



# EQUIP-G

European Quantum Infrastructure Project for Gravimetry

[equip-g.eu](https://equip-g.eu)

Sébastien Merlet



Observatoire  
de Paris



EQUIP-G has received funding from the EC's Horizon Europe programme, under the HORIZON-CL4-2024-DIGITAL-EMERGING-02 call.

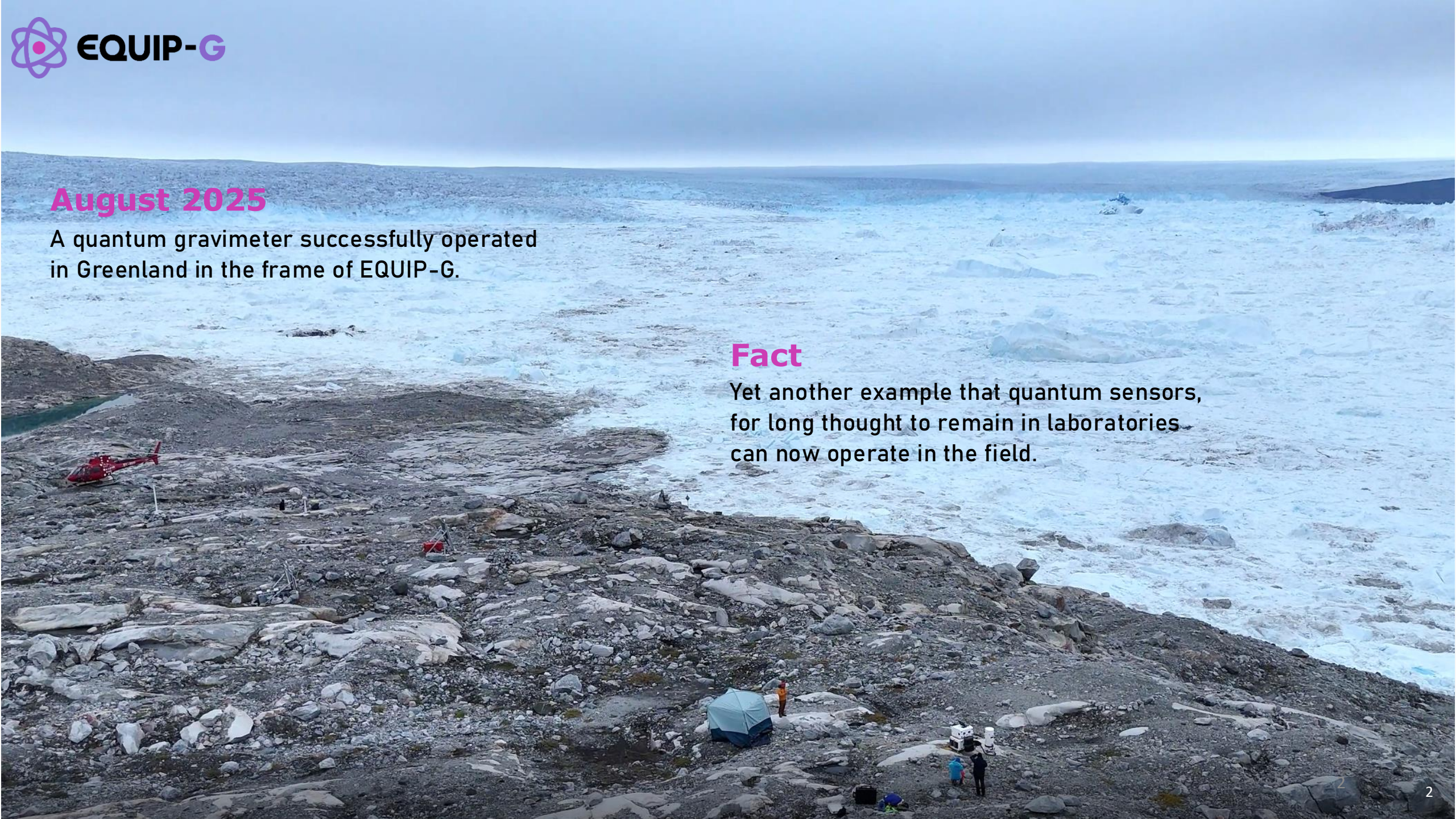


**August 2025**

A quantum gravimeter successfully operated  
in Greenland in the frame of EQUIP-G.

