55th International Physics Olympiad

FRANCE 2025















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Introductory press release

France hosts the International Physics Olympiad for the first time in 2025

Following the Olympic and Paralympic Games in the summer of 2024, France is once again hosting the world for the 55th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO), to be held in the Îlede-France region from 18 to 24 July 2025. This is the most prestigious international physics competition for young people under the age of twenty.

France, where this major event is being held for the first time, will bring together nearly 90 participating countries, bringing together a thousand people over the course of a week.

A HONORARY COMMITTEE OF EXCEPTION

The IPhO 2025 honorary committee embodies French scientific excellence. It includes six French Nobel Prize winners in Physics: Anne L'Huillier (2023), Pierre Agostini (2023), Alain Aspect (2022), Gérard Mourou (2018), Serge Haroche (2012) and Albert Fert (2007).

Their presence testifies to the will of the scientific community to support these young people from all over the world, from different cultures and driven by a strong taste for science.

SCIENCE AS A COMMON LANGUAGE

Under the high patronage of French President Emmanuel Macron and organised by the French Physical Society, this first French edition is supported by the **Ministry of National Education**, **Higher Education and Research** and numerous partners.

The International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) brings together the brightest young minds from around the world, united by a shared passion for understanding the world, a taste for challenge, and intellectual curiosity. More than just a competition, the IPhO is a forum for **meeting**, **dialogue**, **sharing and cooperation around physics**, at its most fundamental: **a common language** for thinking, questioning and building together.

The International Physics Olympiads, IPhO, are a great opportunity to share both human and scientific experiences, both for the candidates and for the teachers team leaders and other members of the delegations. Beyond borders, science and physics bring people together because scientists from all over the world talk to each other, exchange ideas, and bring their ideas forward.

For candidates, the IPhO is also a way of pushing back the barriers of selfcensorship. Solving a physics problem, a problem about nature and the world around us, is a real intellectual stimulation fuelled by curiosity.

As a member of the National Committee since France's return to this prestigious international competition, year after year I have witnessed the birth of vocations among students who are amazed by the pleasure of understanding an often incredible phenomenon and the personal potential that this can reveal.

After the high-visibility Olympic Games, in 2025 France will be welcoming

the young people who will shape the physics and innovations of the future tomorrow. This year's event must be a highlight that lives up to the prestigious image these quests have of our country: a mix of strong scientific skills, refined culture and a warm welcome.

Sophie Rémy, PhD in physics, senior lecturer in physics and member of the IPhO France 2025 organising committee.

DEMANDING EVENTS AT THE HEART OF THE WEEK

Two very high-level individual events punctuate the competition:

- >> Experimental test (19 July): experimentation using laboratory equipment to carry out measurements on a concrete physical phenomenon.
 - >> Theoretical test (21 July): study of complex phenomena and their mathematical modelling, in 5 hours.

These tests will be held at the École polytechnique in Palaiseau (Île-de-France). The papers will be marked by an international jury and the best performances will be rewarded at a prestigious final ceremony (24 July).

A WEEK PACKED WITH SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS

Alongside the competitions, the delegations will take part in a series of cultural and scientific activities:

- * Visit to the Château de Versailles
- * Discovery of the Orsay Museum
- * Cruise on the Seine
- * Lectures at Sorbonne University
- Meetings with researchers in cutting-edge laboratories in the parisian region

Opening ceremony:

18 July - Cité des sciences et de l'industrie (Paris)

Closing ceremony:

24 July - CentraleSupélec (Gif-sur-Yvette)



For more information: www.ipho2025.fr/programme-candidats



THE FRENCH TEAM UNVEILED

The team that will represent
France in 2025 is made up of the
best young students selected in
France. France's performances
are regularly acclaimed
internationally: 5 gold medals, 39
silver medals and 21 bronze medals
over the last 15 editions.

