

PARIS
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Ardian supports Ecole Normale Supérieure's research into soil carbon storage

Ardian, a world-leading private investment house, has today announced it will support the Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL) by sponsoring the creation of a new research Chair dedicated to carbon storage in soils and subsoils, also known as *carbon capture*.

Over the six-year partnership, Ardian will support in-depth research by the university's Geology Laboratory, which is part of the Geosciences Department at ENS-PSL. Research chairs are academic structures that enable a higher education and research establishment to mobilize resources and expertise in specific fields of study and innovation. The Ardian research Chair on soil carbon storage will be ENS-PSL's 14th research Chair.

In a period where solutions are being actively sought to reduce the effects of global warming, carbon capture is a critical factor in the fight against climate change. The main objective of this Chair is to focus on studying the potential impacts of injecting and storing CO₂ in soils and subsoil.

"Carbon capture and storage is a fundamental factor of the ecological transition. Nevertheless, we still face a significant number of challenges to guarantee a safe, sustainable and competitive storage solution, and allow the industry to expand. Fundamental research therefore has a key role to play. With the creation of Ardian's Chair in Carbon Storage, we will be contributing to the development of the excellence and dynamism of French research in this strategic field, and tomorrow's French and European sovereignty and competitiveness."

● **DOMINIQUE SENEQUIER** ● CEO AND FOUNDER OF ARDIAN

"The Ardian Chair at ENS will bring together researchers from two teams of the laboratory to address two main themes. Firstly, on geological sequestration, our aim is to deepen our understanding of the impacts of CO₂ injection on the geological host rock, specifically by studying its hydromechanical properties and acoustic signature. Secondly, focusing on organic carbon in soils, we are seeking to gain a better understanding of the soil carbon mineralization sensitivity to changes in environmental conditions."

● **JEROME FORTIN** ● CNRS RESEARCH DIRECTOR AT ENS-PSL'S GEOLOGY LABORATORY AND DIRECTOR OF THIS NEW CHAIR

The launch event, held at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris, was honored by high-level scientific presentations to further explore the theme of the Chair. Laurent Bopp, Director of Research at CNRS and



Professor at ENS-PSL, presented his research on climate objectives and compatible carbon trajectories. Jérôme Fortin then explained the mechanisms of geological carbon storage. The presentation series concluded with a speech by Pierre Barré, Director of Research at CNRS and member of the Geology Laboratory at ENS-PSL, who discussed the potential of carbon storage in soils.

Financed by private sponsors, research Chairs offer substantial support for the development of advanced research projects. They also help strengthen bonds between the academic world and business, enhancing student training and supporting scientific progress and knowledge sharing.

ABOUT ARDIAN

Ardian is a world-leading private investment house, managing or advising \$164bn of assets on behalf of more than 1,600 clients globally. Our broad expertise, spanning Private Equity, Real Assets and Credit, enables us to offer a wide range of investment opportunities and respond flexibly to our clients' differing needs. Through Ardian Customized Solutions we create bespoke portfolios that allow institutional clients to specify the precise mix of assets they require and to gain access to funds managed by leading third-party sponsors. Private Wealth Solutions offers dedicated services and access solutions for private banks, family offices and private institutional investors worldwide. Ardian's main shareholding group is its employees and we place great emphasis on developing its people and fostering a collaborative culture based on collective intelligence. Our 1,050+ employees, spread across 19 offices in Europe, the Americas, Asia and Middle East are strongly committed to the principles of Responsible Investment and are determined to make finance a force for good in society. Our goal is to deliver excellent investment performance combined with high ethical standards and social responsibility.

At Ardian we invest all of ourselves in building companies that last.

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ABOUT THE FONDATION DE L'ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPERIEURE

The main mission of the Fondation de l'École Normale Supérieure is to support ENS-PSL's education and research projects. It plays a key role in the school's interactions with the private sector and its international influence. At Ardian we invest all of ourselves in building companies that last.

To achieve its objectives, the Foundation focuses on three main areas:

- Support for ENS students, through specific scholarship programs designed to encourage the ENS's social openness and the excellence of its recruitment.
- Funding research and innovation, by allocating resources to research chairs and innovative institutes.
- Restoring and enhancing the École's heritage, by investing in spaces that bring together members of the teaching and research community in the best possible working conditions.

[fondation.ens.psl.eu](https://www.fondation.ens.psl.eu)

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