



# PRESS KIT

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## ESOF & ESOF 2018 IN SHORT

### What?

ESOF = EuroScience Open Forum  
A biennial event including a professional forum “**ESOF**” and a public at large festival “**Science in the City**”  
The largest interdisciplinary event in Europe dedicated to science, innovation and society  
ESOF 2018 will be the 8<sup>th</sup> edition

### When?

9-14 July 2018 (ESOF)  
7-15 July 2018 (Science in the City)

### Where?

Toulouse, France

### Who?

Organisers: EuroScience + Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées  
Delegates: more than 4 000 researchers, students, educators, business and social actors, policy makers, science writers and journalists

## EUROSCIENCE OPEN FORUM

Created in 2004 by EuroScience, ESOF (EuroScience Open Forum) is the largest interdisciplinary science meeting in Europe and is a unique place to debate on science and innovation and their relations with society.

ESOF includes a professional international forum gathering more than 4000 participants, researchers, students, educators, business actors, social actors, policy makers, science writers and journalists from all over the world, but also a festival “Science in the city” dedicated to the public at large.

Hosting this international biennial event gives to the city the title of “European City of the Year”.

After Stockholm, Munich, Barcelona, Torino, Dublin, Copenhagen and Manchester, Toulouse will host ESOF for its 8th edition under the motto “Sharing Science: towards new horizons” and will become the “European City of Science 2018”.

### ESOF over time

2004	Stockholm (Sweden)	The first pan-European General Science Meeting!
2006	Munich (Germany)	New Research. New Technology. New Thinking
2008	Barcelona (Spain)	ESOF 2008: Science for a Better Life
2010	Torino (Italy)	Science is in the air
2012	Dublin (Ireland)	Your forum. Your future
2014	Copenhagen (Denmark)	Science building bridges
2016	Manchester (UK)	Science as a revolution
<b>2018</b>	<b>Toulouse (France)</b>	<b>Sharing Science: Towards new horizons</b>
2020	Trieste (Italy)	
2022	Leiden / The Hague (Netherlands)	

## **ESOF TOULOUSE 2018**

### **A motto with meaning: “Sharing Science: towards new horizons”**

Toulouse will host ESOF for its 8th edition under the motto “Sharing Science: towards new horizons”.

“Sharing science” will be much more than a theoretical motto during ESOF 2018 in Toulouse. It will be the common thread of the whole event.

At ESOF 2018, science, knowledge and experience will not only be shared between and across disciplines, between geographical areas and countries, between generations and between academia, institutions and industry, but also with policy makers and with society at large. A special focus will be put on social actors and their role in science and in science policy.

ESOF’s aim in 2018 is to promote a new way of thinking and networking in order to make science not only more open and efficient to address major threats, diseases, environmental or societal challenges, but also more responsible, fair and ethical. This is the kind of “new horizons” that ESOF 2018 proposes to look towards in July in Toulouse.

### **ESOF 2018 in Toulouse: addressing major scientific and societal issues**

In this context, the event will include a “Science Programme”, a “Science to Business Programme”, a “Science Policy Programme”, a “Careers Programme”, a “Media Programme” and the general public festival ‘Science in the City’. The selected sessions are covering a large range of topics, from health to transportation, from environmental changes to new trends in business or in research in a global world. Major scientific and societal issues such as “Frontier research”, “Health in our societies”, “Sustainable cities and living”, “Digital world”, “New technologies in transport”, “Climate change”, “Science policy and transformation of research practice”, “Social utility of researchers”, “Science and Entrepreneurship” will be discussed by high-level speakers and a broad-ranging audience.

About 200 sessions will be proposed to more than 4 000 researchers, students, educators, business actors, social actors, policy makers, science writers and journalists from all over the world. A specific feature of ESOF 2018 will be the poster session and a competition specifically directed towards students, PhD candidates and young researchers.

In line with the motto, everything at ESOF will be implemented in order to share expertise and ideas and to promote exchanges and meetings.

ESOF 2018 will also be THE place-to-be in order to discover and discuss the next European Commission Framework proposal for Research and Innovation: FP9 that should be released in June 2018. The FP9 proposal will give a large place to the “3 Os”: “Open Science, Open Innovation, Open to the World” in line with the overall objectives and the motto of ESOF 2018: “Sharing science: towards new horizons”.

## **Targeting the business community, the youth and public at large**

The conference programme will be associated with a professional exhibition organized in various “villages” with a lively agora at each centre. Ample possibilities also exist for satellite events that will benefit from the dynamic momentum of ESOF and from the presence of its delegates. Other ESOF 2018 highlights will take place during the social programme that will allow the sharing of the famous “art de vivre” of the south-west of France in some beautiful places of the city and beyond.

