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wne Fellow Award

by 

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WNE FELLOW AWARD

AT THE WORLD NUCLEAR EXHIBITION 2021, GIFEN REWARDS THE CIVIL NUCLEAR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

On the day before the [World Nuclear Exhibition 2021](#) (WNE), a global event dedicated to international civil nuclear, starting today, **the GIFEN, French Nuclear Industry Association, presents its first WNE Fellow Award.** The GIFEN is organizing the WNE to gather **the global actors of the nuclear community.** This year marks **the first edition of the WNE Fellow Award, which recognizes an individual's contribution to nuclear energy development.** After a thoughtful consideration of the 11 nominees, the jury chose Kirsty Gogan. Gogan embodies this generation of climate activists who were not advocates of nuclear in the first place, but became convinced later on and are now working day by day to make this sector grow as an environmentally responsible solution.

A new award to put personalities of nuclear energy in the spotlight

The World Nuclear Exhibition hosts the WNE Awards, recognizing leading innovations, expertise and technological advances of the civil nuclear sector. The 2021 edition debuts a new prize: the WNE Fellow Award, given to an individual who has worked in favour of the development of civil nuclear industry in recent years, chosen by a jury of world leading experts chaired by **Bernard Bigot**, Director General of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER Organization).

The GIFEN is honored to welcome in the jury, the following prestigious members:

- **Sama Bilbao Y Leon**, Director General, *World Nuclear Association* (WNA)
- **William D. Magwood IV**, Director General, *Nuclear Energy Agency* (NEA)
- **François Jacq**, General Administrator, *French alternative energies and Atomic Energy Commission* (CEA)
- **Toshio Kodama**, President, *Japan Atomic Energy Agency* (JAEA)

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- **Jean-Bernard Levy**, CEO, EDF (France)
- **Alexey Likhachev**, Director General, ROSATOM (Russia)
- **Satish Kumar Sharma**, CEO, *Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited* (NPCIL)

[Kirsty Gogan](#) was revealed as this year's winner during a ceremony held this November 29th in Paris.

Kirsty Gogan, winner of the inaugural WNE Fellow Award

Kirsty Gogan has a rich and unique profile accompanied by strong expertise energy policy Her strong commitment to sustainability and environmental justice led her to focus on nuclear energy as she developed a deep understanding of the energy sector.



Interestingly, Gogan was not always an advocate of nuclear energy, and hailed from an environmentalist culture that traditionally disregarded this solution. One day, at the recommendation of one of her relatives, she read *Sustainable Energy — Without the Hot Air* by David J. C. MacKay which led her to rethink the way she considered nuclear energy.

As her research and knowledge of the sector increased, **she has become convinced that nuclear energy is a critical part of the solution to reach our common objectives of reducing CO₂ emissions**. An expert climate communicator, Gogan is able to deconstruct the targeting nuclear energy, helping the world understand how nuclear works for the environment, not against it. With her team, she consistently works to advance dialogue about policies to develop and apply inclusive transnational strategies to decarbonize the climate through sustainable energy production.

About Kirsty Gogan:

- Gogan is **co-founder and managing partner of [TerraPraxis](#)**, an organization focused on strategies and actions that advance decarbonization and climate justice.
- She is the **managing partner of [LucidCatalyst](#)**, a consultancy that offers thought leadership, strategy development, and techno-economic expertise in clean energy and climate solutions.
- She is a **board member of the [Nuclear Innovation Alliance](#)**, a think tank focusing on action and research to help accelerate innovation in nuclear energy to address environmental and energy needs.

"Kirsty Gogan contributed significantly to the change we noticed in the public and decision maker's perspective on nuclear during the last year: to combat climate change we need to

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develop urgently all clean energies and reduce drastically fossil fuel power plant." said Bernard Bigot. "It makes no sense to oppose civil nuclear power and renewables technologies; we need both of them; they are complementary. Her action is appreciated worldwide"

Kirsty Gogan stated, "Nuclear energy is consistently identified as being a necessary component of climate mitigation roadmaps by the world's most science-based and authoritative international institutions, including the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#), [International Energy Agency](#) and [European Commission](#). It is time for the world's political leaders to become educated about nuclear technology so that they can make informed, evidence-based decisions that accelerate decarbonization of the global energy economy. Climate strategies that do not have climate justice at their heart have a high risk of failing. Climate justice means building resilience for climate vulnerable states and increasing energy access to developing countries, including access to clean energy. Climate justice also means that wealthy countries that have contributed the lion's share of historical emissions have a moral imperative to go faster in achieving zero emissions. For all of these reasons, the mainstream environmental movement is including nuclear energy in the thinking now about a just transition at the scale and timeframe demanded by the climate emergency."

About the GIFEN

The GIFEN, French Nuclear Association is the only professional association in the nuclear industry that brings together major contractors, large companies, ETIs, SMEs, micro-companies and associations covering all types of industrial activities and all areas of civil nuclear energy. The GIFEN purpose: Building tomorrow's French nuclear industry, by federating, transforming, developing and being the voice of the French nuclear industry. With its 220,000 employees and 3,200 companies, 85% of which are small and medium-sized businesses, the French nuclear industry, third international sector, plays a major role in the dynamism of French industry and contributes, through its locations throughout the country, to the development of local economy. The French nuclear industry accounts for 6.7% of French industrial employment

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