FOR AN INCLUSIVE PHYSICS

As part of its commitment to a more inclusive science, the French Physical Society, with the agreement of the International IPhO Bureau, is promoting the participation of young women in the IPhO 2025; **two prizes** will be awarded to promote this participation.

A new exhibition, "Women pioneers in physics", will also pay tribute to 20 women physicists from around the world who have left an impact on the history of the discipline through their discoveries, their commitment or their vision.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Dates: from 18 to 24 July 2025

Main venue: École polytechnique (Palaiseau), Île-de-France

FOLLOW THE IPHO 2025

Official website: www.ipho2025.fr

Instagram / TikTok: @ipho_2025

Participants: 1,000 people expected, 440 candidates, +90 countries represented

Tests: 19 July (experimental) and 21 July (theoretical) - École polytechnique

YouTube: International Physics Olympiad 2025 (live for ceremonies)

Facebook: International Physics Olympiad - France

PRESS CONTACTS AND REQUESTS FOR INTERVIEWS / REPORTS

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2 The IPhO in numbers



1,000 participants gathered over one week



440 candidates



More than 90 countries represented



50 languages spoken



2 tests of 5 hours (theoretical + experimental)



6 Nobel Prize winners in physics members of the Honorary Committee



1st edition in France since its creation in 1967



Countries participating in the IPhO 2023

3 How IPhO operates

Every year, the IPhO gives hundreds of young scientists under the age of twenty the opportunity to compete at the highest level in physics. The students, selected in their home countries, are grouped into national teams of no more than five candidates and two leaders.

The competition takes place over 7 days and includes two five-hour individual tests, prepared by the host country and then discussed and validated collectively by the international leaders:

- >> An experimental test, based on the analysis of physical phenomena using laboratory experiments and equipment provided;
- >>> A theoretical test, focusing on modelling and solving complex problems.

In 2025, these competitions will be held at the **École** polytechnique, a member of the Institut Polytechnique de Paris. The papers are assessed by an international jury, who award the prizes at a prestigious ceremony at the end of the event.

In addition to the competition, the IPhO is an international meeting place, where young people can spend a week attending conferences, taking part in scientific and cultural visits, and sharing moments of conviviality with other science enthusiasts.





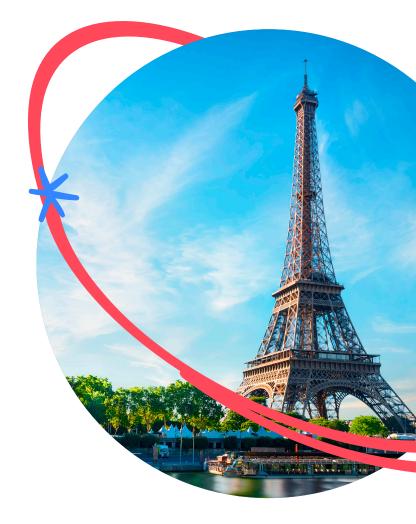
France, host country in 2025

Each edition of the International Physics Olympiad contributes to **the scientific and educational influence** of the host countries, as well as the organising bodies and partners. Following on from the Year of Physics (2023-2024) and coinciding with the International Year of Quantum Sciences and Technologies (2025), this major event represents a new opportunity for France to highlight the formative virtues of physics, its importance in society and its contribution to the challenges that nations face today.



A WELCOME AT THE LEVEL OF FRENCH TRADITIONS

Throughout the week, the candidates and their accompanying adults will discover France's cultural, historical and scientific richness through a programme of visits and meetings. They will be welcomed in the Île-de-France region, especially at the École polytechnique in Palaiseau, where they will enjoy excursions to iconic sites such as the Château de Versailles, the Orsay Museum and the banks of the Seine. There will also be time for discussions with physicists, engineers and managers from renowned laboratories, universities and companies, particularly on the Paris and Saclay science campuses. In this way, France is showcasing its strengths in research and innovation, while offering participants a lively insight into its historical and cultural heritage.





