



LILLE, 11 - 13 JUNE 2025

## Potato leaders of the future: deciding under uncertainty

### PROGRAMME CONFERENCE 12 JUNE

**8h30 - 9h00** *Registration and welcome coffee for Europatat members*

**9h00 - 11h00** **EUROPATAT GENERAL ASSEMBLY (ONLY EUROPATAT MEMBERS)**

**11h00 - 11h30** *Coffee break / Registration for other participants and guests*

**11h30 - 12h45** **EUROPATAT CONGRESS: OPENING SESSION**

#### WELCOME

**Rose O'Donovan** - Moderator

**Dominique Pere** - President Fedepom

**Tigran Richter** - President Europatat

#### KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

**Patrick Baudry** - French Astronaut, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador

**12h45 - 14h00** *Networking lunch*

**14h00 - 15h00** **PANEL SESSION: THE FRENCH TABLE POTATO MARKET AND ITS IMPACT ON THE REST OF EUROPE**

#### INTRODUCTION

**Florence Rossillion** - Director General CNIPT

#### PANEL DISCUSSION

**Francisco Moya** - Director Vitalis Group

**Florimond Deprez** - Head of potato business unit, Group Florimond Deprez

**Alain Betancourt** - Sales Director Patatas Meléndez

**Philippe Quennemet** - President GIPT

**15h00 - 15h20** **PRESENTATION PLATINIUM SPONSOR**

**Daniel Deschodt** - Executive Vice-President & CCO Port of Dunkerque

**15h20 - 15h35** **SPECIAL INTERVENTION: FROM THE POTATO *TUBERCULE* TO THE ROOT OF TUBERCULOSIS RESEARCH**

**Dr Alain Baulard** - Director of Research INSERM at Institut Pasteur de Lille

**15h35 - 15h45** **CLOSING**

**Berta Redondo Benito** - Secretary General Europatat

**15h45 - 18h00** *Networking coffee / FEDEPOM GENERAL ASSEMBLY*

**19h30 - 00h00** **GALA DINNER AT OPERA LILLE**

# Europatat Congress



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### CONFIRMED SPEAKERS



#### **ROSE O'DONOVAN - JOURNALIST & MODERATOR**

Rose O'Donovan has been Editor of AGRA FACTS since March 2010, having previously served as Deputy Editor on the agricultural publication for nearly three years. Prior to working as a journalist, she dealt with international relations on the EU satellite navigation programme at the Galileo Joint Undertaking. Following the completion of a Master of Science at University College Cork (Ireland), Rose moved to Brussels in 2004 to work as an intern in the Cabinet of former European Parliament President, Pat Cox. Hailing from a farming background in West Cork, Rose has a keen interest in the evolution of Irish and European agricultural & trade policy and regularly appears as a moderator on the Brussels & international conference circuit.



#### **DOMINIQUE PERE - PRESIDENT FEDEPOM**

Dominique Pere is Managing Director of PARMENTINE, a French company specializing in the production, packing and sale of potatoes, since 2008. Responsible for the company's strategic direction, his multifaceted expertise and operational mindset provide him a strong understanding of all the company's sectors. Prior to joining PARMENTINE, Dominique was Head of the Legal and Tax Department at CDER, a renowned management and accounting firm recognized for its expertise in advising business leaders.

In addition to his role at PARMENTINE, Dominique is currently the President of Fedepom, the French Federation of Potato, Seed Potato, and Condiment Traders. He is also a board member of CNIPT, the French interprofessional organization for the fresh potato sector. Married and a father of three children, Dominique is deeply passionate about the agricultural sector as a whole, with a particular interest in cattle farming.



#### **TIGRAN RICHTER - PRESIDENT EUROPATAT**

Tigran Richter was born in 1963 in Leipzig (Germany) and finished his first degree in Agricultural Water Management in Moscow (Soviet Union). In 1993 he started to work for NORIKA, a German potato breeding company owned by a group of German potato processing companies. His entire professional career was dedicated to develop the international marketing of NORIKA potato varieties. He was appointed as managing director of NOREX, the export daughter company of NORIKA and is today co-managing director of NORIKA as well.

He has been representing NORIKA in several international associations such as Europatat and Euroseeds for many years. After having an active role in Europatat as chair of the Seed Commission for several terms, he was elected as President of Europatat in 2022.



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#### **PATRICK BAUDRY - FRENCH ASTRONAUT, UNESCO AMBASSADOR**

Born in Cameroon, Patrick Baudry is a former fighter pilot in the French Air Force. He was also a Test Pilot in charge of Mirage 2000 prototype. He was a Cosmonaut with the Soviets in 1982 to fly on Soyuz-Saliout spacecrafts and he flew on the American space shuttle Discovery in 1985, taking with him the only bottle of wine which made a trip into Space.

He is a fervent defender of Europe, and he invested himself in the development of the European Space Shuttle project Hermes and would have been the chief Test Pilot in charge of this space ship.

Strongly involved in many projects for children education he created several schools as ACADIS and the first European Space Camp, and he is now a Goodwill Ambassador for UNESCO. He developed and sustains many educational achievements in Africa. Seeing our own planet from Space changes our way of living and considering human beings. He considers today that the most important thing is not the Planet we are leaving to our children, but the children we are leaving to our Planet.



