



60 years
of
FITCE

1961 to 2021

List of FITCE Presidents

NAME	COUNTRY	ELECTION (date and location)
WOLF Jean	Luxembourg	1962 Brussels
VERHAGE Gerard	Netherlands	1963 Roma
KIRCHNER Otto	Germany	1965 Den Haag
LAMBIOTTE Marc	Belgium	1966 Frankfurt
BOUTONNET Charles	France	1968 Luxembourg
RUSSO Cecilia	Italy	1970 Venezia
BERNARD Leon	Luxembourg	1972 Stuttgart
VAN BEKKUM Jan	Netherlands	1974 Luxembourg
HUFNAGEL Werner	Germany	1976 Firenze
HULEUX Emile	Belgium	1978 Berlin
CABANNE André	France	1980 Liège
CONDON Gerry	Ireland	1982 Bordeaux
BENEDETTI Marino	Italy	1984 Roma
DONDELINGER	Luxembourg	1986 Gravenhage
HAMELBERG Peter	Netherlands	1988 Cork
SHURROCK Colin	United Kingdom	1990 Glasgow
KOUREMENOS Dimitri	Greece	1992 Granada
ROJO SERRANO Jose Luis	Spain	1994 Dresden
GOMES DE AZEVEDO Antonio	Portugal	1996 Vienna
KRAUS Guntram	Germany	1997 Thessaloniki
MARUSZCZAK Stefan	Austria	1999 Utrecht
VAN OOTEGHEM José	Belgium	2001 Barcelona
GONZALES MATEOS Carlos	Spain	2003 Berlin
ARGYROPOULOS Georgios	Greece	2005 Athens
REYNOLDS Barry	Ireland	2007 Warsaw
PENZA Andrea	Italy	2009 London
GERRESE Jos	Netherlands	2011 Palermo
HALKA Wojciech	Poland	2013 Leuven
VALDAR Andy	United Kingdom	2015 Wroclaw
RUGEL Stefan	Germany	2018 Salford
MIEDL Alois	Austria	2020 Krakow (virtual event)

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Dear FITCE friends,

It is very impressive how long 60 years is and how much has changed in the field of telecommunications over the last six decades. The purely national telecom operators grew into international ICT groups. The industry has globalized and communication devices that were only known from TV series Star Trek and its Star Ship Enterprise back then are now ubiquitous.

In 1961, the CEOs of telecommunications operators – Belgium, Luxembourg and France – recognized that collaboration and sharing of experience among senior engineers was critical in an ever-changing telecommunications world. Within a year, FITCE was born, an international, non-profit association with national federations from Belgium, Luxembourg, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy. By 1981, Ireland,

the United Kingdom, Spain and Greece had joined FITCE as members. Over the next decades, another six national associations from Portugal, Austria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Bulgaria and Romania joined.

The strong competition in the telecom industry, the internationalisation, and the dynamics and breadth of technology topics have also changed FITCE a lot, but our goals have remained the same: To promote knowledge and experience sharing across your member associations, while also traditionally placing a high value on social activities.

Many thanks to Andy Valdar for creating this time travel through 60 years of the telecommunications industry and FITCE.

Enjoy reading the time travel.

Alois Miedl
President of FITCE

“In my opinion it is excellent that FITCE continues to offer contacts and experiences in different subjects of interest. All the best for the FITCE Congress.” Werner Hufnagel, President of FITCE, 1976 – 1978