

Strengthening Public Trust in Science

➤ Thursday 11 December 2025



TRUST IN SCIENCE

CONFERENCE

**Analysing the challenges
and identifying solutions**

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Media Partners



THE CONVERSATION

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Introduction

The pursuit of scientific knowledge plays an essential role in tackling contemporary societal challenges such as health crises or climate change, and driving societal progress. Trust in science is therefore crucial for the development of evidence-based public policies and informed democratic decision making.

However, this public trust is increasingly being tested. Several factors contribute to this fragility: the proliferation of mis- or disinformation; the impact of recent global health crises; the emergence of new technologies – such as Artificial Intelligence – that can encourage the spread of suspicion, fear, or rejection of science. Other challenges include the blurring of boundaries between science, belief, and opinion; the emergence of high-profile scientific controversies, and the difficulties in effectively communicating the boundaries of scientific processes and complex results.

In response, the French National Research Agency (ANR) and Science Europe are working together to organise a conference to analyse the factors that erode trust in science and explore ways in which it can be rebuilt. This event will be an important step in identifying key levers for action and practical solutions to promote open, transparent and trustworthy science. This conference will highlight how essential it is to build trust in the research process in order to help the public sort through misinformation, distinguish science from opinions and beliefs, and strengthen confidence in the integrity and rigour of research methodologies.

This conference is part of ANR's 20th anniversary celebrations.

Objectives

The objectives of the conference are to:

- L** identify the factors that undermine public confidence in science, scientists and research institutions.
- L** examine the dynamics between science, society and the media in the dissemination of knowledge, scientific debates and public engagement.
- L** share best practices in science communication and public engagement.

The goal is to use the outcomes of the conference to develop concrete recommendations for research funding and research performing organisations and the media to enhance public understanding of the scientific method and raise policy makers' awareness of the importance to strengthen trust in science.

Media Partners

The conference on Trust in Science is supported by two media partners: L'Express and The Conversation.



Programme

Thursday 11 December 2025

08.30–09.00 *Registration and Welcome Coffee*

09.00–09.25 **Welcome and Introduction**

This session will outline the objectives and themes of the conference, addressing the importance of building and maintaining public trust in science to support the pursuit of scientific knowledge to advance societal progress.

It will illustrate how trust can underpin the development of evidence-based public policies and democratic decision making, and the role of research funding and research performing organisations in these.

- **Claire Giry**, Chairman and Director General, French National Research Agency (ANR)
- **Representative of the French Ministry of Research and Higher Education**
- **Francisco Javier Moreno Fuentes**, Vice-President for International Affairs, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC); Vice-President, Science Europe
- **Ezra Clark**, Chief of the Science Technology and Innovation Policy Section, UNESCO

09.25–09.45 **Keynote Speech**

- **Kei Koizumi**, Former Principal Deputy Director for Science, Society, and Policy at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

09.45–11.00 **Session 1: Europe, Science and Society – Understanding the Trust Relationship and Factors Supporting Public Trust in Science**

This session will provide an overview of public trust in science across Europe, drawing on key findings from major European and national studies. It will explore how scientific knowledge and critical thinking are considered; ways of building trust; how trust levels vary across countries and demographic groups; and what this means for scientific literacy and public understanding of the scientific method.

The session will also examine the key challenges that undermine trust in science, eroding public confidence, as well as how trust in science is shaped by cultural institutions, the media, and social networks.

- Drawing on your experience and/or the research you've been involved in, how would you describe the current state of public trust in science across Europe and globally?
- What in your view is the most important factor influencing trust in science?
- What does this mean for understanding of, and communicating the scientific method, and scientific literacy?

Speakers

- **Martin Bauer**, Professor of Social Psychology and Research Methodology, London School of Economics
- **Ana Godinho**, Head of Communications & Engagement, European Spallation Source, Sweden
- **Agata Gurzawska**, Cluster Lead - Ethics, Human Rights and New Technologies, Trilateral Research
- **Kei Koizumi**, Former Principal Deputy Director for Science, Society, and Policy at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

Moderator

- **Michel Dubois**, Senior Research Fellow, French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS); Director, GEMASS

11.00–11.30 *Coffee Break*

11.30–12.45 **Session 2: Trust in Science under pressure in an Era of Controversy and Disruptive Technological Change**

This session will explore how moments of controversy, uncertainty, or rapid technological change affect scientific credibility. It will examine the dynamics of trust in selected scientific domains, and why some scientific theories gain public and political traction while others are contested or ignored.

In particular, it will examine how policies in other areas such as research ethics or scientific integrity, contribute to building and maintaining credibility.

