

**Electronic Supporting Information**

**Exploring the Franck-Condon region of a  
photoexcited charge transfer complex in solution  
to interpret femtosecond stimulated Raman  
spectroscopy: excited state electronic structure  
methods to unveil non-radiative pathways**

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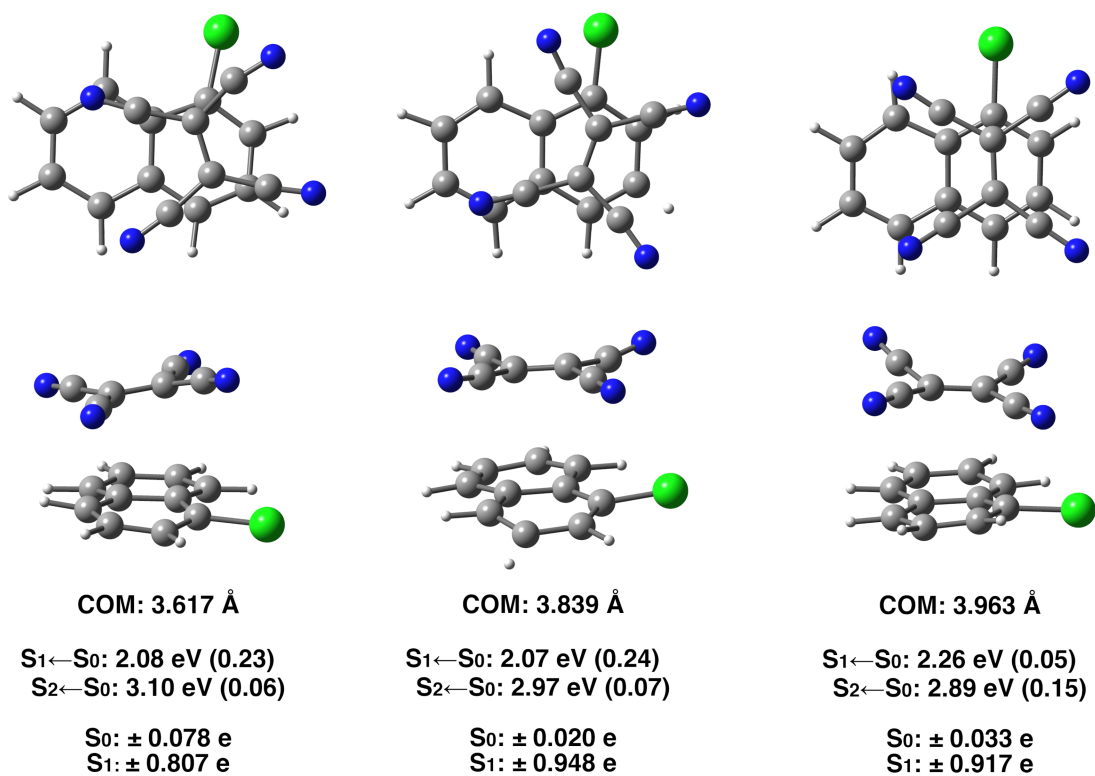
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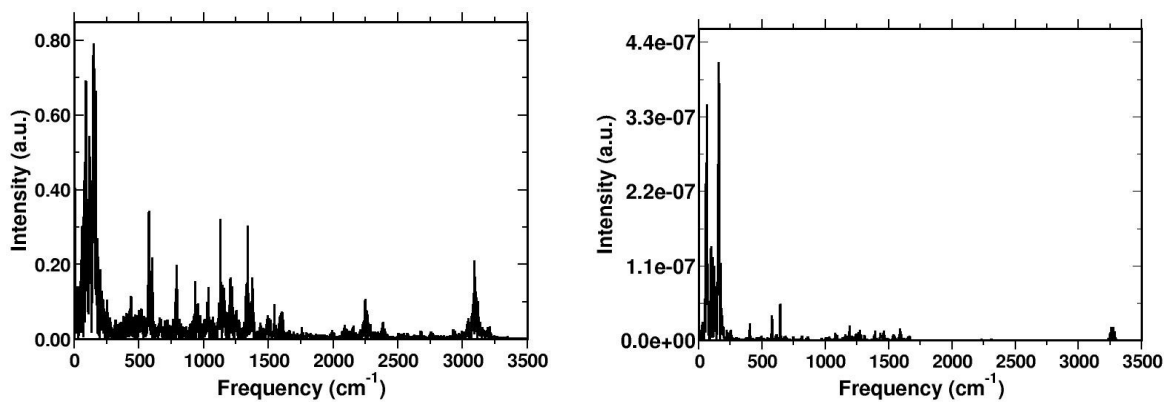


**Figure S1.** Initial geometries to run excited state BOMD simulations, extracted from ground state AIMD simulations for which the center of mass distances between the two monomers, TD-DFT vertical excitation energies (absolute errors with respect to experimental values are given in parenthesis) and the total NBO charge ( $e$ ) for each subunit in the ground ( $S_0$ ) and first singlet excited state ( $S_1$ , CT character) is given.

