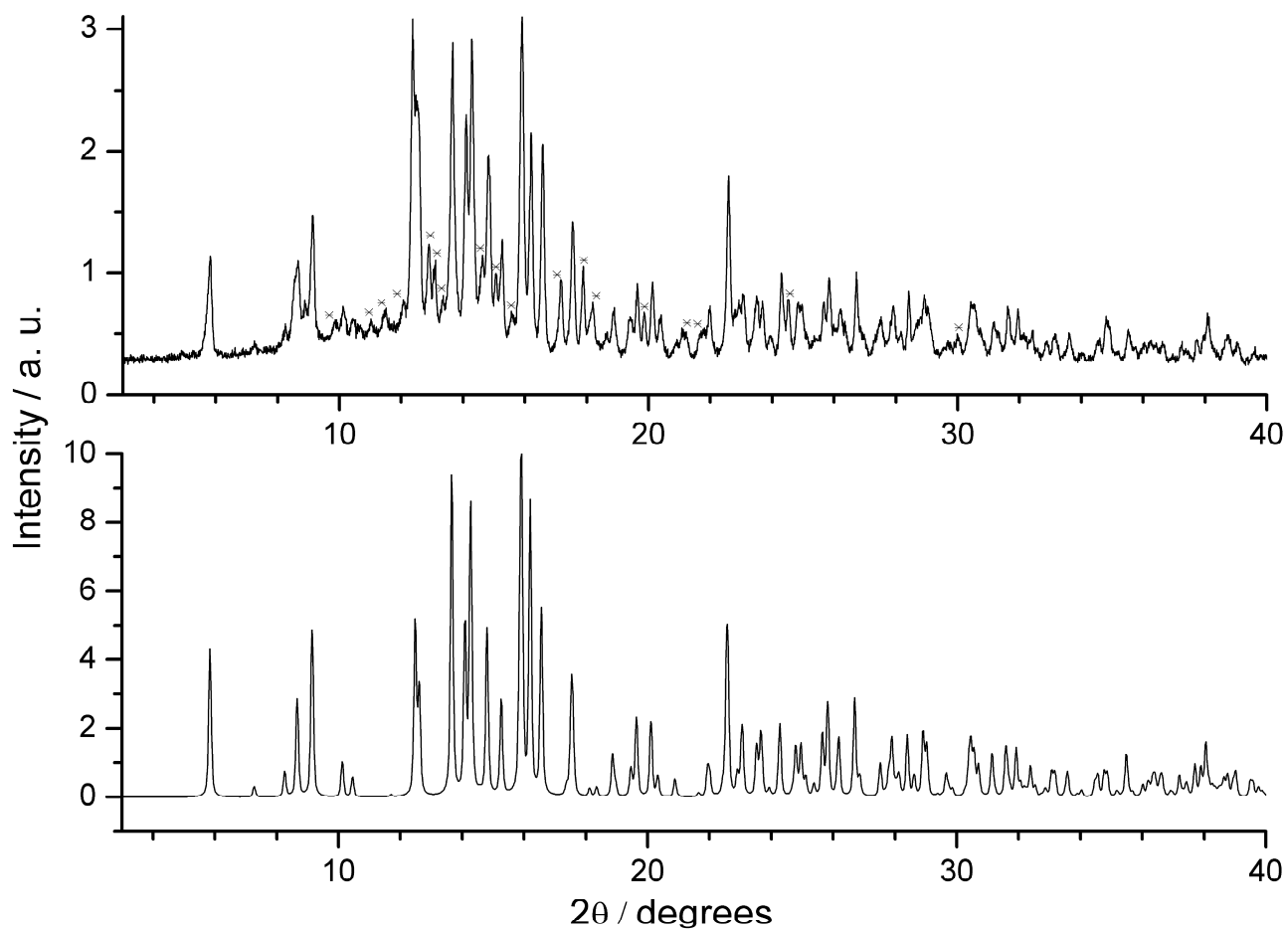
**Figure S2.** IR-spectrum of  $\text{Eu}(\text{NH}_2)_2$ .



**Figure S3.** XRD-pattern ( $\text{Mo-K}_{\alpha 1}$ ) of  $\text{Eu}_2\text{Si}_5\text{N}_8$  (as synthesized, above) and simulated (below).



**Figure S4.** XRD-pattern (Mo- $K_{\alpha 1}$ ) of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{Si}_5\text{N}_8$  (as synthesized, above) and simulated (below).



**Figure S5.** XRD-pattern (Mo- $\text{K}_{\alpha 1}$ ) of  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Si}_5\text{N}_8$  (as synthesized, above) and simulated (below). An unknown phase is marked by asterisks.