

Detailed
Program



5 to October 8, 2026



Taking Care of the World

the Vital Contribution of the Social
Economy and Public Enterprises

📍 Centre Mont-Royal
2200 Rue Mansfield, Montréal (Québec) H3A 3R8



Preliminary Program September 7, 2026



5 to October 8, 2026



In a context marked by multiple crises and profound transitions, it is becoming urgent to rethink our ways of producing, consuming, and living together. The theme “Taking Care of the World : the Vital Contribution of the Social Economy and Public Enterprises” invites us to recognize and value the essential contribution of the social economy and public enterprises: actors who place people, the collective, and the common good at the heart of economic action.

Le 35^e International Congress of CIRIEC is a unique opportunity to reflect together on an economy that heals rather than harms, that unites rather than divides, and that builds desirable futures founded on solidarity, democracy, and sustainability.

This event will address, among others, the following sub-themes:

- Multiple crises and resilience of public and social structures
- Socio-ecological transitions and circular economy
- Housing, accommodation and living environments
- Solidarity and sustainable financing and alternative economic models
- The role of public enterprises in energy, transport and infrastructure
- Digital transformation and responsible artificial intelligence
- The impact of public policies on the social and collective economy



Schedule



Congrès international

5 to October 8, 2026



Monday, October 5		Tuesday, October 6			Wednesday, October 7			Thursday, October 8	
Locoshop Angus		Mount Royal Centre			Mount Royal Centre			Mount Royal Centre	
A.M.		7:30-9:00	Registration		8:00-9:00	Registration		9:00-9:30	Welcome Coffee
		9:00-10:00	Opening Session		9:00-9:45	Keynote 2		9:30-10:45	Plenary Session 4 “Solidarity and sustainable financing and alternative economic models”
		10:00-10:30	Keynote 1		9:45-11:00	Plenary Session 2 “Socio-ecological Transition and Circular Economy”			
		10:30-11:00	Coffee Break		11:00-11:30	Coffee Break / Scientific Posters		10:45-11:15	Coffee Break
		11:00-12:15	Plenary Session 1 « Multiple crises and resilience of public and social structures »		11:30-12:45	Plenary Session 3 “Enterprises’ Strategies, Sustainability and ESG Issues”		11:15-12:00	Keynote 3
12:15-13:30		Lunch		12:45-14:00	Lunch		12:00-12:30	Key findings from the Congress	
13:30-15:00		Roundtable 1 “Challenges and Issues in Democratic Governance and Citizen Participation”	Roundtable 2 “The Role of Public Enterprises in Energy, Transport and Infrastructure”	14:00-15:15	Roundtable 5 “Impact of Public Policies on the Social and Collective Economy”	Roundtable 6 « Digital Transformation and Responsible Artificial Intelligence”	12:30-13:00	Closing Session	
15:00-15:30		Break		15:15-15:45	Break / Scientific Posters				
15:30-16:30		Roundtable 3 “Inequalities, “Care” and Feminism”	Roundtable 4 “The Role of Arts and Culture for Citizen life & Democracy”	15:45-17:00	Roundtable 7 “Social Transformation, Work and Training”	Roundtable 8 « Housing, accommodation and living environments »			
16 :45–18 :30		Scientific presentations		17 :15-18 :30	Scientific presentations				
18:30 Opening Cocktail					Cooperative Dinner Marché Bonsecours				

Detailed Program



5 to October 8, 2026



Monday

October, 5



Locoshop Angus

2600 William-Tremblay St. Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H1X 3J 2



6:30 P.M.

