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# THE FIBER SOCIETY 2026 SPRING CONFERENCE

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Empa | St. Gallen | Switzerland

May 20 – 22 | 2026

SAFE THE DATE

## Learn From the Past and Dream the Future



*THE FIBER SOCIETY*



*Advancing Scientific Knowledge  
Pertaining to Fibers and Fibrous Materials*



**Empa**

Materials Science and Technology



We welcome you to join us for The Fiber Society 2026 Spring Conference, taking place at Empa in St. Gallen, Switzerland, from May 20–22, 2026.

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### THE FIBER SOCIETY

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was established in the early 1940s to foster collaboration and the exchange of research in the global fiber community. As a not-for-profit professional and scientific organization, it is dedicated to advancing knowledge in fibers, fiber-based products, and fibrous materials. A key component of its mission is the organization of biannual technical conferences, hosted by a strong local committee. These conferences remain a cornerstone of the Society, providing a platform for researchers, academics, and industry professionals. Attendance is open to all with an interest in the field, with a particular emphasis on engaging students, academic faculty, and industrial researchers.

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### THE VENUE

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is easy to reach with public transportation from the downtown of St. Gallen. St. Gallen is internationally known as an educational location and a city of innovation, providing ideal conditions to host the FS 2026 Spring Conference. The conference will be held at Empa, where all activities will take place in three buildings that comprise three lecture halls and an atrium for breaks and exhibitions. Empa is the interdisciplinary research institute for materials science and technology of the ETH Domain.

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### THE CONFERENCE

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will serve as a global platform to showcase and highlight technical innovation in fiber science. Based on our long-term experience, we expect up to 200 participating scientists, engineers and designers in the field of fiber research and development. An important ingredient for the success of this meeting will be the participation of professionals in all aspects of fiber science and technology from all around the world. Since the close collaboration between universities, research institutes and industry are key for technological advancement, substantial participation of industry is highly welcomed.

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### THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

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will include lectures by internationally renowned invited speakers and oral presentations contributed by both senior and younger scientists and engineers. Also included are poster presentations contributed by young postdocs, PhD students, master students and engineers working in academia and industry.

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### THE SOCIAL PROGRAM

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includes a welcome reception featuring an alphorn band, a lab tour of the Empa premises followed by a bratwurst party, as well as a banquet on a traditional farmyard with local cultural entertainment.





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## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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### CONFERENCE CHAIR

Dr. Rudolf Hufenus, Empa

### CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR

Dr. Edith Perret, Empa

### ADMINISTRATION

Hania Curjel, Empa

Brigitte Jungnickel, Empa

Pam Gabriel, The Fiber Society

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## PLENARY SPEAKERS

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Prof. Dr. Bernd Nowack, Empa, Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Fabien Sorin, EPFL, Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Jan Lagerwall, University of Luxembourg

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## SYMPOSIA

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- Nano- and microfiber technology
- Inorganic and hybrid fibers
- Fibers for comfort and protection
- Biobased and biodegradable fibers
- Sustainability and recycling of fibers
- High-performance fibers and textiles
- Smart textiles and fiber-based wearables
- Healthcare and biomedical textiles
- Fiber-reinforced composites
- Microplastic fiber pollution
- Fiber modelling and characterization

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## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

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Starting January 2026, we seek abstract submissions on fundamental and applied research related to the science and engineering of fibers and fibrous materials. Submissions of original work related but not limited to the listed symposia topics are welcomed.



We will accept online submissions for oral and poster presentations through March 31, 2026. For information on how to submit an abstract, see our website.

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## EXHIBITS

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We offer booths for exhibitors in the atrium of the conference location. Early booking is recommended. For details and other sponsoring availabilities, see our website.

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## IMPORTANT DATES

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|---------------------|------------------|
| CALL FOR ABSTRACTS  | December 1, 2025 |
| SUBMISSION DEADLINE | March 31, 2026   |
| ACCEPTANCE NOTICE   | April 15, 2026   |
| EARLY BIRD DEADLINE | April 30, 2026   |

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## REGISTRATION

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Kindly find detailed information about registration fees and terms of participation on our website. The registration fee for all regularly enrolled undergraduate and graduate students is reduced to cover costs only.

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## WEBSITE

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All relevant information concerning the program, venue, abstract submission, accommodation and events can be found on the conference website:

[www.FS-Spring-2026.org](http://www.FS-Spring-2026.org)

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## SPONSORS

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## CONTACT/INFORMATION

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