- How do controversial scientific advances or technological breakthroughs influence and impact public trust in science?
- What is the role of different actors in addressing challenges of bias, reproducibility, or conflicts of interest?
- How can researchers and institutions better communicate uncertainty and complexity?

Keynote

- **Dame Wendy Hall DBE**, Regius Professor of Computer Science, Associate Vice President (International Engagement) and Director of the Web Science Institute at the University of Southampton (*online*)

Speakers

- **Agnès Buzyn**, President of Evidences, former French Minister of Solidarity and Health
- **Dame Wendy Hall DBE**, Regius Professor of Computer Science, Associate Vice President (International Engagement) and Director of the Web Science Institute at the University of Southampton (*online*)
- **Romain Huret**, President and Director of Studies, School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), France
- **Didier Pourquery**, President, The Conversation, France
- **Rebecca Veitch**, Head of Research Integrity, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)

Moderator

- **Francisco Javier Moreno Fuentes**, Vice-President for International Affairs, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC); Vice-President, Science Europe

12.45–14.00 *Lunch*

14.00–15.30 **Session 3: Strengthening Trust through Public Engagement**

This session will explore whether and to what extent public trust depends on the belief that science serves the public good and where and how such alignment between science and values should occur, and what happens when these values conflict. It will highlight the importance of open dialogue, media engagement, and participatory research in fostering greater trust between the scientific community and society.

- Which values are essential to building and maintaining public trust?
- How can scientists and journalists work together to improve the accuracy, relevance, and impact of scientific reporting?
- What is the role of participatory and citizen science in improving public engagement?

Keynote

- **Jerry Sheehan**, Director, Directorate for Science Technology and Innovation, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Speakers

- **Mohamed Elsonbaty Ramadan**, Founder of SciCommAI; Co-founder of the Arab Forum of Science Media and Communication (AFSMC); Former Vice-President of the Public Communication of Science and Technology (PCST) Network
- **Pampa Garcia Molina**, Coordinator of the Science Media Centre, Spain
- **Emelie de Jong**, Director, France Culture
- **Hugo Mercier**, Senior Researcher, Institut Jean Nicod, (CNRS, ENS, PSL); Scientific Director, AI and Society Institute (ENS, PSL, Paris Dauphine), Paris, France
- **Jerry Sheehan**, Director, Directorate for Science Technology and Innovation, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Moderator

- **Lidia Borrell-Damián**, Secretary General, Science Europe

15.30–16.00 *Coffee Break*

16.00–17.15 **Session 4: Institutional and Policy Responses to Strengthen Trust in Science**

This session will explore how research funding and performing organisations and policy makers can actively contribute to building public trust in science. It will discuss their shared responsibility to promote transparency and integrity while helping researchers participate in the public debate without fear of abuse or intimidation. It will also identify effective institutional and policy solutions to strengthen public trust in science.

- How can research funding and performing organisations enhance public trust in science and support and protect researchers?
- How can research funding and performing organisations work with policy makers to strengthen the science-society dialogue to reinforce trust in science?
- How can research performing and funding organisations better engage with media to combat misinformation and ensure responsible science reporting?

Speakers

- **David Budtz Pedersen**, Professor of Science Communication, Aalborg University, Denmark
- **Karen Fabbri**, Deputy Head of Unit Science for Policy, Advice and Ethics, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission
- **Anu Noorma**, Director General of the Estonian Research Council (ETAG)
- **Antoine Petit**, President and CEO, French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)

Moderator

- **Carthage Smith**, Senior Policy Expert, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

17.15–17.30 **Conclusions and Next Steps**

Summing up the discussions of the conference and outlining the next steps.

- **Claire Giry**, Chairman and Director General, French National Research Agency (ANR)
- **Lidia Borrell-Damián**, Secretary General, Science Europe

Meet the Speakers & Moderators



Claire Giry

Chairman and Director General, French National Research Agency (ANR)

Claire Giry has been President and CEO of the French National Research Agency (ANR) since July 2024. The agency funds project-based research carried out by public operators co-operating with each other or with private companies. She holds a doctorate in molecular and cellular biology from the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Lyon and has over 25 years' experience in research administration and scientific policy. She has alternated between national positions and operational functions within national research organisations. In particular, she was responsible for developing national, European and international partnerships at the French Atomic Energy and Alternative Energies Commission (CEA), where between 2014 and 2017 she was Director of the Fontenay-aux-Roses centre, then Deputy Director of Fundamental Research. At Inserm, she headed the Department of Partnerships and External Relations from 2012 to 2014; she was the organisation's Deputy Director General from 2018 to 2021. At national level, Claire Giry was Technical Advisor to Prime Minister François Fillon and as of June 2021, she was Director General for Research and Innovation at the Ministry of Higher Education and Research.