Opening Cocktail

presented by the Angus Development Corporation

ANGUS

Tuesday

October, 6



Mount Royal Centre

2200 Mansfield St, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3A 3R8



7:30 – 9:00

Registration



9:00 – 10:00

Symposia Room

Opening Session and Congress inauguration



FR-EN-ES

Moderator: Emmanuelle Dulondel, Director of Operations, Caisse d'économie Solidaire Desjardins (Canada)

- Soraya Martinez Ferrada, Mayor of the City of Montreal (Canada)
- Alain Arnaud, President of CIRIEC-France, Honorary President of CIRIEC International (France)
- Marc Picard, President of CIRIEC-Canada, General Manager of the Caisse d'économie Solidaire Desjardins (Canada)
- Video message from Jaime Iglesias Sanchez Cervera, Special Commissioner for Social Economy of Spain
- Giuseppe Guerini, President of Cooperatives Europe, Vice-President of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) (Italy)
- Bernard Thiry, President of CIRIEC International (Belgique)

🕒 10:00 – 10:30

Main conference



FR-EN-ES



Jérôme Dupras

Jérôme Dupras is Quebec's Chief Scientist and President and CEO of the Fonds de recherche du Québec (Quebec Research Fund). Prior to his appointment, Mr. Dupras was a full professor in the Department of Natural Sciences at the Université du Québec en Outaouais and held the Canada Research Chair in Ecological Economics and the UNESCO Chair in Biodiversity Economics.

Throughout his career, Jérôme Dupras has received numerous distinctions, including the Governor General's Academic Gold Medal, the Medal of Honour of the National Assembly of Quebec, and the National Order of Quebec.

In addition to his scientific activities, Jérôme Dupras is also known as a science entrepreneur, environmental activist, and artist, as a member and founder of the band Les Cowboys Fringants.

🕒 10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

🕒 11:00 – 12:15

Symposia Room

Multiple crises and the resilience of public and social structures

Plenary
Session 1

Moderation: José Luis Monzón, Executive Director of CIRIEC-España University of Valencia (Spain)

- Yvonne Hochsteiner, Director General of Sozialwirtschaft Österreich (Social Economy Austria Austrian Association of Austrian Social and Healthcare Companies, Austria)
- Jean-Pascal Labille, Secretary General of Solidaris (national federation of socialist health mutuals in Belgium) Chairman of the Steering Committee of Solidaris Wallonia (Belgium)
- Pascal Michard, President of Aéma Groupe (France)
- Sofiya Burtak, Director on Cooperative and Entrepreneurship Development – Project Honoring rural women's contribution in Ukraine's agri-food systems (HONOR), President of Rural Women Business Network (Ukraine)
- Benoît Hamon, President of ESS France (France)



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12:15 – 13:30

Lunch



13:30 – 15:00

Room 1

Challenges and Issues in Democratic Governance and Citizen Participation

Moderation: Marie-Josée Paquette, Executive Director of the Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité (CQCM), Vice-President – Corporate Affairs, CIRIEC-Canada (Canada)

- Chris Reniers, Former President of ACOD and Federal ACOD, expert in labour law and civil service representation (Belgium)
- Michel Papaud, Prefect, Former Director General of Services of Grenoble-Alpes-Métropole (France)
- Jean François Lalonde, Mayor of the Villeray–Saint-Michel–Parc-Extension borough, member of the Executive Committee of the City of Montréal (Canada)
- Laura Collin, Professor-Researcher at El Colegio de Tlaxcala (Mexico)

Round
Table 1



FR-EN-ES



13:30 – 15:00

Room 2

The Role of Public Enterprises in Energy, Transport and Infrastructure

Moderator: Jean-Claude Marcourt, Vice President of the Board of Directors of Fluxys Belgium SA (Belgium)

- Other speaker to be announced (Canada)
- Inne Mertens, CEO of Sibelga (manager of electricity and natural gas distribution networks in the Brussels-Capital Region), President of CIRIEC-Belgium (Belgium)
- Thomas Kattnig, Member of the Federal Executive Committee of union Die Daseinsgewerkschaft, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee (Austria)
- Francisco Castañeda, Director of the Bachelor's Program in Business Management and the Master's in Corporate Risk Management at Universidad Central (Chile)

Round
Table 2



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🕒 15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee Break**

🕒 15:30 – 16:30 **Room 1**
Inequality, care, and feminism

Round
Table 3

Moderator: Marie J. Bouchard, Professor Emeritus, University of Quebec at Montreal (Canada)

- Carmen Marcuello Servós, President of the Scientific Commission “Social and Cooperative Economy” University of Zaragoza (Spain)
- Caroline Senneville, President of Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN) (Canada)
- Simel Esim, Head of the COOP/ESS Unit at the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Chair of the United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group on the Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSE) (Switzerland – place of work)