During the Science in the City festival (7-15 July), the general public will be invited to try/discover some science experiences and meet remarkable scientists and innovators. Toulouse area – known as the “pink city” – will be transformed into a giant science culture platform and will propose a wide range of events, performances, exhibitions and debates. As the youth will be a major target for ESOF 2018 – as well as the young researchers and students during the Forum-, special animations will be dedicated to families. School children will also be involved during the year, in the context of the “European City of Science” and of the YESOF (ESOF for the youth).

In 2018 Toulouse will indeed put science and innovation at the core of its communication and celebrations. Special events will be planned to engage citizens to learn about science and society issues and to meet and discover the rich scientific and technological local ecosystem.

## **Discover new horizons in Toulouse and at ESOF 2018**

Chosen to host the 8th edition of the EuroScience Open Forum, Toulouse is a renowned city for its science and innovation.

From the “Aeropostale” at the beginning of the 20th century and the installation of aircrafts manufacturers during the World War II, Toulouse is still a vibrant aeronautics hub with the Airbus’head office and industrial plants and also Europe’s space capital. Toulouse is strongly involved in two major European programmes known as Galileo and Copernicus and employs half of the European space staff.

But Toulouse is also known for its excellence in biotechnologies with the Toulouse White Biotechnology (TWB) project and in life and medical sciences with a new campus dedicated to translational research against cancer “Toulouse Oncopole”, with an international recognized Gérontopole and with strong competences in neurosciences, cardiovascular and metabolic disorders among others such as medtechs and e-health.

As Toulouse is the capital of a region known for its agricultural production, especially wine and high-quality products with strong history and links to the “terroir”, Toulouse is famous for its agronomic research. High-techs, smart-techs and green-techs competences and companies are also providing a very dynamic and stimulating ecosystem for innovation. Toulouse appears clearly as an ideal location to host the ESOF forum and will proudly promote the title of European City of Science all year long in 2018.

ESOF 2018 in Toulouse will offer a unique framework for scientists, innovators, policy makers, business people and the general public to interact and to debate. As the world is more and more global, as information goes faster and faster, as scientific progress is accelerated by new technologies, sharing science becomes a major challenge for the 21st century. ESOF 2018 will provide answers - and also ask new questions – in this high-stakes debate. Come to Toulouse to share with us these new horizons!

## ESOF 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

A multi-faceted and multi-public event, ESOF 2018 – the professional forum - will present about 200 sessions of various formats (traditional panel discussion, workshop, interactive round table but also innovative formats like hackatons or Pecha Kucha...). ESOF gathers more than 4 000 researchers, students, educators, business actors, social actors, policy makers, science writers and journalists from all over the world.

### 6-in-1 event

The biennial event “ESOF” includes six different sections: the Science in the City festival is dedicated to the public at large and the five others sections are open to several professional audiences.

A specific feature of ESOF 2018 will be the poster session and a competition specifically directed towards students, PhD candidates and young researchers.

### Building a high-level and interdisciplinary programme

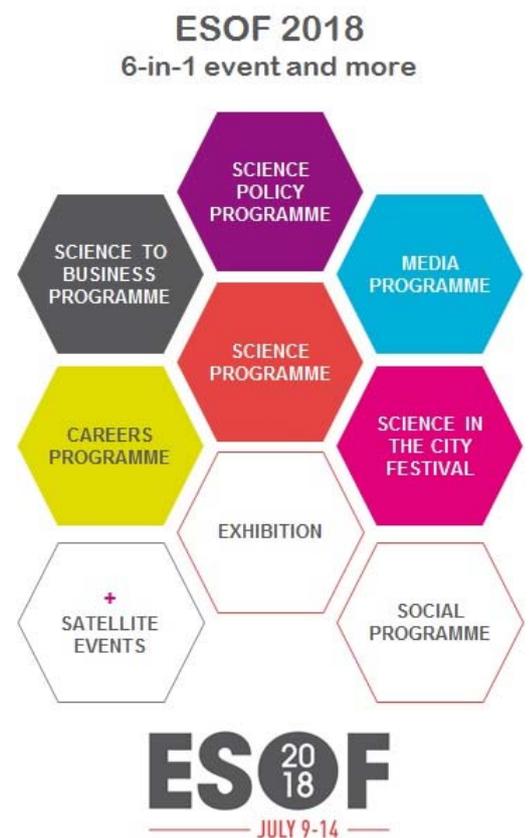
The programme is built upon three international calls for sessions (“Science & Science policy”, “Science to Business” and “Careers” opened between February and November 2017) that have attracted more than 400 proposals, reviewed by international researchers.

#### ➤ Science Programme

The Science programme includes seminars, workshops and debates of various formats on the latest research and related policy issues, structured around a programme of keynote speakers and the latest scientific issues.

Sessions will focus on current and future path-breaking science and its ways of producing and sharing knowledge and innovation and of improving citizen’s life and societies.