Lidia Borrell-Damián

Secretary General, Science Europe

Lidia Borrell-Damián is Secretary General of Science Europe, the association representing national public organisations that fund and perform research in Europe. She holds overall responsibility for the organisation's strategic development and implementation of action plans. Her areas of experience cover a wide range of Research and Innovation and Higher Education policy priorities; EU Framework Programmes; European Research Area, international co-operation; research infrastructures; research ethics and integrity; research assessment processes; university-business co-operation; regional innovation; gender and diversity; Open Science; doctoral education; energy science policy. She holds a Doctorate in Chemistry (Chemical Engineering Specialty; Solar Energy) from the University of Barcelona (1995). She worked at the European University Association (EUA) during 2006–2019, serving the last five years as the Director for R&I. She was Director of Research at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain, 2003–2005). Formerly, she was a Visiting Scholar at the University of Western Ontario (London, Canada, 1999–2001) and at North Carolina State University (Raleigh, USA, 1997–1998). She was an Assistant Professor at the University of Barcelona from 1990–1998.



Francisco Javier Moreno Fuentes

Vice-President for International Affairs, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC); Vice-President, Science Europe

Francisco Javier Moreno Fuentes is a Senior Researcher at the Institute of Public Goods and Policies of the Spanish National Research Council (IPP-CSIC). He has a BA in Sociology from the Complutense University of Madrid, a Master in Social Sciences from the Juan March Institute, an MSc in Social Policy from the LSE, and a PhD in Political Science from the Autonomous University of Madrid. Between July 2018 and September 2019, he was Deputy Director of the Spanish High Commission against child poverty. He has been a researcher for the European Social Policy Network (ESPN) of independent experts on social protection and inclusion of the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission since 2014. He led a significant number of research projects on welfare policies and immigration in Spain and the EU, based on a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. He is the (co-)author of 10 books, 40 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 37 chapters in edited books, and more than 50 reports related to his areas of specialisation. Since July 2022, he is the Vice-President for International Affairs of CSIC.



Ezra Clark

Chief of the Science Technology and Innovation Policy Section, UNESCO

Dr. Ezra Clark is the Chief of Section for Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) in the Natural Sciences Sector of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Section supports countries in analysing and developing evidence-based STI policies; leading UNESCO's implementation of the 2021 Recommendation on Open Science; promoting gender equality in science; science communication and popularisation; preparing the flagship UNESCO Science Report; and fostering international cooperation through science diplomacy. Prior to this, Ezra worked for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the field of ozone and climate under the Montreal Protocol. He holds a PhD in Freshwater Ecology and Hydrology from Exeter University, United Kingdom.



Kei Koizumi

Former Principal Deputy Director for Science, Society, and Policy at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

Kei Koizumi (he/his) is a longtime science-policy leader, science policy researcher, and social scientist in Washington, DC. From January 2021 to January 2025, he served as President Biden's appointee at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), most recently as Special Assistant to the President and Principal Deputy Director for Science, Society, and Policy, earlier as Principal Deputy Director for Policy, Chief of Staff, and Acting Director. He was also Acting Executive Director of the National Science and Technology Council from 2022-2024. Before that, he served as Senior Advisor for Science Policy at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) between 2017 and 2019. He was Assistant Director for Federal R&D, and Senior Advisor for the National Science and Technology Council, at OSTP from 2009 to 2016 in the Obama Administration. Before that, he was the longtime Director of the AAAS R&D Budget and Policy Program. Mr. Koizumi received his MA in International Science and Technology Policy at the George Washington University (where he has taught science policy) and his BA from Boston University in Political Science and Economics. He is a Fellow of the AAAS.



Martin Bauer

Professor of Social Psychology and Research Methodology, London School of Economics

Martin Bauer is Professor of Social Psychology and Research Methodology, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). He investigates public attitudes to science and emerging technologies in the international network MACAS [mapping the cultural authority of science]. He is a Fellow of the German National Academy of Technical Sciences [acatech] and former editor of Public Understanding of Science, and the UK PI on EU Horizon POIESIS (2022-2025). Recent publications include: AI and Common Sense - Ambitions and Frictions (Routledge, 2024; with B Schiele), Public Communication of Research Institutes: 'Arms race' for visibility or science substance? (Routledge, 2022, with M Entradas); The Psychology of Social Influence – Modes and Modalities of Shifting Common Sense, (CUP, 2021, with G Sammut); Atom, Bytes & Genes – Public Resistance and Techno-Scientific Responses, (Routledge, 2015).