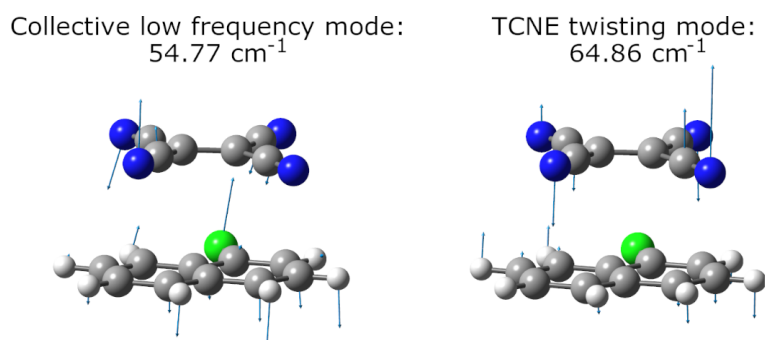
**Table S1.** Mean values of selected structural parameters, standard deviations are given in parenthesis, extracted from  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  *AIMD* of TCNE:1CIN CT complex. Labels are referred to Fig.1 in the main text and bond lengths are reported in Angstrom ( $\text{\AA}$ ).

	AIMD $_{\langle 10ps \rangle}$ $S_0$	AIMD $_{\langle 1ps \rangle}$ $S_1$
Tetracyanoethylene		
<b>C=C</b>	1.37 ( $\pm 0.01$ )	1.43 ( $\pm 0.02$ )
<b>C-C</b>	1.43 ( $\pm 0.02$ )	1.41 ( $\pm 0.01$ )
<b>C<math>\equiv</math>N</b>	1.16 ( $\pm 0.01$ )	1.164 ( $\pm 0.002$ )
1-Chloronaphthalene		
<b>C-C1</b>	1.77 ( $\pm 0.04$ )	1.72 ( $\pm 0.02$ )
<b>C-C1</b>	1.43 ( $\pm 0.03$ )	1.42 ( $\pm 0.01$ )
<b>C-C3</b>	1.42 ( $\pm 0.02$ )	1.38 ( $\pm 0.02$ )
<b>C-C6</b>	1.44 ( $\pm 0.02$ )	1.43 ( $\pm 0.02$ )
<b>C-C9</b>	1.42 ( $\pm 0.03$ )	1.39 ( $\pm 0.02$ )

