

Big Science Business Forum

Big Science Diplomacy event

Prague

9 April 2026

**Big Science
Business
Forum**

History

- Aim to bring the European Big Science organisations and the European industry providing them with supplies & services together and strengthen the European industry through the innovation that is often required when providing to BSOs.
- Editions
 - February 2018 – Copenhagen, Denmark
 - October 2022 – Granada, Spain
 - October 2024 – Trieste, Italy
 - October 2026 – Maastricht, Netherlands & Belgium
- Continuously growing in attendance

Participation

- 10 Hosting Big Science organisations
 - CERN, ESA, ESO, ESRF, ESS, E-XFEL, F4E, GSI-FAIR, ILL, SKAO
 - Covering accelerators, X-ray & neutron sources, space, radio antenna's & fusion
 - Bringing both procurement officers and technical experts
- Up to 10 Associated Big Science Organisations
 - 2026: IFMIF-DONES, EST, PETRA-IV, ELI-ERIC, Elettra, INFN, MYRRHA, DTT, ESS-Bilbao
- National pavilions
 - Networks of Industrial Liaison Officers bringing a group of companies that otherwise would not get an individual booth.
- Company booths
 - Individual booths of companies
- EU-project, etc. booths

Plenary Sessions

- Directors general to introduce the various organisations
- Procurement
- Women in Big Science
- Panel discussions

Parallel sessions

**Technical experts share
their upcoming needs**

**ABSOs: 2026-2030
- Value of 2.6 Beuro**

**CERN: 2026-2030
- Value of 2.4 Beuro**

Others tbd

Wednesday afternoon 28 October

A1 - Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning

A2 - High precision, small and large mechanical components

A3 - Electrical, electromechanical and RF systems

A4 - Normal and superconducting magnets

Wednesday afternoon 28 October

B1 - Cryogenic technology and cooling technology

B2 - IT, Big Data, (tele)communication & software

B3 - Engineering methods, mechanical design and software tools

B4 - Electronics assembly & radiation resistance

Thursday morning 29 October

C1 - Radiation monitoring & protection

C2 - Basic & advanced materials

C3 - Instrumentation and controls (diagnostics, detectors, sensors)

C4 - Protection of hazardous installations, access control, fire and gas detection

Thursday afternoon 29 October

D1 - Civil engineering and construction works

D2 - Vacuum technology and leak detection

D3 - Robotics and remote handling

D4 - Lasers & Optics

Interaction at the event

- Meet the DG's session in 2026
- Q&A during parallel sessions

- Planned Business-to-Business talks
 - BSO-2-company
 - Company-to-company

- Network opportunities
 - Visiting booths
 - Welcome reception, lunches, poster session, dinners, visits,

IOC members

- IOC members are the leaders of the procurement at the BSOs
 - They value the sharing of information with their peers at other BSOs during the various meetings leading up to the event and at the event itself.
 - They connect with their procurement team and bring some members to the BSBF to connect with companies via the B-2-B meetings
 - They connect with the internal technical departments to get topics to present to the companies in the parallel sessions.

Big Science Diplomacy

- Strengthened by the organisers of the last edition in Trieste
 - Focus on connecting central European countries to the Big Science ecosystem
 - Continued with the current event
- Upcoming edition
 - Organising an event in Brussels with representatives of the EU commission
 - Focus on funding of innovation in the Big Science domain outside RTD