

charge separation

A process in which, under the influence of a suitable driving force (e.g. provided by photoexcitation), electronic charge moves in a direction that increases the difference in local charges between donor and acceptor sites. Electron transfer between neutral species is one of the most important examples.

Source:

PAC, 1996, 68, 2223 (*Glossary of terms used in photochemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 2231