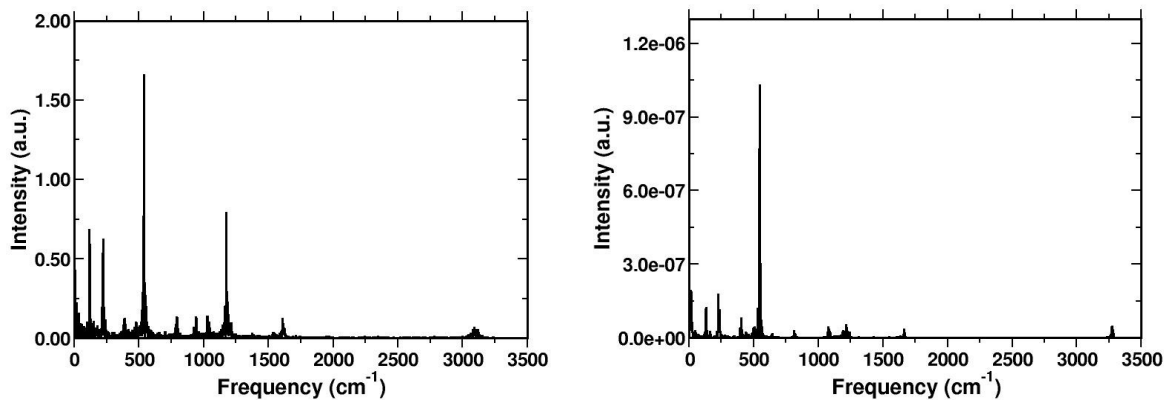
# Time-independent Fourier spectra



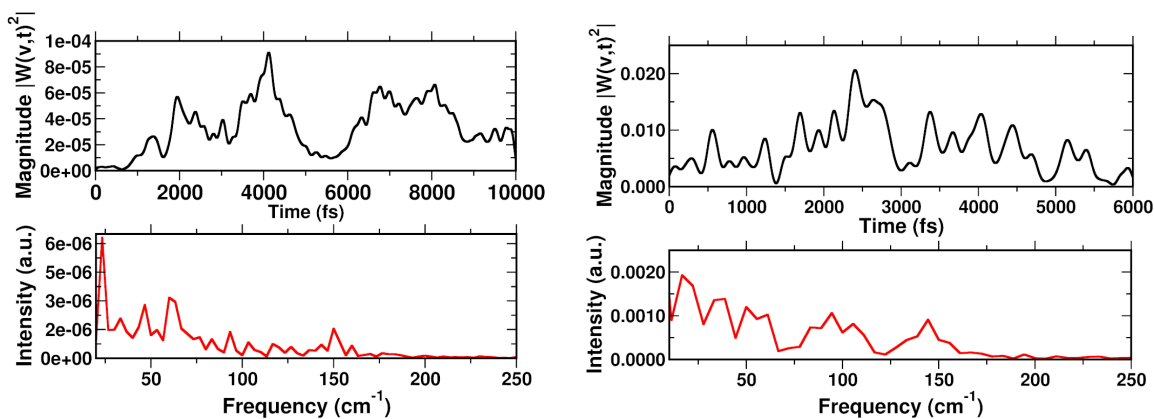
**Figure S2.** Time-independent spectra of the out of plane bending mode extracted from ground (left) and excited state (right) trajectory.



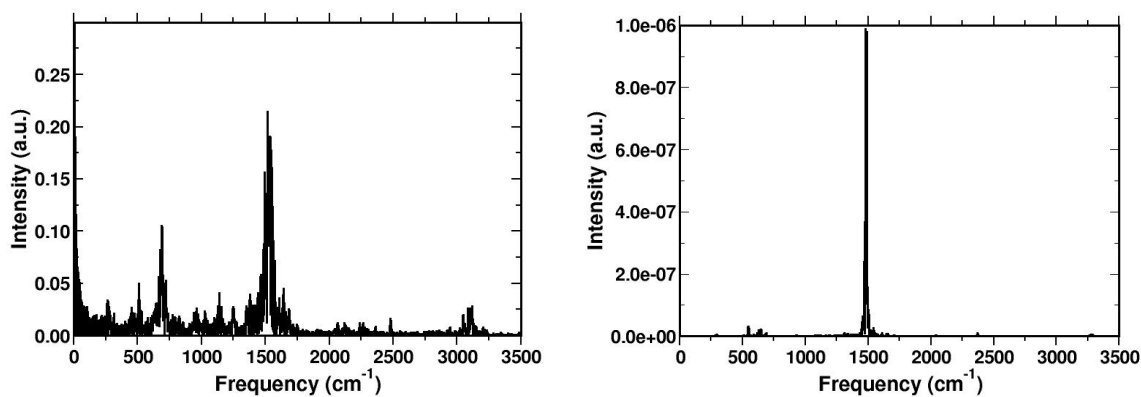
**Figure S3.** Low frequencies vibrational normal mode displacements observed in the excited state time-resolved Wavelet spectrum of the out of plane bending mode in Fig. 2, top right.



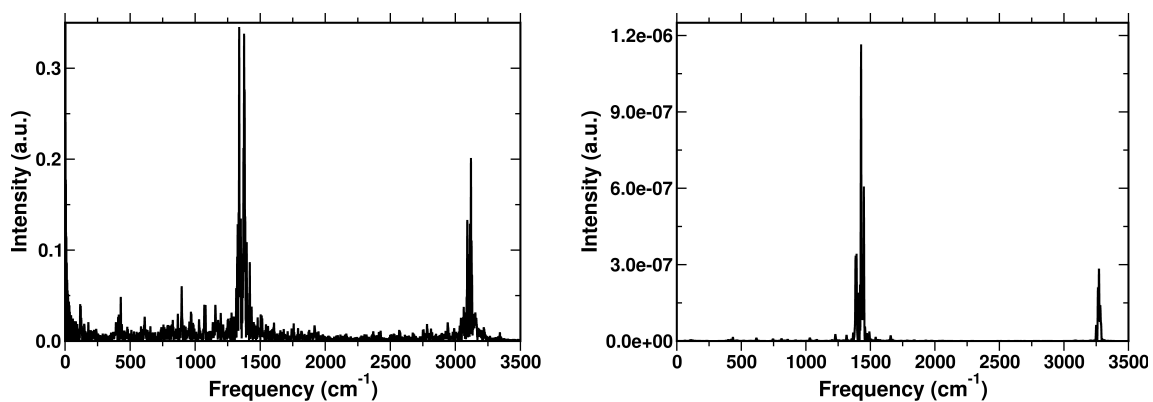
**Figure S4.** Time-independent spectra of the in plane bending mode extracted from ground (left) and excited state (right) trajectory.