5 Candidates' schedule

18 to 24 July 2025

DAY 0 - THURSDAY 17 JULY 2025

09:00AM - 6:00PM: Arrival of delegations at airports and train stations

7:00PM - 9:00PM: Welcome dinner



DAY 2 - SATURDAY 19 JULY 2025

6:00AM - 7:00AM: Breakfast

7:00AM - 8:00AM: Transfer to the École

polytechnique

8:00AM - 9:00AM: Settling in at the test venues

9:00AM - 2:00PM: Experimental test

2:30PM - 3:45PM: Picnic

4:00PM - 6:00PM: Scientific lectures 6:30PM - 7:30PM: Transfer to the Cité

Internationale

7:30PM - 9:00PM: Dinner at the Cité

Internationale

9:00PM - 9:30PM: Transfer to the hotel

JOUR 4 – LUNDI 21 JUILLET 2025

06h00 - 07h00: Petit-déjeuner

07h00 - 08h00: Transfert vers l'École

polytechnique

08h00 - 09h00: Installation sur les lieux

d'épreuve

09h00 - 14h00 : Épreuve théorique

14h30 - 15h45: Sortie de l'examen et

déjeuner pique-nique

16h150 – 17h00: Conférence expérimentale

17h00 - 18h00: Atelier Drumteam

18h00 - 19h00: Exposition présentée

par les sponsors

19h00 - 22h00 : **Midterm Party**

22h30: Transfert à l'hôtel

DAY 1 - FRIDAY 18 JULY 2025

06:45AM - 07:30AM: Breakfast

08:00AM - 08:45AM: Transfer by bus to the

Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie

09:30AM - 12:00PM: Opening ceremony

12:30PM - 1:30PM: Cocktail lunch

2:00AM - 5:00PM: Tour of the Cité des

Sciences et de l'Industrie

5:30PM - 6:30PM: Transfer to the hotel

7:00PM - 8:30PM: Dinner

8:30PM - 10:00PM: Free evening



DAY 3 - SUNDAY 20 JULY 2025

8:00AM - 9:00AM: Breakfast

9:15AM - 10:00AM: Transfer to the Château de

Versailles

10:20AM - 12:30PM: Tour of the Château de

Versailles

12:30PM - 1:30PM: Picnic lunch at the Château

de Versailles

1:30PM - 3:00PM: Tour of the Château de

Versailles

3:00PM - 4:00PM: Transfer to the Espace

Charenton

4:00PM - 8:00PM: Entertainment at the Espace

Charenton

8:00PM - 9:30PM: Transfer to the hotel,

followed by dinner





DAY 5 - TUESDAY 22 JULY 2025

7:00AM - 8:00AM: Breakfast

8:00AM - 9:00AM: Transfer to the

laboratories

9:00AM-12:00PM: Laboratory visits

12:30PM - 2:30PM: Lunch

2:30PM - 5:30PM: Laboratory visits

5:30PM - 6:30PM: Transfer to the hotel

7:00PM - 9:00PM: Typical dinner 9:00PM - 10:00PM: Free evening

DAY 6 - WEDNESDAY 23 JULY 2025

7:15AM - 8:00AM: Breakfast

8:00AM - 8:40: Transfer of Group 1 to the Musée d'Orsay

9:15AM - 9:45AM: Transfer of Group 2 to the cruise

9:00AM - 11:45AM: Group 1 - Visit of the Musée d'Orsay

12:00PM - 12:45PM: Group 1 - Lunch in the Tuileries Gardens

1:00PM - 1:45PM: Group 1 - Transfer to the cruise 2:00PM - 4:30PM: Group 1 - Cruise on the Seine

