

# 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on: Mg-based cements

Second announcement

## CONFERENCE

February 10–12, 2026

### Event location

Centre Loewenberg  
Murten, Switzerland

### Conference information

[www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026](http://www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026)



### Contact

Petra Rogenmoser  
[petra.rogenmoser@empa.ch](mailto:petra.rogenmoser@empa.ch)

Nesquehonite crystals  
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## Background

To limit global temperature rise to below 2°C, we need to radically and rapidly change the way we build and use materials, since construction is responsible for 20–40% of industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Magnesium-based cements have the potential to become a major carbon sink in the construction industry.

## Topics

The conference aims at exchanging state-of-the-art knowledge on future applications, from binder production to application as concrete workability, reaction kinetics, admixtures, hydrates, strength development, durability and leaching.

## Subjects

- Magnesium carbonate cements
- Magnesium silicate cements
- Magnesium oxychloride / oxysulfate cements
- Magnesium phosphate cements
- Carbonation hardening

## Key Dates

February 2024: 1<sup>st</sup> announcement

January 2025: 2<sup>nd</sup> announcement

January – June 2025: abstract submission (e-mail to [MgO2026@empa.ch](mailto:MgO2026@empa.ch))

**1<sup>st</sup> of July, 2025: abstract submission DEADLINE**

September – November 2025: registration

10–12<sup>th</sup> of February 2026: Conference in Murten

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### Conference location and accommodation

<https://company.sbb.ch/en/sbb-as-business-partner/services/centre-loewenberg.html>

Murten is a historic medieval town at the French-German language border in Switzerland, offering historic sites, beautiful views and numerous hiking trails.

Murten is located less than two hours from the international airports in Zurich, Geneva, Basle or Berne and can be easily reached by car or via hourly train connections from all major Swiss cities.

For detailed information including hotel information, detailed conference program, abstract and final paper submission and electronic registration:

[www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026](http://www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026)  
e-mail: [MgO2026@empa.ch](mailto:MgO2026@empa.ch)

### Hotel

Overnight accommodation for the participants can be booked at the Centre Loewenberg in Murten.

### Venue

The conference will be held at the Centre Loewenberg near Murten. The Centre is nestled in a quiet park and offers also hotel facilities.



### Registration

Participants may register until **December 1, 2025**.  
Registration and further information: [www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026](http://www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026)  
After enrolment, you will receive a confirmation by e-mail.  
Payment can only be made by credit card.  
The number of participants is limited to 100.

### Special issue

Selected papers will be published in a special issue of Journal of Advanced Concrete Technology. Submission: **January to May 1, 2026**

### Abstracts

Authors are invited to submit a one-page abstract for oral and poster presentations by e-mail to [MgO2026@empa.ch](mailto:MgO2026@empa.ch) until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Abstracts will be published in the workshop proceedings. Guidelines for abstracts and papers will be provided on [www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026](http://www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026)

### Organizers

Frank Winnefeld  
Barbara Lothenbach  
Ellina Bernard  
Raphael Kuhn  
Jan Schmitt

### Conference fee

**Regular registration: CHF 750.–**  
**Students: CHF 400.–**  
\*Student registration requires a proof of enrolment.  
The fee includes coffee breaks and lunches, Dinner on Tuesday evening and conference dinner on Wednesday.  
Cancellation fees = 10% before December 1, 2025, no refunds after the end of the registration.  
Replacement can be possible.

### International Steering Committee

Celine Cau dit Coumes, CEA Marcoule, France  
Shiho Kawashima, Columbia University, New York, USA  
Paivo Kinnunen, University of Oulu, Finland  
Hegoi Manzano, University of the Basque Country, Spain  
Hoang Nguyen, University of Oulu, Finland  
John Provis, PSI, Switzerland  
Cristina Ruiz Augusto, University of Konstanz, Germany  
Allan Scott, University of Canterbury, New Zealand  
Cise Unluer, University of Manchester, UK  
Hong Wong, Imperial College London, UK  
Biwan Xu, Tongji University, China

### Administration

For general information please contact: [MgO2026@empa.ch](mailto:MgO2026@empa.ch)  
For information regarding registration and payments: [petra.rogenmoser@empa.ch](mailto:petra.rogenmoser@empa.ch)

Information on the scientific program: [www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026](http://www.empa.ch/web/MgO2026)