Ana Godinho

Head of Communications & Engagement, European Spallation Source, Sweden

Ana Godinho is a scientist turned communicator. She is currently Head of Communications and Engagement at the European Spallation Source, a 13-Member State European research infrastructure for neutron science. She has led communications teams at research organisations in Portugal, the UK and Switzerland. While Head of Education, Communications and Outreach at CERN, the group received two international communications awards. She has a PhD in Developmental Neurobiology from the University of London and an MSc in Science Communication from the Open University (UK). She sits on review boards, is a regularly invited lecturer on graduate courses and was a guest researcher at the University of Zurich, where she consolidated her interest in integrating science communication research into practice. Ana co-authored a children's book of science experiments, and has collaborated in outreach projects in Europe, Africa and Brazil.



Agata Gurzawska

Cluster Lead - Ethics, Human Rights and New Technologies, Trilateral Research

Dr. Agata Gurzawska is a human rights lawyer focused on responsible innovation in business and the impact of emerging technologies. She works at the intersection of law, ethics, and policy, with extensive experience in EU-funded research and involvement in over 15 projects. She recently co-ordinated the Horizon Europe VERITY project, reshaping the ecosystem of trust in science. As Senior Research Manager and PI at Trilateral Research, she leads the Ethics, Human Rights & Emerging Tech research team. Through her work, she drives innovation that delivers economic and societal value by applying Strategic Responsible Innovation Management and embedding human rights and ethics-by-design.



Michel Dubois

Senior Research Fellow, French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS); Director, GEMASS

Michel Dubois is a CNRS Senior Research Fellow and Director of the French Office for Scientific Integrity. Since 2019, he has also led the social sciences lab GEMASS at Sorbonne University, after having been deputy director of the CNRS international unit Epigenetics, Data and Politics (EpiDaPo) in the United States and visiting professor at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and then at George Washington University (GWU) in Washington DC. He co-directed the 8th wave of the national survey Les Français et la science, published in 2021, and has been a member of the Scientific Committee of the Critical Thinking Barometer since 2023. He is currently preparing the 9th wave of the national survey Les Français et la science.



Dame Wendy Hall DBE

Regius Professor of Computer Science, Associate Vice President (International Engagement) and Director of the Web Science Institute at the University of Southampton

Dame Wendy Hall, DBE, FRS, FEng is Regius Professor of Computer Science, Associate Vice President (International Engagement) and is Director of the Web Science Institute at the University of Southampton. She became a Dame Commander of the British Empire in the 2009 UK New Year's Honours list, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering and the ACM. Dame Wendy was co-Chair of the UK government's AI Review, which was published in October 2017 and a member of the AI Council. She is currently the co-Chair of the ACM Publications Board and Editor-in-Chief of Royal Society Open Science. She is an advisor to the UK government and many other governments and companies around the world, and in 2023 was appointed to the United Nations high-level advisory body on artificial intelligence. Her latest book, Four Internets, co-written with Kieron O'Hara, was published by OUP in 2021.



Agnès Buzyn

President of Evidences, former French Minister of Solidarity and Health

Agnès Buzyn is Professor of Haematology at Paris-Sorbonne University. Her research work at Inserm between 1995 and 2008 focused on tumour immunology. In 2008, she was appointed President of the French Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN), then in 2011 President of the French National Cancer Institute (INCa), during which time she was responsible for drafting the 3rd Cancer Plan. In 2016, she was appointed President of the College of the High Authority for Health (HAS), before being appointed Minister for Solidarity and Health (2017-2020). Recruited to the office of the Director-General of the WHO in January 2021 as Special Envoy for Multilateral Affairs, she will leave in September 2022 to be appointed Senior Advisor to the Court of Auditors. Since 2025, she has also been President of the Evidence think tank, which aims to defend the place of science in society.