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🕒 15:30 – 16:30 **Room 2**
The role of arts and culture for citizen life and democracy

Round
Table 4

Moderation: Orville Pletschette, Continuing education manager SMART Coop (Belgium)

- Samuel Tétrault, Co-Founder, Creative Director, Artistic Director and Stage Director, Les 7 doigts de la main (Canada)
- Sophie Labesse, General manager, Financial services to enterprises, Société de développement des Entreprises culturelles (SODEC) (Canada)
- Éric Lefebvre, General manager, Partenariat du Quartier des Spectacles (Canada)
- Anne Eschapasse, President and CEO of the McCord Stewart Museum (Canada)



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🕒 16:30 – 16:45 **Break**

🕒 16:45 – 18:30

Rooms 2 and 3
Scientific presentations



FR-EN-ES

Detailed program to come

Wednesday

October, 7



Mount Royal Centre
2200 Mansfield St, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3A 3R8



8:00 – 9:00

Registration



9:00 – 9:45

Symposia Room
Main conference



FR-EN-ES



Jimmy Jean

Jimmy Jean is Vice-President, Chief Economist and Strategist at Desjardins Group. He leads a team of researchers, analysts and forecasters that has been named Best Overall Forecaster – Canada by FocusEconomics on numerous occasions. His keen insights and clear communication style make him a sought-after speaker and a regular guest on financial news programs in Canada's English and French media markets.

Jimmy has been with Desjardins Group for most of his career, but has also served as senior strategist at Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec and as an economist at Moody's, RBC Capital Markets and Statistics Canada. He has a master's degree in applied financial economics from HEC Montréal and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.



9:45 – 11:00

Symposia Room Socio-ecological transition and circular economy

Plenary
Session 2

Moderator : Fanny Tremblay-Racicot, Associate Professor at the National School of Public Administration and Director of the Centre for Governance Research (CERGO) (Canada)



FR-EN-ES

- Bernhard Zlanabitz, Vice-President of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) (Austria)
- Maryline Filippi, Professor of Economics at Agrotech Paris (France)
- David Barkin, Professor Emeritus, Metropolitan Autonomous University, Xochimilco campus (Mexico)
- Éric Saint-Arnaud, General Director, Renaissance (Canada)



11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

International Room– Presentations of scientific posters



11:30 – 12:45

Symposia Room Enterprises' Strategies, Sustainability and ESG Issues

Plenary
Session 3

Moderator: Heidrun Maier-De Kruijff, Director General of Verband der öffentlichen Wirtschaft und Gemeinwirtschaft Österreichs (VÖWG) (Association of Public Services and Public Enterprises of Austria) – CIRIEC-Austria (Austria)



FR-EN-ES

- Gerhard Zotter, Director General of Bundesbeschaffungs GmbH (BBG) (Austria)
- Juan Fernando Álvarez, Professor at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Bogotá, CIRIEC-Colombia (Colombia)
- Luc Bernier – Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa (Canada)
- Gildas Poissonier, Head of Sustainable Development, Desjardins (Canada)
- José Pablo Puzino, President of IAIES (Argentine Institute for Research in Social Economy) – CIRIEC-Argentina (Argentina)



12:45 – 14:00

Lunch



14:00 – 15:15

Room 1

Impact of Public Policies on the Social and Collective Economy

Moderator: Timothée Duverger, Research Engineer and Chair Holder, TerrESS Chair, Sciences Po Bordeaux (France)

- Lies Laridon, Member of the Council of the Province of West Flanders; Director of various public enterprises (electricity), CIRIEC-Belgium (Belgium)
- Hernando Zabala Salazar, President of the Board of Directors of CIRIEC-Colombia, Universidad Católica Luis Amigó (Colombia)
- Béatrice Alain, Executive Director of the Chantier de l'économie sociale (Canada)
- Rafael Chaves, Professor of Economic Policy and Social Economy at the Universidad de Valencia, President of the Scientific Commission of CIRIEC-España (Spain)

