

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-ninth time in 2021 on the occasion of the 38th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference. After a public nomination phase, the Prize winner was selected by the Becquerel Prize Committee.



Ulrike Jahn



is the twenty-ninth Becquerel Prize winner. She receives the award in honour of her contributions to the field of quality performance and assessment of photovoltaic modules and systems.

Ulrike Jahn has worked all her career for the development of PV technology, with a focus on reliability and performance that new electricity generation technologies must demonstrate to be accepted in the market. Her activities have evolved from working for the 1000-Roof-PV programme in the 90s, to module reliability characterization and PV system performance assessment, up to the definition and establishment of methodologies for good practice to reduce the technical risks during the implementation and operating life of PV systems. Through her various activities, including within the IEA PVPS programme, she became not only one of the world leading experts, collaborating with 80 experts all around the world, but also one of the faces in the field and thereby a role model for young scientists and engineers.

Piotr Szymanski

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

Prof. Christophe Ballif

Chairman of the
Becquerel Prize Committee