**Figure S5.** Magnitude fluctuations for the symmetric in plane CCN bending mode, from GS (left panel) and ES (right panel) Wavelet power spectra extracted in the time (top) and frequency domains (bottom).

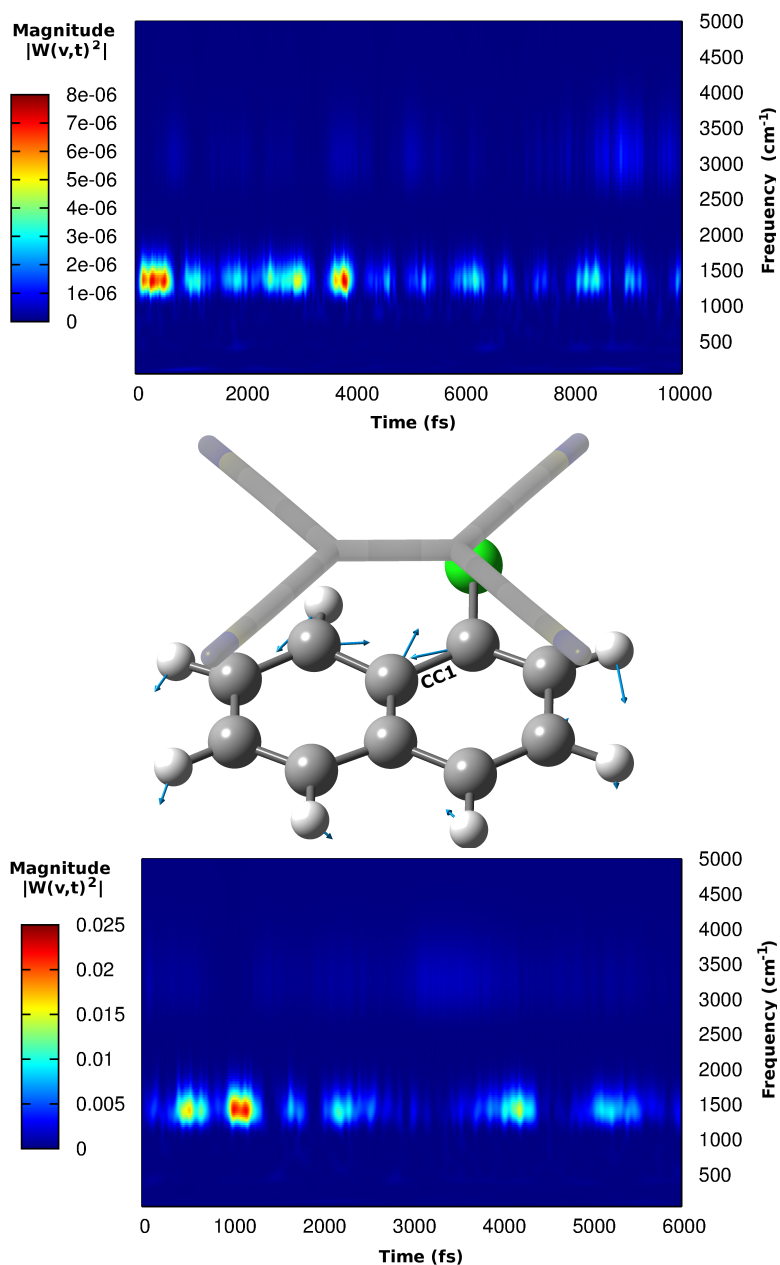


**Figure S6.** Time-independent spectra of the central C=C stretching mode extracted from ground (left) and excited state (right) trajectory.