4:30PM - 5:30PM: Group 1 - Transfer on foot to the Grands Moulins

6:00PM - 7:00PM: Group 1 - Scientific conference

10:00AM - 12:30PM: Group 2 - Cruise on the Seine and lunch

12:45PM - 1:15PM: Group 2 - Transfer to the Musée d'Orsay

1:30PM - 4:30PM: Group 2 - Visit of the Musée d'Orsay

4:30PM - 5:30PM: Group 2 - Transfer on foot to Jussieu

6:PM - 7:PM: Group 2 - Experimental conference at the Sorbonne

University

7:30PM - 8:00PM: Transfer to the hotel

8:00PM - 9:00PM: Dinner

9:00PM - 10:00PM: Free evening



DAY 7 - THURSDAY 24 JULY 2025

08:00AM - 09:00AM: Breakfast

09:00AM - 12:00PM: Free time

12:00PM - 1:30PM: Lunch at the hotel

1:45PM - 2:45PM: Transfer to CentraleSupélec

3:00PM - 6:00PM: Closing ceremony

6:00PM - 8:00PM: Cocktail reception

8:00PM - 9:00PM: Transfer to the hotel

9:00PM - 10:00PM: Free evening

6 IPhO - France 2025 Honorary **Committee**

The Honorary Committee, made up of French winners of the Nobel Prize in Physics, embodies both scientific excellence and the desire to pass on knowledge. By supporting this year's event, its members are affirming their confidence in young people and their support for those who will shape the science of tomorrow.



Anne L'Huillier

Nobel Prize in Physics 2023



Pierre Agostini

Nobel Prize in Physics 2023



Alain **Aspect**

Nobel Prize in Physics 2022



Gérard Mourou

Nobel Prize in Physics 2018



Serge Haroche

Nobel Prize in Physics 2012



Albert Fert

Nobel Prize in Physics 2007

7 Organization



The event has been organised by the **French Physical Society** on behalf of the **French Ministry of Education**, **Higher Education and Research**.

THE FRENCH PHYSICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1873 with the main purpose of creating a forum for discussion and the dissemination of knowledge among physicists throughout France, the French Physical Society has retained its unifying role.

Today, it aims to

- **Unite the community of physicists** to encourage the exchange of ideas and collaborative projects that transcend disciplines;
- Promote excellence in research by showcasing the contributions of researchers;
- Share knowledge with the general public;
- **Encourage vocations** among the younger generation;
- **Encourage the ethical practice of science**, by raising community awareness of the societal and environmental issues associated with physics research;
- **Defend the interests of research** by advocating policies that are conducive to its proper functioning (research funding, promotion of doctorates, open science, teaching, parity, etc.).

The association is made up of men and women researchers, teacher-researchers, doctoral students, post-doctoral students and business professionals who share the same passion for physics and the desire to pass it on to the public.et sociales ne sont pas favorables au développement des sciences, en leur proposant des soutiens expérimentaux et théoriques.

www.sfpnet.fr





8 Promoting the participation of women scientists for this 55th edition

The participation of young women in the IPhO is not enough. The French Physical Society, which organises the event, has been working for several years to encourage and promote the participation of women in the physics professions (see the actions of its Women & Physics Commission).

In its commitment to making physics more inclusive, fighting against gender stereotypes and encouraging new generations of women to take up scientific careers, the French Physical Society wishes to highlight the presence of young women scientists at the 55th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO 2025).

PRIZE AWARDS

Two prizes will be awarded at this year's IPhO to highlight the participation of young women and the gender balance of the various delegations.



EXHIBITION "WOMEN PIONEERS IN PHYSICS" DURING THE EVENT, IN JULY 2025

This unique exhibition, which will be unveiled during the IPhO, pays tribute to 20 women physicists from around the world, from different eras, who have left their mark on the history of physics through their major contributions, their commitment to women and/or the propagation of knowledge, and their avant-gardism.

Through this retrospective, the French Physical Society hopes to inspire younger generations, and young women in particular, to pursue scientific careers and celebrate the female role models who have shaped physics as we know it today.

The exhibition will then be made available free of charge in English and French for the widest possible distribution in France and internationally..

Support for IPhO - France 2025

>> Organisation partners











Sponsors





















































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A look back at previous editions

FRENCH SELECTIONS RECURRENTLY AWARDED

Over the last 15 editions, France has won 5 gold medals, 39 silver medals and 21 bronze medals. In 2015, it received a special prize for the best European candidate.