Romain Huret

President and Director of Studies, School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), France

After studying history at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University (1994) and obtaining his agrégation in history (1996), Romain Huret went on to earn a DEA in North American history (1998) and a PhD (2003), both from EHESS. He also holds an HDR (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches) from Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University. Between 1999 and 2000, he was a visiting scholar at the University of Virginia (United States), after receiving a Fulbright scholarship. He then became an assistant professor at the University of Artois (2000-2004), before becoming a senior lecturer at the University of Lyon-II (2006-2014). From 2008 to 2013, he was also a junior member of the Institut universitaire de France (IUF) before being elected Director of Studies at EHESS in 2014. Between 2015 and 2017, he headed the Centre for North American Studies (CENA) and was deputy director of the Mondes Américains research unit (UMR 8168 EHESS-CNRS). A member of the EHESS Presidential Board in 2017, he is vice-president in charge of research. Since 2017, he has also been a member of the Board of Directors of the Bulac (University Library of Languages and Civilisations). Romain Huret has also been a visiting or associate professor at foreign universities: at Harvard and the University of Virginia (United States), as well as in Geneva (Switzerland) and Bucharest (Romania). He has published numerous works in French and English, including *American Tax Resisters* (Harvard University Press, 2014) and *Les millions de monsieur Mellon* (La Découverte, 2023).



Didier Pourquery

President, The Conversation, France

Didier Pourquery, is a journalist and a writer. He is currently co-founder and chairman of The Conversation France, the francophone operation of the global network The Conversation. Since 2018, he has also been chairman of Cap Sciences, one of the major French Science Center based in Bordeaux. He is a graduate of Sciences Po Paris and of the ESSEC Business School. After six years as a freelance writer and a manager in several international corporations, he became a full-time journalist. Didier has a 40 years' experience as a reporter, a columnist and an editor-in-chief for various newspapers and magazines: *Libération*, *La Tribune*, *InfoMatin*, *Prisma Presse*, *L'Expansion*, *Metro*, *Axel Springer* and *Le Monde*. Before launching The Conversation France in 2015, he was managing editor for *Le Monde* daily newspaper. He is the author of 13 books, including *Les Mots de l'époque*, *L'Été d'Agathe*, *Petit Éloge du Jazz*, *En finir avec l'ironie? Sauvons le débat-Osons la Nuance* et *Une Histoire des Trente Glorieuses*.



Rebecca Veitch

Head of Research Integrity, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)

Rebecca is the head of research integrity strategy at UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). She leads teams working within UKRI and with the sector to support and promote high integrity in research. With a particular interest in the relationship between behaviour and policy, Rebecca's teams focus on issues that are expected to have a long-term impact on the research system. As part of this, UKRI established the first UK Committee on Research Integrity which has been running since 2022. Rebecca has extensive experience working in policy, having spent time in both the public and voluntary sector, mostly working on issues impacting children and young people.



Jerry Sheehan

Director, Directorate for Science Technology and Innovation, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Jerry Sheehan is Director of the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology, and Innovation. He joined the OECD in 2023 with three decades of experience in innovation, scientific data, and technology policy. He previously served as Deputy Director at the US National Library of Medicine and twice in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, leading major initiatives on open science, scientific integrity, and public access to research. He has chaired the US National Science and Technology Council Subcommittee on Open Science and the OECD Working Party on Innovation and Technology Policy, and represented the US in the G7 Open Science Working Group. He also worked at the OECD as a Senior Economist (2000–2006) and earlier held roles at the US National Academy of Sciences and the US Congress Office of Technology Assessment. He holds a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering and a Master's in Technology & Policy from MIT.



Mohamed Elsonbaty Ramadan

Founder of SciCommAI; Co-founder of the Arab Forum of Science Media and Communication (AFSMC); Former Vice-President of the Public Communication of Science and Technology (PCST) Network

Mohamed Elsonbaty is an Award-winning Science Journalist, Science Communication Consultant, AI Trainer and Lecturer. With 15 years of professional experience, he has published more than 750 scientific pieces in various reputable outlets, including Scientific American, SciDev.Net, Nature and Popular Science. As a Science Communication Consultant, he has worked for many international organisations, where he developed and delivered various science communication projects and events to engage the public with science around the globe. As an AI Trainer and Lecturer, he has delivered lectures and workshops at reputable media organisations and universities for hundreds of science communicators, journalists, media professionals, researchers and scientists on AI and science journalism and communication. He is the Founder of SciComm-AI, Co-founder of the Arab Forum of Science Media and Communication (AFSMC), the former Vice-president of the Public Communication of Science and Technology (PCST) network, and the former Interim-President of Arab Science Journalists Association (ASJA).



Pampa Garcia Molina

Coordinator of the Science Media Centre, Spain

Pampa García Molina is a science journalist with a degree in Physics from the Complutense University of Madrid and a master's degree in science journalism from the Carlos III University of Madrid. She has been working at the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) since 2011, where she has been director of the Science Media Centre Spain since March 2022. Until then, she was editor-in-chief of SINC, the first state-level public agency specialising in science information in Spanish, with a Creative Commons license. She is Vice President of the Spanish Association for Scientific Communication. She has been a regular contributor to radio programs on science on RNE, Onda Cero, and others. She teaches science journalism in master's programs, workshops, and seminars aimed at both journalists and the research community. Previously, she worked as a writer and editor for various media outlets in Spain and co-authored popular science books for adults and children.