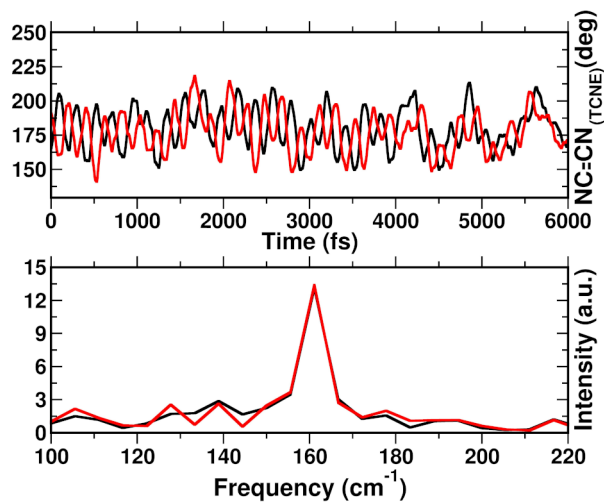


**Figure S7.** Time-independent Fourier spectra related to vibrational modes involving mainly the CC1 bond stretching having silenced the TCNE molecule extracted from ground (left) and excited state dynamics (right) peaked at 1338, 1380  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1392, 1428  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively.

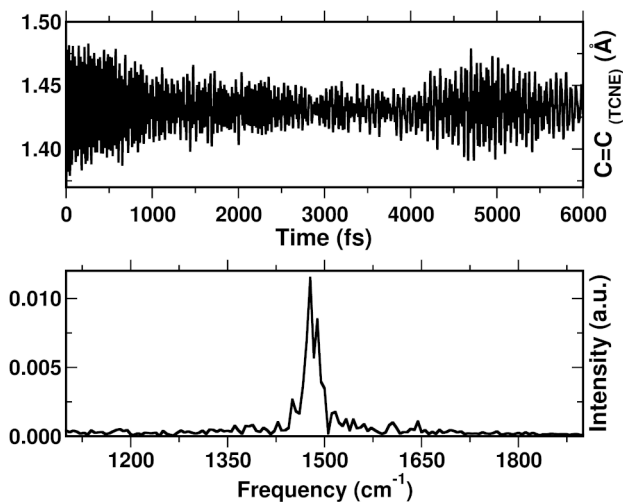




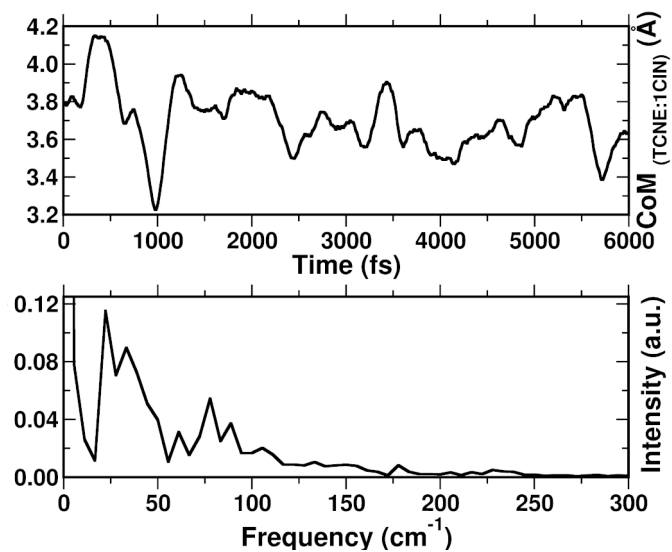
**Figure S8.** Wavelet spectra related to vibrational modes involving mainly the CC1 bond stretching (central panel) having silenced the TCNE molecule, reported in gray, extracted from ground (left) and excited state dynamics (right). To obtain a better visualization of the CC1 vibrational mode, for each step of the trajectory for the 1C1N coordinates and momenta rotational modes of the subsystem have been projected out by a minimization procedure of the angular momentum with respect the orientation assumed by the molecule in the first time step.



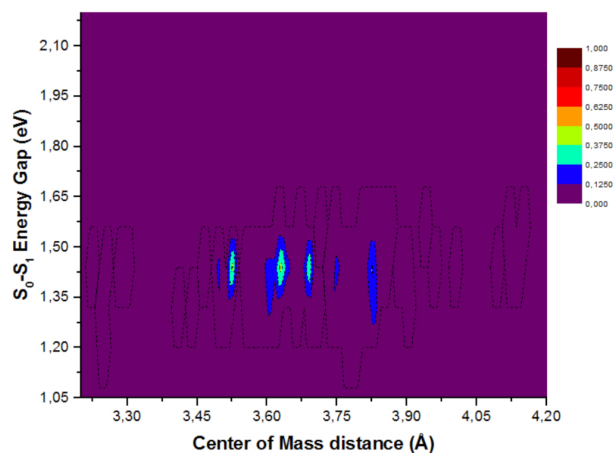
**Figure S9.** Temporal evolution of the NC=CN dihedral angles from excited state AIMD trajectories (top) and its Fourier transform spectrum (bottom). Average value: 180.6° and 177.3° for black and red trace, respectively.



