

**39th Conference of
Rectors and Presidents of
European Universities of Technology**

**Universities of Technology addressing the
challenges that planet earth is facing**

September 17th-18th, 2021

Final Programme
(30/06/2021)

The conference will be organised as online event.

**2021 Conference host:
Professor Christophe Guy
President, University of Technology of Compiègne**

**University of Technology of Compiègne
Rue du docteur Schweitzer CS 60319,
60203 Compiègne Cedex France, France**

Invitation to the 2021 Conference at the Compiègne University of Technology

Dear colleague,

We cordially invite you to crp2021, the 39th Conference of Rectors and Presidents of European Universities of Technology.

The global nature of the challenges that our planet is facing demands new approaches of policy, industry, education and research, and the general public. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) the reports of the International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC), the Paris Agreement 2015 form the framework for action. The European New Deal defines Europe's commitment to tackling climate and environmental-related challenges as this generations defining task. Universities have a special role to play in that context. Borders between disciplinary silos need to be overcome and new structures and initiatives for interdisciplinary cooperation in education and research have to be considered including involving non-academic parties in transdisciplinary arrangements.

Keynote speakers will discuss the Conference topic from different perspectives and leaders of European Universities of Technology will present their institutions' offers of new targeted curricula, as well as research and innovative activities contributing to sustainable development.

General background of the conference:

Following a joint initiative of the rectors of Vienna University of Technology and RWTH Aachen University, this conference started in 1980 with the aim of establishing a forum for top representatives of leading science and engineering universities in Europe for:

- Discussing topics of major common concern, that are not discussed in other fora,
- identifying differences and commonalities of existing solutions to problems of common interest,
- developing new ideas and - if appropriate - preparing recommendations on specific topics, and
- forming a 'think tank' for the future development of the universities of technology in Europe.

As an informal grouping, the conference has no formal international or European organisational structure.

Discussions at the 2021 Conference will address issues such as:

The conference topic will give an opportunity to discuss different aspects of the universities' strategies, approaches, experiences and perspectives regarding addressing the planetary: challenges

- Universities of Technology coping with unexpected challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic
- University leaders' first conclusions and lessons learnt from the COVID-19 experience
- TUs' contributions to mastering the energy transition, coping with climate change, and other challenges
- Educating contemporary scientists and engineers for addressing complex problems
- Integrating social sciences and humanities in teaching and research
- How to organize interdisciplinary cooperation in education and research
- From interdisciplinarity to transdisciplinarity research including civil society
- Reconsidering university structures – examples of good practices in teaching and research
- Opportunities for high risk/high gain research – Are universities prepared?
- TUs' roles in developing public awareness and understanding of global challenges

We are looking forward meeting you online in cyber-space in September 2021!

President, Prof. Christophe Guy
University of Technology of Compiègne
2021 Conference Host

Prof. Manfred Horvat
Conference Coordinator

Programme, Day 1

September 17th, 2021

- 13:30 – 13:40 **Welcome by the host**
Christophe Guy, President, University of Technology of Compiègne (UTC)
- 13:40 - 13:50 **Official Opening**
Patrick Nedellec, Delegate for European and International Affairs (DGESIP/DGRI), at the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation MESRI
- 13:50 - 14:00 **Introducing the Conference**
Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, TU Wien, Austria
- 14:00 - 14:15 **UTC addressing Grand Challenges**
Christophe Guy, President, University of Technology of Compiègne (UTC)
- 14:15 - 15:15 **Keynote Speeches**
Chair: Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, TU Wien, Austria
- 14:15-14:45 **Respecting the limits of planet earth and the needs for supporting sustainability**
Janez Potocnik, Member of the Club of Rome; Co-Chair, United Nations International Resource Panel (UNEP); former European Commissioner for Environment (2010-2014) and for Science and Research (2004-2010)
- 14:45-15:15 **The “European Green Deal” as challenge and opportunity for Europe’s engineering community**
Peter Droell, Director Prosperity, Directorate-General Research and Innovation, European Commission
- 15:15 - 15:50 **Break**

Keynote speeches continued next page

Programme, Day 1 (continued)

September 17th, 2021

- 15:50 – 17:30 **Keynote Speeches** (continued)
- 15:50-16:10 **Transdisciplinarity in assessing technologies for sustainability**
Ulrike Felt, head of the Department of Science and Technology Studies and of the Research Platform on Responsible Research and Innovation in Academic Practice, University of Vienna, Austria
- 16:10-16:30 **Industry's contributions addressing the global warming challenge**
Jean Louis Chaussade, Industrialist, President of the UTC University Board, France
- 16:30-16:50 **Sustainability: a fundamental re-calibration of the diagnosis and the solutions. Impact on university research and education programs**
Leo Van Broeck, former Flemish Government Architect, CEO at BOGDAN & VAN BROECK, Professor at KU Leuven, Belgium
- 16:50-17:10 **Engineering ethics and responsible innovation**
Jeroen van den Hoven, Professor of Ethics and Technology, TU, Delft, The Netherlands
- 17:10-17:30 **Final discussion and round up**

Programme Day 2, see next page

Programme, Day 2

September 18th, 2021

Universities of Technology addressing the challenges that planet earth is facing

09:00-10:30	Session 1: Chair: Sabine Seidler, Rector, TU Wien, Austria – Host of crp2022
09:00 - 09:15	TU Braunschweig, Germany Vice-President for Research Peter Hecker
09:15 - 09:30	Cartagena University of Technology, Spain Vice-Rector Faculty & Institutional Promotion Luis Javier Lozano Blanco
09:30 - 09:45	Discussion
09:45 - 10:00	Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden Vice-President of Utilisation Fredrik Hörstedt
10:00 - 10:15	ParisTech - Alliance of Paris Grandes Écoles, France Christian Lerminiaux, President of ParisTech Governing Committee
10:15 - 10:30	Discussion
10:30 - 11:00	Break

Sessions 2 and Closing Session: see next page

Programme, Day 2 (continued)

September 18th, 2021

Universities of Technology addressing the challenges that planet earth is facing

- 11:00 – 12:45 **Session 2**
- Chair: Christophe Guy, President, University of Technology Compiègne, France – Host of crp2021**
- 11:00 - 11:15 **Montan Universitaet Leoben (MUL), Austria**
Rector Wilfried Eichlseder
- 11:15 - 11:30 **Cranfield University of Technology, United Kingdom**
Pro-Vice-Chancellor Simon Pollard, International and School of Water, Energy and Environment
- 11:30 - 11:45 **Discussion**
- 11:45 - 12:00 **NTNU Norwegian University of Technology**
Pro-Rector for Innovation Toril Nagelhus Hernes
- 12:00 - 12:15 **European University EU-CONNEXUS, EU**
Rector Radu Vacareanu, Technical University of Civil Engineering, Bucharest, Romania
- 12:15 - 12:45 **Final discussion**
- 12:45 - 13:30 **Closing Session**
- Chair: Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, TU Wien, Austria**
- 12:45 - 12:55 **Conference conclusions**
Christophe Guy, President, University of Technology Compiègne (UTC)
- 12:55 - 13:10 **Outlook to the 40th Conference in Vienna, 23-24 September 2022**
Sabine Seidler, Rector, TU Wien, Austria
- 13:10 - 13:15 **Conference closing**
Manfred Horvat, Conference Coordinator, TU Wien Austria

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Prof. Christophe Guy
President
University of Technology of Compiègne (UTC), France

2021 Conference Secretariat at UTC:

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