Medal-winning candidates are also honoured by **Academy of Sciences**, which sponsors the event. In addition to the competition itself, preparing for the IPhO in secondary schools helps to train students in the scientific approach, develop their interest in physics, and inspire them to pursue studies in this field.





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French delegation at the IPhO 2023 (Japan)



While the events are individual, and took me through all kinds of emotions, the IPhO is an experience that you go through as a team, with friends from all over the world coming together to tackle the same challenge. This event was undoubtedly a key moment in my life.

It made me realise that I shouldn't be afraid to set ambitious goals for myself. This event introduced me to the pleasures of working in an international environment, and motivated me to go into academic research. It made me realise that science transcends borders. Because that's what the IPhO is all about a celebration of promising young people, across all divides.

Adrien Sutter - IPhO 2018 Gold Medal

Preparing for the IPhO (...) was both difficult and instructive. I was confronted with subjects well beyond my level, but that's also what helped me progress. The preparation had a big impact on my discovery of physics. The IPhO gave me an absolutely fascinating picture of physics and motivated me to go to preparatory classes. It was probably the IPhOs that opened the doors to the Paris preparatory classes for me (where I was to meet the other members of the team...).

"

Maximilien Bonneau - IPhO 2021 participant

66

The International Physics Olympiad is the perfect opportunity to showcase France's passion and excellence in this discipline. It's also a gateway to France for these young people, who are destined for international careers.

Although physics is no longer the focus of my work, I still have a strong and active passion for it. I remain convinced that it's a key science, and mastering it is essential to understand our century...

"

Nathan Gasc - PIPhO 2019 participant

Practical information

International Physics Olympiad - France 2025: from 18 to 24 July 2025 in Île-de-France

The opening (Cité des sciences et de l'industrie in Paris, 18 July 2025, 9.30am-12pm) and closing (CentraleSupelec in Gif-sur-Yvette, 24 July 2025, 3pm-6pm) ceremonies can be **viewed live** on **the IPhO - France 2025 Youtube channel.**

The **tests** (experimental test, 19 July 2025, 9am-2pm / theoretical test, 21 July 2025, 9am-2pm) will take place at the École Polytechnique, a member of the Institut Polytechnique de Paris, in Palaiseau.

Midterm party (a festive evening after the tests), 21 July, 7-10pm at the Ecole polytechnique.

FOLLOW THE IPHO - FRANCE 2025:

Web site: www.ipho2025.fr

Youtube: International Physics Olympiad 2025
Instagram: ipho_2025 - Tik Tok: @ipho2025

Facebook: International Physics Olympiad - France 2025



12 Press accreditation and welcome

PRESS ACCREDITATION REQUEST

Press accreditation requests can be made via this link.

PRESS AREA

An area will be made available to **journalists** for **interviews** and **question-and-answer** sessions.

Organisers, partners, former participants and winners of previous editions of the IPhO will be available to answer journalists' questions (see list below).

Please contact us if you would like to interview someone.

12 Interviews availabilities

PIERRE AGOSTINI

AVAILABLE TO ANSWER INTERVIEWS REMOTELY

Nobel Prize in Physics 2023,

member of the IPhO France 2025 Honorary Committee, Pierre Agostini is a physicist specialising in ultrafast electron dynamics.

His work has led to the development of methods for observing the movement of electrons on the attosecond scale, revolutionising our understanding of fundamental processes in atomic physics.

Professor Emeritus at Ohio State University (USA), his career has been marked by a quest for precision and the transmission of knowledge.

ANNE L'HUILLIER

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS ON 3 AND 4 JULY IN TROYES AND REMOTELY ON THE SAME DATES

Nobel Prize in Physics 2023,

member of the Honorary Committee of IPhO France 2025, Anne L'Huillier is a physicist specialising in attosecond physics.