Round
Table 5



FR-EN-ES



14:00 – 15:15

Room 2

Digital Transformation and Responsible Artificial Intelligence

Moderation: Claude-André Guillotte, Director of IRECUS, Professor, School of Management, University of Sherbrooke (Canada)

- Johannes Schmid, Deputy Secretary General and Head of the Smart Cities Department at the Österreichischer Städtebund (Austrian Association of Cities and Municipalities) (Austria)
- Gilles Carignan, General manager, Les Coops de l'Info (Canada) (Canada)
- Brian Myles, Director of the newspaper Le Devoir (Canada)

Round
Table 6



FR-EN-ES



15:15 – 15:45

Break

International Room – Presentations of scientific posters



15:45 – 17:00

Room 1

Social Transformation, Work and Training

Moderator: Adoración Mozas Moral, President of CIRIEC-España, Universidad de Jaén (Spain)

- Ana María Torres, Head of the Research Group "Solidarity Economy and Development", Corporación Universitaria Minuto de Dios (UNIMUTO), CIRIEC-Colombia (Colombia)
- Ronaldo Gaudio, Director of Gaudio Advocacia law firm, President of CIRIEC-Brasil (Brazil)
- Julien Racicot, general manager, MCE Conseils (Canada)
- Federico Li Bonilla, Founder and Executive Director of CIRIEC-Costa Rica (Costa Rica)

Round
Table 7



FR-EN-ES



15:45 – 17:00

Room 2

Housing, accommodation and living environments

Moderation: Sandra Turgeon, Executive Director of the Confédération des coopératives d'habitation du Québec (Canada)

- Harald Repar, CEO and Commercial Director of Neue Heimat and Kärntner Heimstätte (Ges.m.b.H.), social housing companies of Carinthia (Austria)
- Inmaculada Carrasco, President of OIBESCOOP – Ibero-American Observatory on Employment and Social and Cooperative Economy (Spain)
- Sophie Rousseau Loiselle, Director General of the Société d'habitation et de développement de Montréal (SHDM) (Canada)
- Paulo Bento, Vice-Rector for Internationalisation and University Outreach at the Universidade Aberta (Portugal)
- Pierre Choquette, Deputy Director General, Montreal Municipal Housing Office (OMHM) (Canada)

Round
Table 8



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🕒 17:00 – 17:15 Break

🕒 17:15 – 18:30 Rooms 1, 2 and 3
Presentations of scientific articles

Detailed program to come



FR-EN-ES

Wednesday

October 7 – Cooperative dinner

📍 Marché Bonsecours
350 Saint-Paul E, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2Y 1H2



🕒 Time to come Cooperative dinner
presented by le Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité



Thursday

October 8

📍 Mount Royal Centre
2200 Mansfield St, Montreal, Qc, Canada, H3A 3R8

🕒 9:00 – 9:30 Registration

🕒 9:30 – 10:45 Symposia Room
Solidarity and sustainable financing and alternative economic models

Moderator : Luc Rabouin, President and CEO of the Greater Montreal Foundation (Canada)
– Hilde Vernailen, Chair of the Board of Directors of the P&V Group and CEO of PSH (Belgium)
– Bernard Ndour, Executive Director of the CAP Finance Social Fund (Canada)
– Jean-Philippe Ménard, First Vice-President, Regional Network and Innovation, Investissement Québec (Canada)
– Nathalie Villemure, General Director, Réseau d'investissement social du Québec (Canada)

Plenary
Session 4



FR-EN-ES

🕒 10:45 – 11:15

Coffee Break

🕒 11:15 – 12:00

Symposia Room

Main Conference



Julia Cagé

A graduate of the École Normale Supérieure and holder of a doctorate from Harvard University, Julia Cagé is Professor of Economics at Sciences Po Paris and an affiliated researcher at the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), where she directs the Media Plurality Research Policy Network, as well as at the Interdisciplinary Laboratory for the Evaluation of Public Policies (LIEPP) and the CESifo Research Network. A specialist in political economy and economic history, she focuses on the media, particularly the impact of competition and the introduction of the internet on the quality of information produced and political attitudes. Her research also examines the financing of democracy, especially political parties and election campaigns, in Western Europe and the United States, from a comparative perspective.