Emelie de Jong

Director, France Culture

Emelie de Jong has nearly 30 years of experience in public broadcasting. Since 2023, she has been director of France Culture, where she continues her commitment to providing high-quality, open cultural programming that is accessible and innovative. Before joining France Culture, Emelie de Jong was co-manager and programme director at ARTE GEIE, where she oversaw the channel's editorial content. She spearheaded and supported the strategy and development of cultural formats, from major documentaries to web series.



Hugo Mercier

CNRS Senior Researcher. Institut Jean Nicod (CNRS, ENS, PSL); Scientific Director. AI and Society Institute (ENS, PSL, Paris Dauphine, Paris)

Hugo Mercier is a Senior Researcher at the Institut Jean Nicod (CNRS, ENS, PSL) and Scientific Director of the AI and Society Institute in Paris. A cognitive scientist specialising in reasoning, trust, and communication, he is the author of 'Not Born Yesterday' and co-author of 'The Enigma of Reason'. His research, published in leading journals such as 'Nature Human Behaviour', 'Psychological Science', and 'Cognition', explores how people evaluate information and how communication shapes beliefs. Mercier is an active research leader, keynote speaker, and public communicator whose work has been widely translated and internationally recognised. Mercier has made major contributions to understanding how humans assess the reliability of information, and he is internationally known for developing the influential interactionist theory of reasoning. His books have shaped contemporary discussions on persuasion, misinformation, and public trust, earning broad recognition across psychology, philosophy, and communication studies. Beyond academia, his expertise regularly informs public debates and policy discussions on misinformation and the communication of scientific knowledge.



David Budtz Pedersen

Professor of Science Communication, Aalborg University, Denmark

David Budtz Pedersen is Professor of Science Communication and Impact Studies at Aalborg University, and Director of FRONTIER: Center for Advanced Social Science and Humanities. His research focuses on the management, communication and evaluation of science and technology. He is a regular adviser to the European Commission, the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science, and a Member of the Norwegian Research Council. He takes a special interest in open, responsible and collaborative research focused on creating a positive impact in society. In December 2025, he is Chair of the Danish High-Level EU Presidency Conference on 'Reforming Research Assessment'.



Karen Fabbri

Deputy Head of Unit Science for Policy, Advice and Ethics, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

Dr. Karen Fabbri has over two decades of work experience at the European Commission, where over the years she has held various positions, focusing on the interface between science and policy in areas such as food systems and nutrition, environment and sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, integrated coastal management, responsible research and innovation, and public engagement in science. She now deals with science for policy in the context of the ERA, the Scientific Advice Mechanism, the European Group of Ethics in Science and New technologies, and research ethics and integrity.



Anu Noorma

Director General of the Estonian Research Council (ETAG)

Anu Noorma has been the Director General of the Estonian Research Council since 2021. She is Professor of applied remote sensing at the University of Tartu, Estonia and before that led the Estonian space research and technology Center Tartu Observatory for ten years. She holds a doctoral degree in environmental physics and during her academic career has led many applied science and international collaboration projects on the use of satellite data for aquatic environments, including a Marie Skłodowska Curie individual fellowship at Uppsala University, Sweden. She has also been a member of the Estonian delegation in the Science Programme Committee of the European Space Agency.



Antoine Petit

President and CEO, French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)

Antoine Petit, professor of exceptional class, was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the CNRS on 24 January 2018 and reappointed for a second term on 9 February 2022. With a degree in mathematics and a PhD in computer science from Paris Diderot University, he specializes in formal methods for specifying and verifying parallel and real-time systems. A teacher-researcher from 1984 to 2004, he was assistant professor at the University of Orléans, lecturer at the University of Paris-Sud, and professor at the École normale supérieure de Cachan (Paris-Saclay) from 1994. From 2001 to 2003, he served as deputy director of the Research Department of the Ministry of Research, overseeing Mathematics and ICT. In 2004, he joined CNRS as scientific director of the Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies Department and later as interregional director for the South-West. In 2006, he joined Inria to head the Paris-Rocquencourt research centre, became Deputy Director General in 2010, and CEO in 2014. Since January 2018, he has been CEO of the CNRS. He holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Chile and is a Knight of the Legion of Honour and Officer of the National Order of Merit.