Her pioneering research into the ultra-fast interactions between light and matter has opened an entirely new field in quantum physics.

A professor at the University of Lund (Sweden), she is one of the few women to have been awarded the Nobel Prize in this discipline.

Anne L'Huillier is actively committed to teaching and the international promotion of fundamental research.

ALAIN ASPECT

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS ON 24 JULY ON SITE

Nobel Prize in Physics 2022,

member of the Honorary Committee of IPhO France 2025, Alain Aspect is a physicist specialising in quantum optics.

A professor at the Institut d'Optique Graduate School (Université Paris-Saclay), the École polytechnique and ENS Paris-Saclay, he is renowned for his seminal experiments on quantum entanglement, which have profoundly transformed our understanding of the fundamental laws of physics.

A Nobel laureate alongside John F. Clauser and Anton Zeilinger, he has been involved for many years in promoting science to the general public.

SERGE HAROCHE

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS ON 18 JULY ON SITE

2012 Nobel Prize in Physics,

member of the IPhO France 2025 Honorary Committee, Serge Haroche is a physicist in the field of quantum physics.

Professor emeritus at the Collège de France and former administrator of the Collège de France, he is renowned for his pioneering work on lightmatter interaction and the control of quantum states.

A Nobel laureate alongside David J. Wineland, he has made a decisive contribution to the advancement of quantum technologies and to our understanding of the fundamental mechanisms of physics.

MATHURIN ROUAN

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTELY AND ON-SITE IN ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

Participant and silver medallist in the 2023 International Physics Olympiad in Japan.

Student at ENS Paris.

CLÉMENCE DE ROLLAND

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTELY AND ON-SITE IN LYON

Participant and bronze medallist in the 2017 International Physics Olympiad in Indonesia (Yogyakarta).

A former representative of the French team, she embodies the new generation of scientists trained by the excellence of international competitions.

DOMINIQUE OBERT

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTELY OR ON-SITE IN PARIS

Co-chairman of the IPhO France 2025 Organising Committee.

Dominique Obert is Honorary General Inspector of Education, Sport and Research. His long-standing commitment to science teaching and academic competitions makes him a key player in this French edition of the IPhO.



SOPHIE RÉMY

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS INTERVIEWS REMOTELY OR ON-SITE IN LIMOGES

PhD in Physics, member of the IPhO France 2025 Organising Committee.

Sophie Rémy is also a distinguished professor of physics at the Lycée Gay-Lussac, Limoges. In 2004, she organised the resumption of French participation in the IPhO and led the French team to South Korea (Pohang). She was then a member of the national committee for the French IPhO from 2005 to 2024, and in 2021, she will be in charge of the French team for the "remote" edition (covid) organised by Lithuania.

MARIE GAILLARD

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTELY OR ON-SITE IN TOULOUSE

Selected to represent France at the IPhO 2025.

MPSI student at the Lycée Pierre de Fermat in Toulouse.



AURÉLIE FLIELLER

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTELY OR ON-SITE IN ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

Selected to represent France at the IPhO 2025.

PCSI student at the Lycée Sainte-Geneviève in Versailles.

HUGO CHARTOIRE

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTLY AND ON-SITE IN ÎLE-DE-FRANCE OUTSIDE 30 JUNE 18 JULY (REMOTE ONLY)

Selected to represent France at the IPhO 2025.

MPSI student at the Lycée Louis le Grand in Paris.

ADAM KUBICA-DJABRI

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTLY AND ON-SITE IN ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

Selected to represent France at the IPhO 2025.

PCSI student at the Lycée Henri IV in Paris.

AN PHA DANG

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS REMOTLY AND ON-SITE IN ÎLE-DE-FRANCE OUTSIDE 10-17 JULY.

Selected to represent France at the IPhO 2025.

Final year student at the Lycée Louis le Grand in Paris.



>>> From 18 to 24 July, Île-de-France

www.ipho2025.fr









PRESS CONTACTS AND REQUESTS FOR INTERVIEWS / REPORTS:

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