ESOF includes all disciplines and promotes interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches. At ESOF, the word “science” is understood as encompassing the arts, social sciences and humanities as well as physical and life sciences, engineering and medicine.



➤ Science Policy Programme

Targeting a high-level audience of senior researchers and representatives of national and international research institutes and governments, ESOF is a unique place to debate about the future of science and science policies.

As the next European Commission Framework proposal for Research and Innovation (FP9) should be released in June 2018, ESOF 2018 will be a privileged platform in order to discuss the European science policy debate and discover the next Framework Programme FP9.

➤ Careers Programme

The Careers Programme promotes career opportunities across Europe and beyond for researchers at all stages of their careers. This Careers Fair will also enable young researchers, educational institutes and industrial actors to address the issues surrounding the challenges and opportunities for careers in Europe.

➤ Science-to-Business Programme

The Science-to-Business Programme will explore the major issues for research within business and industry and the role of universities for business as well as public-private partnership endeavours.

It will be a unique platform in Europe to exchange ideas and good practices from around the world on research-driven business models and on the economic developments resulting from technological innovation.

➤ Exhibition

The Exhibition (2500 m<sup>2</sup>) will be organised in several thematic “villages” and will showcase the best of academic, public and private research and innovative approaches in Europe and beyond.

## Topics and sessions

About 200 sessions will be proposed and will focus on hot topics in science and R&D current trends

Some exciting topics from the **Science Programme** already confirmed:

- Exoplanets, Plastic pollution in the oceans, Smart societies and cities
- Big data, Science clouds, Internet of toys
- Synthetic biology, Vaccines, Genome editing, Stem cells, Biobanking
- Social impact of research, Science as a humanism, Science diplomacy, Open science, Refugees and higher education...

The ESOF2018 programme is still under construction and will be released in March.

**Themes of the “Science”, “Science to Business” and “Careers” programmes and cross-cutting themes:**

<b>SCIENCE</b>	Sustainable cities, sustainable living Global change: challenges and opportunities Health in our societies A digital world Frontier research and exploring extremes Science policy and transformation of research practice The use/mis-use of research and scientific advice Understanding divided societies Sharing knowledge		
<b>SCIENCE to BUSINESS</b>	Climate Change Business in a Digital World Business Trends in Transport Technologies Business Networks Human Factors and Persons first in Business – the Industry of the Future Business to Science, Innovator’s thinking Responsible Research and Innovation Science, Research and Entrepreneurship Change of the Entrepreneurial Paradigm		
<b>CAREERS</b>	Successful career for European researchers in the global context Social utility of researchers in Europe and beyond European and global scientific community Added value and characteristics of evolving research-based careers		
<b>Cross-cutting themes</b>			
Risk and safety	Inequalities	Gender issues	Ethics

## Keynotes, Plenaries and topical sessions

Some keynotes and special sessions are already announced and will address climate change, science diplomacy or health challenges and involve high-level scientists and politicians.

- Science policy, science diplomacy, science communication
- FP9, research infrastructures
- COP21, space
- Science “hot topics”: the future of immune-oncology, the pandemics of the future, Artificial Intelligence...

## Social events

Sharing science also means sharing good times and interacting informally. As Toulouse is known for its gastronomy and festive atmosphere, a special focus will be on the social events such as the Gala Diner and the ESOFF Party as well as the Media Party.



The ESO's Opening Ceremony, which is always an outstanding highlight, will focus for this 2018 edition in Toulouse on cross-cutting and high societal challenges such as Ageing and Climate change. Another key moment during ESO is the Closing Ceremony that builds the bridge between the current ESO hosting city, Toulouse, and the next ESO one, Trieste in Italy.

## Satellite events

A dozen of satellite events covering various topics will be organised in July in the days before and following ESO. Others will be confirmed very soon.

- Optique 2018, Annual Congress of the French Society for Optics, 3-6 July
- CESS2018 "Contaminations, the environment, health and society: from risk assessment to public action", 4-6 July
- YASE "Young African Scientists in Europe", 6 July
- Esprit de Découverte, 8 July

## SCIENCE IN THE CITY FESTIVAL AND EUROPEAN CITY OF SCIENCE

For the public at large, Toulouse as the “European City of Science 2018’ will put science and innovation at the core of its communication and celebrations all year long but especially during the Science in the City festival (7-15 July 2018).

Special events will be planned to engage citizens to learn about science and society issues and to meet and discover the rich scientific and technological local ecosystem.

A world-renowned city for science and innovation – from Aeropostale to biotechnologies and Oncopole and from Galileo to Nobel Prize in Economic Science, Toulouse will proudly promote the title of European City of Science.

The programme is under construction and will be released in the following weeks.