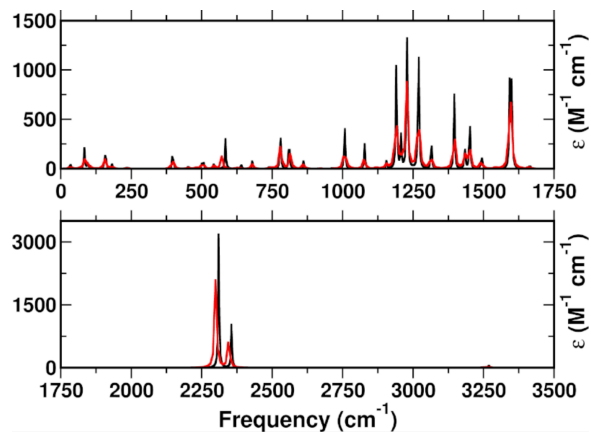
**Figure S10.** Temporal evolution of the C=C bond length averaged on three excited state AIMD trajectories (top) and its Fourier transform spectrum (bottom). Average value 1.43 Å.



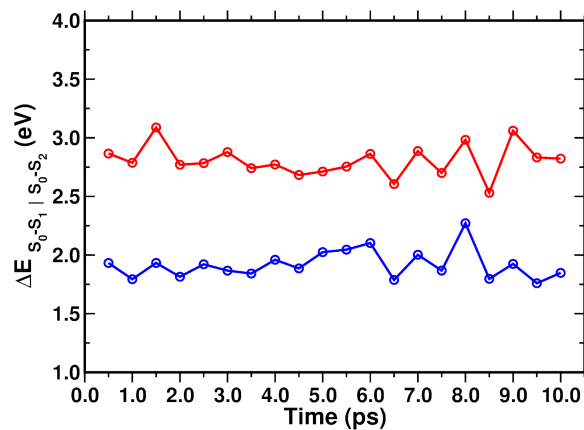
**Figure S11.** TCNE:1CIN center of mass distances computed averaging over the three 6ps long excited state trajectories (top) and its Fourier spectrum (bottom). Average value: 3.66 Å.



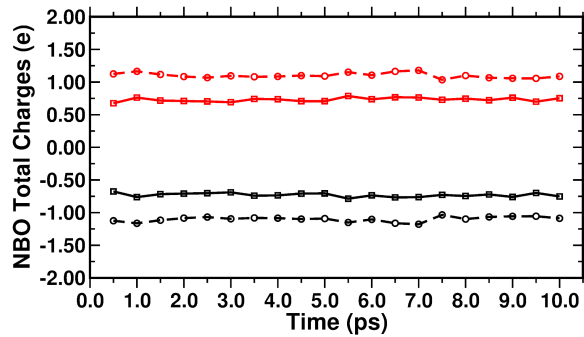
**Figure S12.** Normalized distribution of the center of mass distance between the TCNE:1CIN CT complex (x-axis) and the energy gap (y-axis) values between ground and first singlet excited state.



**Figure S13.** Harmonic vibrational frequencies (in wavenumbers,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) computed for a minimum energy structure at TD-CAM-B3LYP/6-31+G(d,p) (black trace) compared with TD-CAM-B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) (red trace) theory level in implicit DCM solvent. The maximum difference observed is  $\approx 10\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the stretching region of the CN groups,  $2300\text{-}2350\text{ cm}^{-1}$



**Figure S14.** Vertical Excitation Energies  $S_1 \leftarrow S_0$  (solid line and blue circles) and  $S_2 \leftarrow S_0$  (solid line and red circles) computed on conformers extracted each 500 fs from ground state *AIMD*.



**Figure S15.** Ground (solid) and first singlet excited state (dashed) net charges ( $e$ ) according to Natural Bond Orbitals analysis performed on twenty configurations regularly extracted every 500 fs from the ground state trajectory for the TCNE (black traces) and 1C1N (red traces) monomers.