Carthage Smith

Senior Policy Expert, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

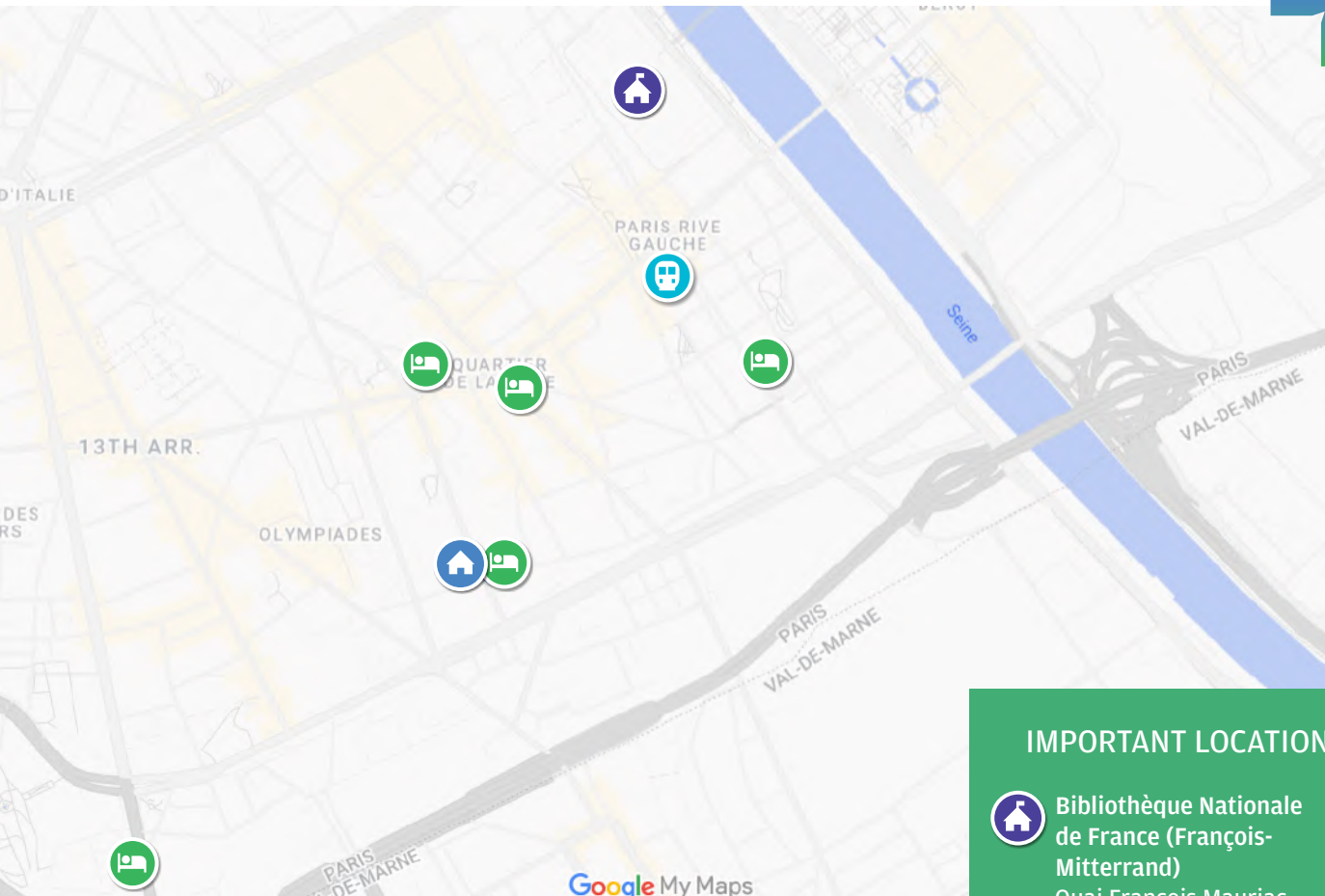
Carthage Smith joined the OECD as head of the Global Science Forum (GSF) Secretariat in 2014. He is responsible for working with countries to define the overall strategy and priorities for the Forum. This includes policy work on research infrastructures, Open Science, research funding mechanisms, science advisory processes and research careers. GSF recently completed a comprehensive analysis of the scientific response to COVID-19, which identified shared challenges and good practices in science communication. Carthage was originally trained as a biochemist, with a PhD in neuroscience (Newcastle University, UK). Prior to joining the GSF secretariat, he was Deputy Executive Director of the International Council for Science (ICSU, Paris) for twelve years. In this position he led the strategic development of a number of major global science initiatives. Before moving to France, he spent six years at the UK Medical Research Council, where he was Head of International Cooperation.

