



Press release
Paris, France, July 7, 2026

CIGRE 2026: Paris Hosts the World's Largest Gathering of Experts in Electrical Power Systems (August 23–28)

Against the backdrop of accelerating electrification, the 2026 CIGRE Paris Session will bring together nearly 15,000 participants from more than 100 countries at the Palais des Congrès, Porte Maillot.

Engineers, researchers, industry representatives, operators, regulators, and decision-makers will convene to discuss 1,600 technical papers, share their field experience, and exchange strategic perspectives to shape the future of electricity.

CIGRE at the Heart of the Energy Transition

The rapid growth of electricity uses, the expansion of data centers, the integration of renewable energy, increasing grid resilience requirements, and the emergence of artificial intelligence are placing power systems more than ever at the center of industrial, energy, and societal challenges.

The Paris Session aims to bridge industrial, academic, and institutional perspectives around a key question: **how can the energy transition be achieved without compromising security of supply?**

One Grid: A Necessary Collaboration Across the Electricity Value Chain

Power systems are no longer defined by clear boundaries between generation, transmission and distribution. Driven by electrification, decentralized generation, and digitalization, the grid is becoming fully interconnected and dynamic. Every action now impacts the entire system.

With 25,000 members across 140 countries, CIGRE's strength lies in the diversity of its stakeholders: network operators, utilities, equipment manufacturers, research centers, universities, regulators, public decision-makers, professional associations, and consulting firms. This diversity makes the Paris Session a unique platform where operational expertise, innovation, and long-term vision converge.

AI, Data Centers, Electricity Markets, Blackouts, and Grid-forming: Highlights of the 2026 Edition

The 2026 edition will spotlight the sector's most critical topics:

- The impact of **artificial intelligence** and **data centers** on power systems
- Responses to recent **large-scale blackouts**
- **Grid-forming** technologies, a key enabler for integrating high shares of renewable energy without compromising grid stability

The program includes panels, workshops, technical meetings, poster sessions, and a technical exhibition bringing together leading players from the global electricity ecosystem.

[Full program](#)

An opportunity to engage with CIGRE experts and distinguished guests

Claudine Bouchard, CEO of Hydro-Québec

Tim Meyerjürgens, CEO of TenneT Germany

Konstantin O. Papailiou, President of CIGRE

Philippe Adam, Secretary General of CIGRE

Rannveig Loken, Technical Council Chair of CIGRE

Press invitation

Journalists wishing to cover the event are invited to register online via the official website:

<https://session.cigre.org/>

Media representatives are invited to attend the following events:

- Opening ceremony and cocktail: **Sunday, 23 August at 3:30 PM**
- Opening panel: **Monday, 24 August at 8:30 AM**
- Workshops, technical meetings, poster sessions, and technical exhibition

Interview opportunities and press resources will be available to facilitate media coverage.

About CIGRE

CIGRE is a non-profit and independent organization established 100 years ago to support the development of electricity. With 25,000 members in over 140 countries, combining local expertise with global vision, the CIGRE community integrates all players in the electricity value chain.

It brings together researchers, engineers, suppliers, regulators, and other decision makers, all committed to sharing knowledge and collaborating to ensure a reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity supply for all.

By offering access to working groups, state-of-the-art technical publications, and world-class events such as the Paris Session, CIGRE helps its members consolidate their expertise, develop practical recommendations and find innovative solutions.

Over the years, CIGRE has continuously adapted to the incredible growth of the electricity sector. Today, as electricity penetrates every aspect of life (homes, mobility, healthcare, industry...), CIGRE meets current societal and environmental challenges, positioning itself as a key enabler of the energy transition.

More information: [CIGRE Press Kit](#)

Press and communication contacts

Imane El Atia –CIGRE Communications

Imane.elatia@cigre.org

+33 6 98 75 89 87

Juliette Boidot – Belgravia DC Agency

Juliette.boidot@belgravia-dc.com

+33 6 83 86 95 99