A dedicated web site will open mid-February:  
[www.toulousscience2018.eu](http://www.toulousscience2018.eu)



## **MEDIA PROGRAMME**

A special media programme will be tailored for the media delegates.

### **Press conferences and press briefings**

During ESO<sup>F</sup>, journalists will be invited to take part in the official press conferences. Some daily press briefings will also be scheduled to present the main points and speakers of the day's programme.

Invited press conferences will be organised by the ESO<sup>F</sup>'s partners and sponsors. The programme will be communicated in due time.

### **Press tours**

Several press tours will be organised during ESO<sup>F</sup> in order to allow accredited journalists to discover the rich local ecosystem. Information will be available on the ESO<sup>F</sup> web site.

- ✓ Health press tour
- ✓ Agri, Food and Green Tech press tour
- ✓ Space press tour
- ✓ Aeronautics press tour
- ✓ Toulouse French Tech
- ✓ Humanities, History and Heritage

### **Special press events and meetings**

Some satellite or special events may be of particular interest for journalists:

- ✓ **The 5<sup>th</sup> European Conference for Science Journalists ECSJ 2018**

Organised by the European Union of Science Journalist's Associations (EUSJA) and the French Association of Science Journalists (Association des Journalistes Scientifiques de la Presse d'Information AJSPI)

Date and venue: 8 July 2018, Toulouse

Website: [www.ecsj2018.eu](http://www.ecsj2018.eu)

*ECSJ 2018 is organised as a satellite event of ESO<sup>F</sup> 2018.*

## **PRESS ACCREDITATION PROCESS & CONTACTS**

### **Press accreditation**

The press accreditation process will soon be available on line ([www.esof.eu](http://www.esof.eu))

Accredited journalists at the EuroScience Open Forum ESOFF 2018 in Toulouse have free access to all sessions, panel discussions and exhibition areas, lunches and coffee breaks.

Dedicated press rooms will be available on the various sites of the ESOFF forum (Centre de Congrès Pierre Baudis, Palais des Sports).

The organisers will assist with arranging meetings and interviews with ESOFF 2018 speakers and VIP. In the meantime, please contact ESOFF 2018 press officer for further information.

In the meantime, please contact ESOFF 2018 press officer for further information and visit the press section of the web site ([www.esof.eu/en/media/register.html](http://www.esof.eu/en/media/register.html))

#### **Press contact**

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### **ESOF Toulouse 2018 at AAAS Austin 2018**

The ESOFF team will be present in Austin for the AAAS Annual Meeting (15-19 February)

**Come and meet us at booth 1412!**

## ORGANISATION & PARTNERS

The EuroScience Open Forum organisation is carried by several project holders, delivery team and international committees.

### ESOF 2018 delivery team

13 persons are currently working in Toulouse to deliver the ESOF 2018 edition.

### Project holders

Launched by EuroScience in 2004, ESOF is for each biennial edition co-organised by a local partner. For the Toulouse edition, the local organizer is the Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées.

### About EuroScience

EuroScience is the European grassroots organization of scientists and all those taking an interest in science. It is the voice of European researchers, across disciplines and countries; promoting dialogue with researchers worldwide. Its objectives are:

- Engaging with policymakers, business and society to create a stronger Europe through science
- Convening partnerships to work on careers, rights and responsibilities of scientists and key issues of science policy
- Promoting transparency of, and providing information on European STI policies
- Advancing science for the pursuit of knowledge, prosperity and global development, and for addressing transdisciplinary global challenges.

EuroScience is based in Strasbourg.

[www.euroscience.org](http://www.euroscience.org)



### About the Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées

Located at the heart of the Science neighbourhood in Toulouse, the Université Fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées (UFTMP) represents 23 higher education institutions and 6 research institutions.

Always aiming at combining democracy and excellence, this collaboration fosters the creation of innovative development policies, enables the spread of scientific culture and a share of knowledge under a common objective: « Sharing Science, towards new horizons ».

L'UFTMP provides services in 5 education areas:



Arts, Literature and Languages — Humanities and social studies — Law, Economy, Management — Science, Technology, Health — Sport Science & Technics.

Being the entry point for its external partners, public communities and businesses — essential supports for a common site policy— the UFTMP works daily with its members, associates and partners in mutualizing its actions for the benefit of all its publics in France and abroad.

[www.univ-toulouse.fr](http://www.univ-toulouse.fr)

## International Committees

The organisation of ESOF 2018 is supervised by five international committees (International Steering Committee, Programme Committee, Science to Business Committee, Careers Committee, International Marketing and Media Committee) composed of renowned personalities in science and research, innovation, business and communication, coming from different countries. A Local Committee allows regional key players to give their input in the organisation of the event.

## Main partners and sponsors

Institutional funding and supporting organisations:



Sponsors and media partners will be announced soon.