Members of the Programme Committee

A Programme Committee has been convened to guide the development of the programme and ensure that the key themes are adequately addressed. The Committee comprises the following participants:

NAME	POSITION	ORGANISATION
David Ros	Senator, Deputy Director, OPESCT	Senat
Michel Dubois	Senior Research Fellow	French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS); Director GEMASS
Dame Wendy Hall	Regius Professor of Computer Science; Associate Vice President International Engagement; Director of the Web Science Institute	University of Southampton
Marju Himma	Associate Professor of Journalism Studies	University of Tartu
Joana Magalhães	Science Communication Area Manager, Co-coordinator COALESCE Project	Science for Change
Carthage Smith	Senior Policy Analyst	Organisation for European Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Anca Toma	Former Executive Director	European Patients' Forum (EPF)
Annely Allik	Head of Communication, Chair of the Science Europe Working Group on Communication	Estonian Research Council (ETAG)
Anna Maria Fleetwood	Senior Advisor, External Relations	Swedish Research Council (VR)
Claire Giry	Chairman and Director General	French National Research Agency (ANR)
Lidia Borrell-Damián	Secretary General	Science Europe
Valérie Fromentin	Former Head of the Department of Human and Social Sciences	French National Research Agency (ANR)
Fabrice Imperiali	Head of Communication	French National Research Agency (ANR)
Rosemary Hindle	Communications Manager	Science Europe

Practical Information



IMPORTANT LOCATIONS

-  Bibliothèque Nationale de France (François-Mitterrand)
Quai François Mauriac
-  French National Research Agency (ANR)
86 Rue Regnault
-  Bibliothèque François-Mitterrand (Metro)

General Information for Participants

Language

French; English is widely understood in central areas, hotels, and restaurants.

Weather

Expect daily temperatures around 5–8°C, with colder evenings and a high chance of rain. Occasional frost is possible.

Safety

Paris is generally safe, but as in any major city, be mindful of pick-pockets, especially in crowded tourist areas and on public transport.

An online version of this map is available at:
scieur.org/2025-trust-map

About the Venue

The conference will take place at the Bibliothèque nationale de France – François Mitterrand, one of France's principal cultural and research institutions. Located in the *Paris Rive Gauche* district, the BnF offers modern conference facilities and is easily accessible by public transport.



The Bibliothèque National de France.
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Transportation from the Airport

Transportation in Paris is conveniently possible by metro, RER trains, buses, and taxis.

Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG)

- [RER B](#) trains run directly to central Paris. A connection via RER C brings participants to the station Bibliothèque François Mitterrand (for BnF).
- Official taxis operate with fixed fares to Paris ([G7 Taxis](#)).
- Ride-hailing services (Uber, Bolt, Freenow) are available.

Paris Orly Airport (ORY)

- Metro Line 14 connects Orly directly to Bibliothèque François Mitterrand station.

Public Transport in Paris

Public transportation in Paris consists of the metro, RER suburban trains, buses, and trams, all operating under the unified Île-de-France Mobilités network. More information about public transit:

- [Paris Metro Map – RATP](#)
- [Public Transport – Paris Bus Network](#)
- [App or website for public transport tickets](#)

A recommended option for visitors is the Navigo Easy Pass (cost: €2), a reusable card on which you can load single tickets or short-term passes.

The network provides convenient access to event venues: for instance, the BnF is located a 3-minute walk from the station 'Bibliothèque François-Mitterrand'.

Emergency & Useful Numbers

The alarm number for an ambulance/medical emergency in Paris is 15 (SAMU). You can also call 112, the European emergency number. French is the official language, but many medical staff in Paris understand and speak English, especially in emergency situations.

Cost

Emergency services at public hospitals are not automatically free for visitors. Depending on your status and insurance, you may be required to pay for services upfront and seek reimbursement later.

Insurance

It is advisable for visitors to have travel insurance that covers medical emergencies. Some private clinics may accept international insurance; it is best to confirm in advance.

Pharmacy

A centrally located pharmacy in Paris that operates 24/7, including holidays:


➤ [Pharmacie de la Place République, 5 Place de la République, 75003](#)


@Join the Conversation Online!


We encourage you to share your experience at the Trust in Science Conference 2025 on your social channels. By tagging our official accounts and using the event hashtags, you help us highlight the conversations and connections happening throughout the conference.

Hashtags to use: #TrustInScience #ScienceCommunication #TrustInScienceConference2025

Tag the Organisers:

 @Science Europe, @ANR – the French National Research Agency

 @ScienceEurope, @agencerecherche

 @ScienceEurope