invitation

INTERNATIONAL MEUSE SYMPOSIUM

12th International Meuse Symposium

09 September 2026 in Liège (Belgium)

The symposium

The objective of the International Meuse Symposium is to share and exchange knowledge and expertise on (cross-border) water governance, water-related modelling, and processes concerning the hydrology and water quality of the Meuse catchment. Target audience are all scientists, water managers, and stakeholders that feel connected to the Meuse basin. The symposium series has been initiated in the course of the AMICE project in 2013 and is organized by Deltares, the Université de Liège and the Schone Maaswaterketen.

We will start in the morning with plenary talks by Michelle van Vliet (Utrecht University) and Holger Schüttrumpf (RWTH Aachen University) and an interactive session to reflect on sustainable and balanced water availability in the Meuse basin. After these plenary talks two parallel programs will start:

A) Water quantity and ecology

B) Water quality and organic micropollutants.

A poster session completes the programme. We will end the symposium with a plenary closure and reflection.

Conference information

Date: Wednesday, **09 September 2026**
Location: Liège (Belgium), Campus of the **Université de Liège** at **Sart Tilman**

The **conference language** is English. **No conference fee** is charged.

Please help us with the planning and register by filling in the online form. **Registration** for participation is open until the day of the event.

See also the **conference home page** for more information:
12th International Meuse Symposium

Photos will be taken during the symposium. A few photos will be posted on the conference website as a retrospective.

LIÈGE université Deltares SCHONEMAAS WATERKETEN

Conference venue

Building: Campus of the Université de Liège at Sart Tilman
Petits Amphithéâtres - Galerie des Arts (Bâtiment B7b)
Auditorium 142 (ground floor)
Allée du Six Août 17, Sart Tilman, Belgium

https://www.campus.uliege.be/cms/c_1804860/fr/b7b-petits-amphitheatres-galerie-des-arts

Car parking: Parking B and C
Bus: Bus stops SART-TILMAN Amphithéâtres or SART-TILMAN Chimie (amphis).
Bus lines B2 or E20 from the bus stop “Gare des Guillemins” (central station) in Liège.
Bus tickets can be purchased via the TEC app (https://www.letec.be/) or at the vending machine SELF at the station “Gare des Guillemins”, quai D.
Buses can be crowded in the morning. Take into account that the bus you have chosen may be full and you may have to take the next bus.

Accommodation and networking event

The Campus of the Université de Liège does not offer overnight accommodation. Should you already arrive in Liège the evening before the symposium, we recommend staying in one of the hotels near the Central station “Liège Guillemins”. From here, buses leave to the campus of Sart-Tilman.

In the Hotel ibis Styles Liege Guillemins, Rue Des Guillemins 135, 4000 Liège, Belgium, we will organize a drink for all symposium participants who are already in Liège. From 20h00 it is possible to join us in their bar for (a few) drinks free of charge.

INTERNATIONAL MEUSE SYMPOSIUM

Organization committee

Bernhard Becker
Deltares
P.O. Box 177
2600 MH Delft
Tel. +31 6 5241 6736
Bernhard.Becker@deltares.nl

Benjamin Dewals
Research group HECE, University of Liege (ULiège)
Allée de la Découverte 9, bât B52/3
4000 Liège
Tel. +32 4 3669283
b.dewals@uliege.be

Marjolein Jacobs-van Eerd
Schone Maaswaterketen
Postbus 4472
3006 AL ROTTERDAM
Tel. +31 6 8334 3478
Marjolein.van.eerd@rws.nl

Merle Gerritsen
Schone Maaswaterketen (Waterschap Limburg)
Postbus 2207
6040 CC Roermond
Tel. +31 6 5776 1910
M.Gerritsen@waterschaplimburg.nl

Laurène Bouaziz
Deltares
P.O. Box 177
2600 MH Delft
Tel. +31 6 1227 6078
Laurene.Bouaziz@deltares.nl

Sébastien Erpicum
Research group HECE, University of Liege (ULiège)
Allée de la Découverte 9, bât B52/3
4000 Liège
Tel. +32 4 3669596
s.erpicum@uliege.be

LIÈGE université Deltares SCHONEMAAS WATERKETEN

Programme

Please check the conference home page for updates of the conference programme.