#### **FLORENCE ROSSILLION - DIRECTOR GENERAL CNIPT**

Florence Rossillion has been involved in the potato sector for more than 10 years. As Director General of the Interprofessional Committee for Fresh Potatoes in France, she manages relations between producers, traders, packers and retailers to establish action agreements in terms of agronomic research, economic studies, quality assessment potatoes, development of consumption and communication. She is also involved in lobbying for the potato sector in France and Europe. Florence Rossillion is graduated of the Paris Political Sciences Institute, certified as corporate director and has a master degree in management and human resources.



#### **FRANCISCO MOYA - DIRECTOR GROUP VITALIS**

Francisco Moya was born in 1964. With a Spanish origin, Francisco has lived and worked in France his entire life. He is currently the Managing Director of Vitalis Network, which was founded in 2017 and which he helped to create, and Vitexport.

As well as his professional commitment to the economic development of the companies in the Vitalis Group, he was also involved from a very early stage in professional associations and organisations in the potato sector. Currently, he's involved in FEDEPOM and the French interbranch CNIPT, and is an active member of EUROPATAT as well. At regional level, in the Nord Pas-de-Calais region, he has been in charge of public relations for the potato promotion association.

As recognition for his dedication to the potato sector, he was made a Knight of the French Order of Agricultural Merit in 2024.



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#### **FLORIMOND DEPREZ - HEAD OF POTATO BUSINESS UNIT OF GFD**

Florimond is currently the head of the potato business unit of Groupe Florimond Desprez. GFD is a family-owned group specialised in breeding and seed marketing for beets and chicory, cereal and pulses, and potato. At GFD, Florimond is also managing the group's multi-crop subsidiaries in Morocco, Spain and Russia.

The two main entities of the potato business unit of GFD are Germicopa and Danespo. Respectively based in France and in Denmark, these breeding companies have a strong international focus and export two third of their seed production. Prior to heading the business unit, Florimond has been the general manager of Germicopa for 5 years.

Prior to joining the seed industry, Florimond worked for several years in investment banking as M&A advisor. His educational background is in agronomy with an engineering degree from Institut National Agronomique Paris-Grignon.



#### **ALAIN BETANCOURT - SALES DIRECTOR PATATAS MELENDEZ**

Alain Betancourt is Sales Director of Patatas Meléndez, company leader in the fresh potato market in Spain. Since 2020, he has driven a commercial transformation focused on innovation, quality and proximity to the consumer. With more than 20 years' experience in retail, much of it at Carrefour, he brings a strategic vision that has been key to the modernisation and growth of the company.



#### **PHILIPPE QUENNEMET - PRESIDENT GIPT**

A 45-year-old native of Brittany, Philippe Quennemet has been a director of the Groupement Interprofessionnel pour la Valorisation de la Pomme de Terre (GIPT) for 8 years on behalf of the Fédération des Transformateurs de Pommes de Terre (FNTPT), of which he has been chairman since 2020.

After studying engineering at the Lasalle school in Beauvais, he began his career in 2004 at Altho, a crisp manufacturer, following his end-of-studies placement. Since then, he has been in charge of potato supplies for the group's factories. Committed to the collective, Philippe Quennemet has represented potato processors on the SEMAE (French Interprofessional Organisation for Seeds and Plants) potato section for over 15 years and has been a member of the GIPT board since 2019.





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#### **DANIEL DESCHODT - EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT PORT DUNKERQUE**

Daniel M. Deschodt is 55 years old and holds Franco-British nationality. He graduated from French International Management School in Lille, France and Lincoln University in San Francisco, USA. He started his career in an Asset - Based Intermodal Marketing Company as International Development Director based in Paris region.

Daniel moved to the stevedoring industry by joining the container terminal operator in Dunkirk, France in 2006, and joined the Port of Dunkerque April 2006. Since 2021, Daniel is now working with Port of Dunkirk Authority as Deputy CEO and CCO. He is in charge of marketing, industry, logistics and maritime route developments, PR & communication as well as contracts management. Daniel is an Honorary Consul of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Dunkirk (since March 2010) and French International Trade Advisor (CCEF).



#### **DR ALAIN BAULARD - DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH INSERM, INSTITUT PASTEUR DE LILLE**

Alain Baulard is Director of Research at INSERM. He holds a PhD in Molecular Biology from the University of Louvain and an HDR from the University of Lille. Recruited by INSERM as a Chargé de Recherche in 1997, he was promoted to Directeur de Recherche in 2009.

At the Institut Pasteur de Lille, he demonstrated that M. tuberculosis regulates its own sensitivity to proantibiotics through transcriptional regulators. Alain is also co-director of the High-throughput screening facility ARIADNE at Institut Pasteur de Lille. Since 2008, he is Invited Professor at the University of Louvain.



#### **BERTA REDONDO BENITO - SECRETARY GENERAL EUROPATAT**

Berta holds a Journalism Degree from the University of Valladolid in Spain, where she is originally from, and she has a strong work experience in agricultural communication and European affairs. Working for Europatat since 2018 and in the role of Secretary General since 2020, she represents and defends the interest of the sector at the European level and other international settings. She is also responsible for the daily management of the association, all internal and external communications and membership's relations, as well as policy dossiers such as agriculture and promotion, sustainability and research and innovation.