**Fact**

Yet another example that quantum sensors,  
for long thought to remain in laboratories  
can now operate in the field.







## Our vision

Quantum gravimeters will play a key role to monitor the Earth and tackle some of the most pressing EU societal challenges.

## Our mission

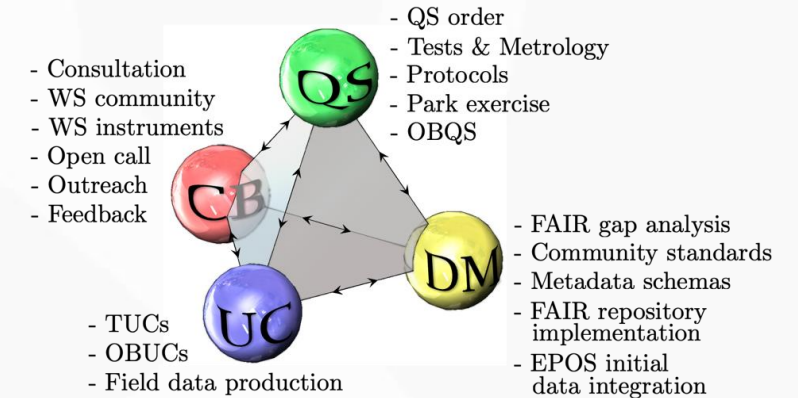
Establish a European perennial Research Infrastructure managing a shared park of quantum sensors and a terrestrial reference gravity network for the benefit and the sovereignty of Europe.





- ❁ 20 partners, 11 countries
- ❁ Lead by CNRS, France
- ❁ 4 years (2025 – 2029)
- ❁ 25 M€
- ❁ 4 pillars:

1. Procuring and testing quantum gravimeters
2. Deploying in the field operational quantum gravimeters addressing identified use cases
3. Collecting, storing and providing high-quality data to a wider scientific community
4. Building-up an EU-wide community of stakeholders for gravimetry



# **EQUIP-G - Board of Advisors**

An experienced board of advisors to guide our consortium

| EQUIP-G EXTERNAL EXPERT ADVISORY BOARD |                  |              |
|--|------------------|--------------|
| First name                             | Surname          | Entity       |
| Joséphine                              | Boisson Gaboriau | SNCF         |
| Davide                                 | Calonico         | INRIM        |
| Thomas                                 | Lévêque          | CNES         |
| Martin                                 | Lidberg          | Landmåteriet |
| Jürgen                                 | Müller           | LUH          |
| Laura                                  | Sanchez          | TUM          |

# EQUIP-G - Instruments

Procuring quantum gravimeters as products, testing and deploying them in the field

Within EQUIP-G we are procuring quantum sensors using atom interferometry to measure the acceleration of the Earth gravity  $g$ . Our park of instruments will comprise:

- ✿ 7 terrestrial absolute quantum gravimeters
- ✿ 2 terrestrial quantum gravi-gradimeters
- ✿ 1 airborne quantum gravimeter

We open public procurement procedures to all EU manufacturers

We benefit from a reference infrastructure at French national metrological institute LNE to test and evaluate all the EQUIP-G sensors and ensure SI traceability.

EQUIP-G activities for instruments:

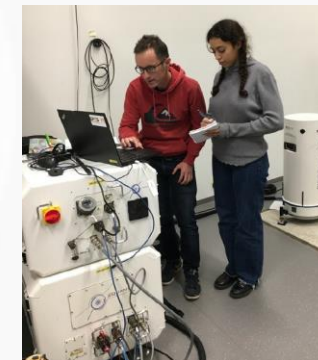
Procurement

Testing

Establishing measurement protocols and good practices

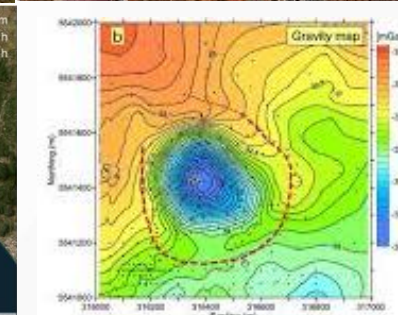
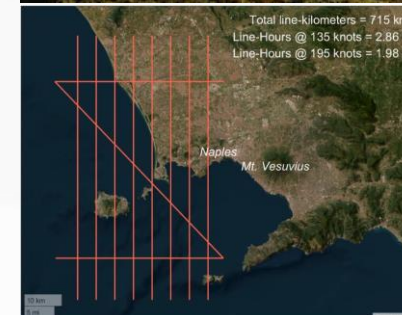
Trainings of new operators

Development of the airborne quantum gravimeter



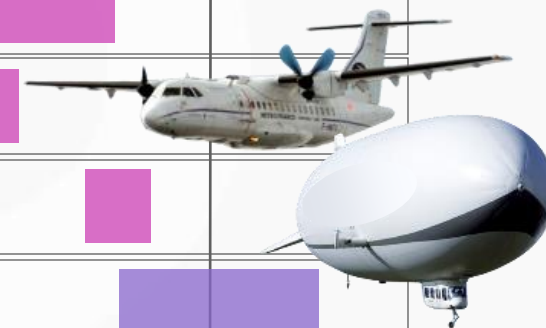
8 use cases to support some of the most pressing European societal challenges

- (1) Water storage assessment
- (2) Soil pollutant flow monitoring
- (3) Nuclear waste underground storage monitoring
- (4) Continuous volcano monitoring
- (5) Time-lapse volcano monitoring
- (6) Climate change monitoring
- (7) Geodesy and national spatial references
- (8) Geothermal energy



# EQUIP-G - Use Cases





| TUC: Terrestrial Use Case<br>OBUC: On-Board Use Case | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| TUC1 – Soil Pollutant flow monitoring                |      |      |      |      |      |
| TUC2 – Water storage monitoring                      |      |      |      |      |      |
| TUC3 – Geological repository monitoring              |      |      |      |      |      |
| TUC4 – Continuous volcano monitoring                 |      |      |      |      |      |
| TUC5 – Time-lapse volcano monitoring                 |      |      |      |      |      |
| TUC6 – Climate Monitoring                            |      |      |      |      |      |
| TUC7 – Geodesy and cartography                       |      |      |      |      |      |
| TUC8 – Geothermal reservoir monitoring               |      |      |      |      |      |
| OBUC1 – Onboard survey (fixed-wing aircraft)         |      |      |      |      |      |
| OBUC2 – Onboard survey (airship)                     |      |      |      |      |      |
| IPE Open Calls                                       |      |      |      |      |      |





Collecting, storing and providing access to high-quality data to the entire scientific community

All data collected on the field by EQUIP-G sensors will be stored and provided following the FAIR principles:

-  Findable
-  Accessible in open source
-  Interoperable
-  Reusable

We leverage the expertise in existing data repository

Heritage from existing gravity data bases and return on experience of GNSS data

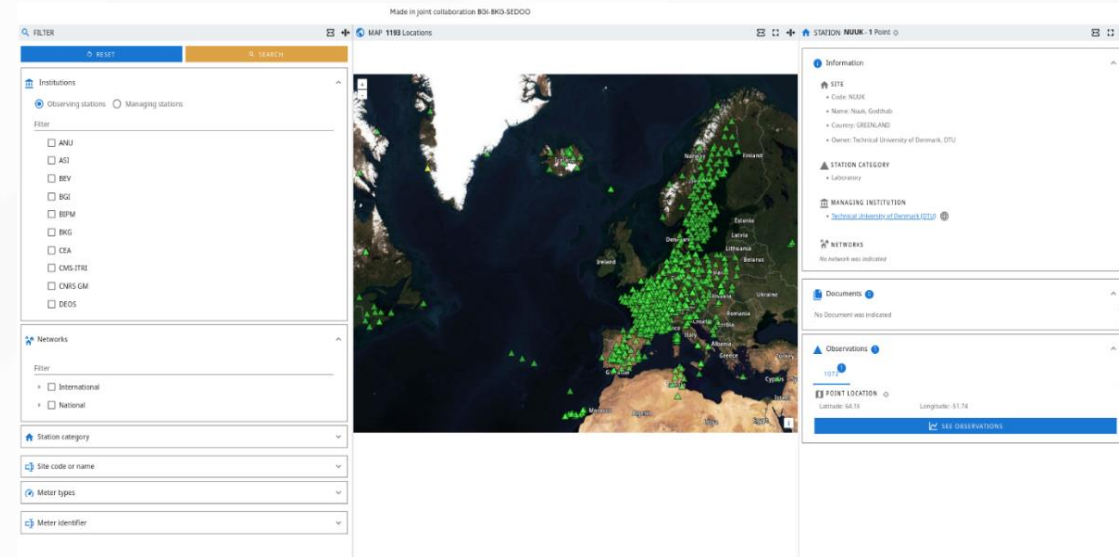
EQUIP-G activities for data access:

FAIR assessment and metrics

Recommendations on community standards for FAIR implementation

Implementation in data repository




Initial data integration within EPOS



# **EQUIP-G - Community Building**

## Knowledge transfer and community outreach

Within EQUIP-G we must:

-  Raise the awareness of larger community of end users
-  Train and educate more technical people
-  Bridge the gap with the Industry

To democratize the use of quantum gravimeters developed in Europe

EQUIP-G benefits from a large and committed community already active in Geosciences

We engage with both public entities and private companies

**EQUIP-G activities for community building:**

Organizing two EU-wide community workshops

Organizing two Open Calls to enable European entities outside the consortium to borrow and use quantum gravimeters from the EQUIP-G park

Trainings

Identify future Use cases

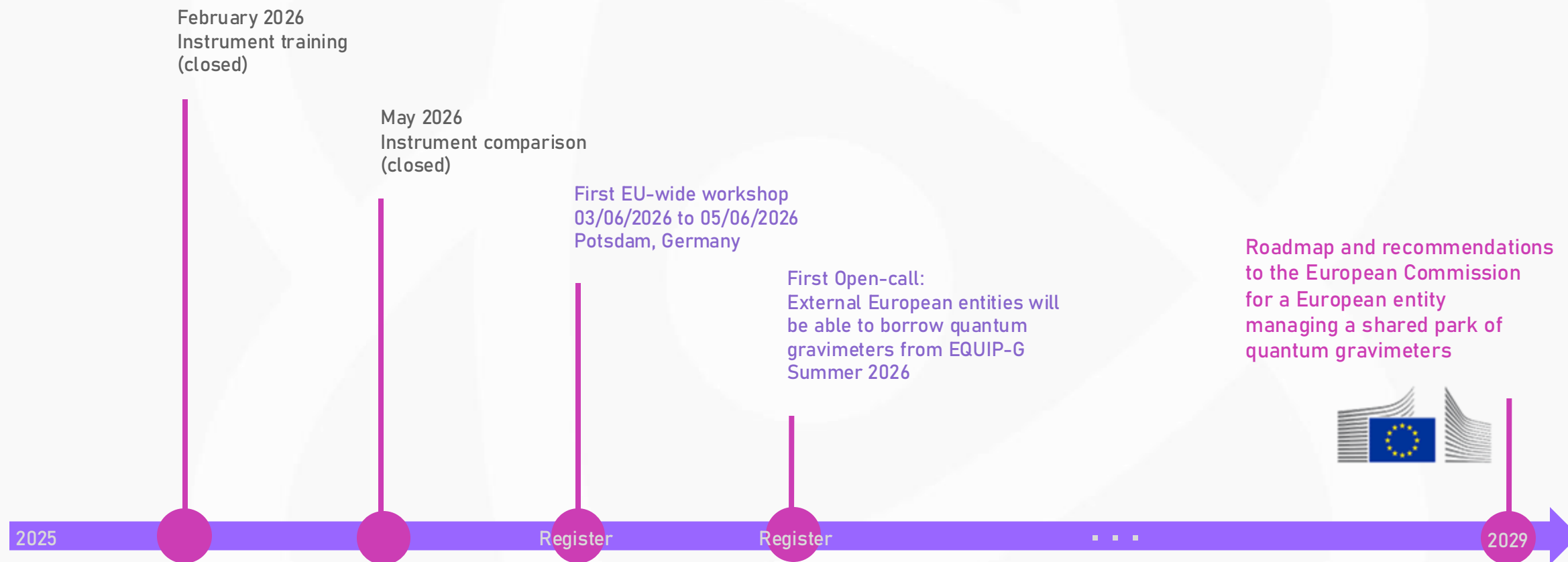
To establish a roadmap and recommendations for future European perennial entity





