

European Becquerel Prize for Outstanding Merits in Photovoltaics

To mark the 150th anniversary of Alexandre-Edmond Becquerel's discovery of the photovoltaic effect in 1839, the European Commission founded in 1989 the European Becquerel Prize for outstanding contributions to the development of Photovoltaic Solar Energy. It is awarded for the twenty-eighth time in 2020 on the occasion of the 37th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference. After a public nomination phase, the Prize winner was selected by the Becquerel Prize Committee.



Prof. Henry Snaith



is the twenty-eighth Becquerel Prize winner. He receives the award in honour of his ground-breaking work on solar cells based on organic-inorganic metal halide perovskites.

Professor Snaith has pioneered the development of organic-inorganic hybrid materials through a combination of material synthesis, device development, and theoretical studies. The rapid discovery of both extremely efficient single junction thin-film solar cells and tandem solar cells manufactured using perovskites has created a great and enduring stimulus within the photovoltaics community.

Prof Snaith is the co-founder and chief scientific officer of Oxford PV, a successful start-up company founded to commercialize the perovskite solar cell technology. This shows his commitment not only to achieve excellent scientific results but also to make significant contributions to the advancement of photovoltaics as a major global energy technology.

Piotr Szymanski

European Commission Joint Research Centre
Director of Energy, Transport and Climate

Prof. Joachim Luther

Chairman of the
Becquerel Prize Committee