Press release
Paris, 17 November 2026

Orange announces a new Scientific Advisory Board to support its research strategy

- At Orange OpenTech 2026, Orange announces the establishment of a new Scientific Advisory Board bringing together internationally renowned experts from a range of countries and institutions. Recognised for their academic work, they combine scientific expertise with strategic vision.
- This advisory body will guide the Group's research priorities and broaden its thinking on the major scientific and technological developments shaping the digital world.
- Its creation reflects Orange's commitment to open, collaborative research by bringing together the expertise of its researchers with leading international scientists. This combination will help prepare the technologies of tomorrow and build a trusted digital future.

Beginning its work in the first quarter of 2027, the Scientific Advisory Board will support Orange in assessing its research priorities and their alignment with developments in the digital world. Its members will be tasked with identifying emerging breakthroughs and critical issues, as well as providing opinions on the quality of the work presented to them. Their recommendations will help Orange prioritise the areas requiring further exploration and identify advances that could inform its innovation efforts.

Through this Board, Orange aims to strengthen dialogue between its research teams and internationally recognised scientists from diverse backgrounds.

Complementary expertise to inform research priorities

The Scientific Advisory Board will cover Orange's main research areas: artificial intelligence and data, networks and infrastructure, cybersecurity, communications and quantum technologies, as well as the human and societal dimensions of the digital world. These complementary areas of expertise will make it possible to assess technological advances through the novel use cases that they enable and the economic and societal transformations they support.

Its members are appointed by Orange's Chief Executive Officer, Christel Heydemann, for a three-year term. The first members appointed include:

- **Francis Bach** : A mathematician, Inria Research Director and professor at ENS, specialising in artificial intelligence, statistical optimisation and applied statistics, and a member of the French Academy of Sciences.

- **Mohamed-Slim Alouini** : An engineer and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) in Saudi Arabia, specialising in wireless, radio and optical spectrum, and satellite communications. He holds the UNESCO Chair in “Education to Connect the Unconnected” and is an IEEE Fellow.
- **Pierre-Alain Fouque** : A computer scientist and professor at the University of Rennes, specialising in classical and post-quantum cryptography.
- **Julie Galland** : engineer and senior executive, Director of Technological Research at the CEA.
- **Pascale Senellart** : A physicist, CNRS Research Director and co-founder of Quandela, specialising in quantum technologies, and a member of the French Academy of Sciences and the French Academy of Technologies.
- **Roman Slowinski** : A computer scientist and professor at the Poznań University of Technology, specialising in artificial intelligence and operations research. He is a former Vice-President of the Polish Academy of Sciences and an IEEE Fellow.

Francis Bach will serve as Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board and will coordinate its work. He said: *“I particularly value interactions with industry experts, and the scientific questions they raise. Orange particularly appeals to me due to its reputation, the quality of its research and the diversity of its technological challenges. Joining its Scientific Advisory Board will be a valuable opportunity to contribute to these discussions.”*

Anticipating technological developments and responding to real-world needs

With this new Scientific Advisory Board, Orange is enhancing and supporting the work of its 700 researchers, including 110 PhD students. At Orange OpenTech 2026, one third of the demos on display draw on their research. With a portfolio of more than 11,000 active patents, Orange is also the leading telecommunications operator in Europe. By opening up its research priorities and work to complementary perspectives, Orange reaffirms its conviction that knowledge-sharing and scientific cooperation are essential to anticipating developments in the digital world and helping to build a trusted digital future.

“Our researchers are looking forward to meeting the Board’s members and exchanging ideas with people who bring unique expertise from diverse backgrounds. These discussions will inform the work of our teams and may open up new avenues for research,” said Lyse Brillouet, Orange’s Director of Research.

About Orange

Orange is one of the world’s leading telecommunications operators. The Group aims to be the trusted partner for everyday digital life by providing individuals, businesses and communities with reliable connectivity and innovative services. As of the end of 2025, Orange connects 340 million customers across 26 countries and generated 40.4 billion euros in revenues.

As a trusted player, Orange leverages the excellence of its very high-speed broadband networks to deploy digital infrastructure in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The Group is a European leader in fiber, with 100 million connectable households, and convergent offers. In France, Orange connects 34 million customers and was ranked No. 1 by the regulator Arcep for the quality of its mobile network for the 15th consecutive year. In Africa and the Middle East, the Group’s growth engine, Orange serves nearly 180 million customers and promotes digital and financial inclusion through its connected solutions.

Under the Orange Business brand, the Group supports companies in transforming their networks as well as in AI, trusted cloud and cybersecurity. Orange is also a major player in the wholesale market, where it has a leading global telecom infrastructure and significant capabilities for deploying and operating submarine cables. A committed innovator, Orange relies on 700 researchers and holds a portfolio of 11,000 patents.

Orange is listed on Euronext Paris (symbol ORA). More information: www.orange.com.

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