# EQUIP-G - Next steps for 2026

Towards the blueprint of a future European Research Infrastructure



Save the date!

# EU-wide community workshop



June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup> 2026



GFZ Helmholtz Center for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany



Stakeholders of gravimetry for Geosciences  
(scientists & engineers from research and private sector)  
European and national policy makers

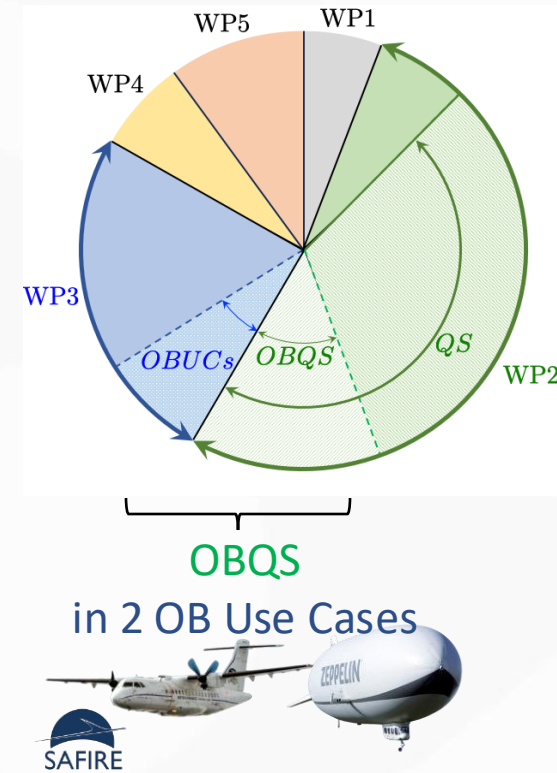
Contact (local organizing committee):  
Marvin Reich, [mreich@gfz.de](mailto:mreich@gfz.de)



# EQUIP-G - Epos-France ASG

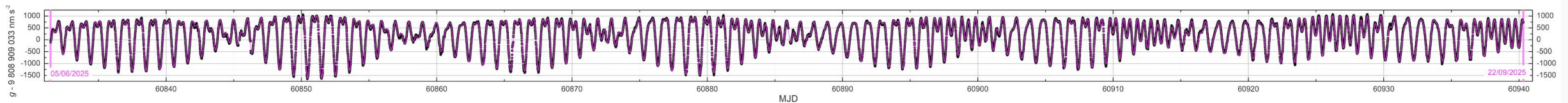
## Key role

- PI
- WP4 Leader
- Largely involved in WP2 (tests, metrology, comparisons (2), training, future QS design)
- Large budget (9.2 M€)
- 3 new instruments (4.3 M€ + insurance)
- Participate to final proposed perennial EU entity
- Futur test stations
- TCS ?
- First KPI



### QS Quantum Sensors:

- 7 Q Gravimeters (1 LTE CNRS)
- 2 Dual Q Gravimeters (1 LTE CNRS)
- 1 OB Q Gravimeter (LTE CNRS)



## Counterpart:

- AQG-B01 deployed and used in EQUIP-G

## To remember:

- Techno from French research labs, transferred to French industry*
- We need to be prepared to continue to play a key role*

 European Commission

EN

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POLICY AND LEGISLATION | Publication 02 July 2025

# Quantum Europe Strategy

The European Commission has adopted a Quantum Strategy to position Europe as a global leader in quantum by 2030.