Her work has been published in leading economics journals, including the American Economic Review and the Review of Economic Studies, as well as in numerous edited volumes. She is the author of several books translated into around fifteen languages, including **Saving the Media: Capitalism, Crowdfunding and Democracy** (Le Seuil, 2015), which received the Special Jury Prize at the Assises du Journalisme (2016), and **The Price of Democracy** (Fayard, 2018), which received the Anticor Ethics Prize (2019), the France Culture-Le Monde Petrarch Essay Prize, and the City of Saint-Maur Essay Prize (2021). Her latest book, **A History of Political Conflict: Elections and Social Inequalities in France, 1789–2022**, co-authored with Thomas Piketty, was published by Seuil in 2023.

In 2021, she held the “Arne Naess Chair in Global Justice and the Environment” (University of Oslo). In 2023, she received the Best Young French Economist Prize, and in 2025 the Yrjö Jahnsson Prize for the best European economist.



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🕒 12:00 – 12:30

Symposia Room

Key findings from the Congress, by Gérald Larose, former president of the Confederation of National Trade Unions and former chairman of the board of the Desjardins Solidarity Economy Fund



FR-EN-ES

🕒 12:30 – 13:00

Symposia Room
Closing session



FR-EN-ES

End of the Congress

Accompanying persons program

Monday

October 5 – Opening cocktail

Presented by the Société de développement Angus

Locoshop Angus

2600 William-Tremblay Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H1Y 3J2



ANGUS

Tuesday

October 6 – Guided tour of an exhibition

Montreal museum of Fine Arts

The visit will be followed by a meal.

Meeting spot at Centre Mont-Royal

2200 Mansfield street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3A 3R8



FR-EN

Wednesday

October 7 – Guided city tour by bus

Departure location to be determined



FR-EN

Cooperative dinner

Presented by le Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité

Marché Bonsecours

350 Saint-Paul E, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2Y 1H2



Thanks to our partners



CIRIEC-Canada extends its sincere thanks to all its partners for their support and commitment to the 35th CIRIEC International Congress 2026. Their invaluable support helps make this event a prime forum for reflection, exchange, and collaboration on issues related to the public and social economy. Thanks to their trust and contribution, this congress can bring together participants from diverse backgrounds and foster the sharing of expertise, innovations, and promising perspectives for the future.

Main partner



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About CIRIEC-Canada

Founded in 1967 as the national section of CIRIEC International, the Centre interdisciplinaire de recherche et d'information sur les entreprises collectives (CIRIEC-Canada) is a scientific association concerned with all collective forms of enterprises and economic activities oriented toward the general or collective interest. Its members gather around common concerns regarding democracy, participation, equity, solidarity, the promotion of people, and the preservation of collective resources.

CIRIEC-Canada brings together both collective members (public enterprises, cooperatives, mutual associations, foundations, workers' funds, unions, university research centres, training institutes) and individual members (researchers, teachers, students, practitioners).

The purpose of this scientific association is to contribute to the building of a plural economy, through enlightened and critical support for the development of the collective economy (social and public) and by promoting the general interest in economic and social development.

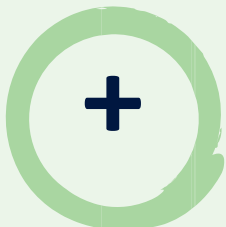


About CIRIEC International

Founded in 1947, CIRIEC (the International Centre of Research and Information on the Public, Social and Cooperative Economy) is a non-governmental international scientific organization dedicated to research and the dissemination of knowledge on economic sectors oriented toward the general and collective interest.

Present in 19 countries through its national sections and institutional members, CIRIEC leads a vast international network of researchers, experts and practitioners. Its dual academic and operational grounding, as well as its transversal approach to the public, social and cooperative economy, enable it to produce analyses directly addressing major contemporary challenges.

CIRIEC conducts international research projects and regularly organizes – in collaboration with its members – world-class scientific congresses and conferences that bring together researchers, policymakers, and socio-economic stakeholders. Through its publications and collaborations with numerous international organizations, it actively contributes to the advancement of knowledge and the development of research-based public policies.



**For more plus information,
contact us**

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