Despite its remarkable progress in quantum technology, the EU is currently lagging behind in translating its innovation capabilities and future potential into real market opportunities, while also struggling with fragmentation of strategies and roadmaps across Member States.

While highlighting Europe's strengths, the Quantum Europe Strategy aims to turn Europe into a quantum powerhouse by fostering a resilient, sovereign quantum ecosystem, that fuels startup growth and transforms breakthrough science into market-ready applications, while maintaining its scientific leadership.



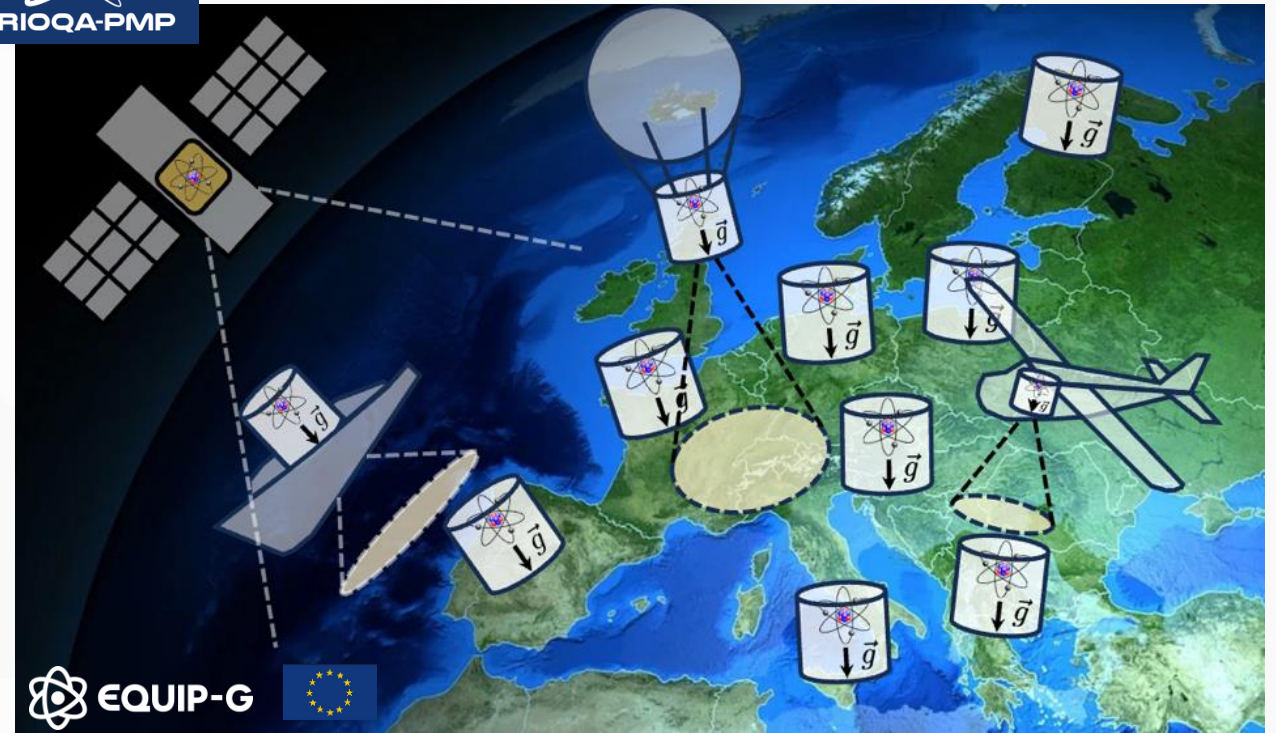
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## Pan-European quantum gravimetry infrastructure (>2030 and beyond)

- ❁ Array of quantum gravimeters (fixed terrestrial and mounted on carriers) at strategic sites
- ❁ Networked quantum sensing infrastructure covering all Europe, both land and sea
- ❁ Quantum space gravimetry pathfinder mission (complementing terrestrial network, allowing continuous monitoring of Earth's surface)



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# EQUIP-G

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Project coordination:



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PSL 

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