Posters

Anicia Touraine Andersson (University of Twente)	Regional cross-border cooperation for flood risk management - practices and priorities (JCAR-ATRACE)
Sven Robertz (Waterschap Limburg)	EMR Interreg Flood Wisdom - cross-border cooperation in Euregio Meuse-Rhine
Anne Brunet (EPAMA)	Le Schéma d'Aménagement et de Gestion des Eaux de la Meuse (SAGE Meuse)
Paul Hassenjürgen (RWTH Aachen University), Marc Lennartz (GFZ Potsdam) and Bernhard Becker (Deltares)	A hydrological flood stress test for the Rur sub-catchment - concept, methods and results (JCAR-ATRACE)
Julie Collignan (INRAE)	SOS approach developed in the STARS4Water
Elisa Ragno (Delft University of Technology)	Assessing the Potential of Multivariate Probabilistic Modelling for Extreme Discharge Analysis in the Meuse River Basin (Flood Tribes)
Erwin Roex (KWR)	Sources of PFAS along the Meuse - preliminary results from the SMWK monitoring campaign
Deborah Dotta Correa (IHE Delft / Wageningen University)	Perspectives on balanced and sustainable water availability in the Meuse basin
Loek de Bonth, Yasmine Wiersema and Marjolein Jacobs-van Eerd (Schone Maaswaterketen)	Reducing harmful substances of indirect discharges in the sewer system: the Meuse approach!
Hanne Van Gompel, Merlijn Jocque and Alexander Van Braeckel (INBO)	Ecological impact of Low water Management in the Common Meuse
Walter Box (TUDelft)	Retention basins
Jannis Wilkens (RWTH Aachen University)	Quantification of the effectiveness of decentralized water retention measures in forested areas by hydrologic and hydraulic modelling
Márk Somogyvári (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)	A serious game on water cooperation and governance
Jasper Ford (RIWA Maas)	A serious game on water cooperation and governance
Paul Hudson (Leiden University)	Spatial and temporal changes to hydrograph typology of the Meuse basin over the past four decades, 1985 to 2025
You Wu & Maximilian Hermans (RWTH Aachen University)	SAFERWATER – Secure AI Framework for Enhanced Water Efficiency and Resilience
Ben Janssen & Frank Zijta (Maastricht University Medical Center)	Effect of distributing urine-collection bags on contrast-material load in wastewater

Plenary programme

Time	Speakers	Title
08:30	Doors open	
08:45	Benjamin Dewals, Laurène Bouaziz, Merle Gerritsen, Marjolein Jacobs-van Eerd, Bernhard Becker, Sébastien Erpicum	Opening
09:00	Prof. dr. Michelle van Vliet (Utrecht University)	Water scarcity under changing climate and extremes: Complex interplay of water quality, availability, and sectoral water use
09:20	Prof. Dr.-Ing. Holger Schüttrumpf (RWTH Aachen University)	The role of large dams to mitigate droughts
09:40	Deborah Dotta Correa (IHE Delft / Wageningen University)	Reflecting together on sustainable and balanced water availability in the Meuse Basin (interactive session: presentation + Mentimeter)
09:55	Break to move to the rooms for the parallel programmes	

INTERNATIONAL MEUSE SYMPOSIUM

Parallel programme A: Water quantity and transport

Time	Speakers	Title
10:05	Benjamin Dewals (Université de Liège)	Floods
10:10	Stijn Rombauts (Vlaamse Milieumaatschappij)	Moelingen/Mouland and the Berwijn/Berwinne after 3 floods in 6 years: surrender of resilience?
10:30	Tarun Sadana (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)	Cross-Scale Evaluation of NBS for fluvial flood hazard reduction
10:50	Shuyue Yu (University of Liège), Walter Bow (TU Delft), Ina Schulte (RWTH Aachen University)	Flood retention systems: benchmarking of design and sizing procedures in the Euregio territory
11:10	Coffee break & posters	
11:55	Bernhard Becker (Deltares)	High and low flows
12:00	Anaïs Couasnon (Deltares)	Using SEAS5 synthetic time series to improve extreme discharge quantification - Perspective and Challenges from the Flood Wisdom project
12:10	Alexander Van Braeckel, Hanne Van Gompel & Merlijn Jocque (INBO)	Drivers in vegetation management and flood control: the cross-border Meuse case in the Flood Wisdom project
12:20	You Wu (RWTH Aachen University)	A Regional Analysis of Hydrological Drought Under Human and Natural Impacts: A Case Study of the Rur Catchment
12:40	Hajar el Khalfi (Université de Lorraine LOTERR - Centre de recherche en Géographie)	Towards semi-distributed modelling for low-flow simulation: comparing four hydrological models in the French Meuse catchment
13:00	Lunch break & posters	
14:00	Trailer movie I'm the Meuse	
14:05	Laurène Bouaziz (Deltares)	Climate change
14:05	Christelle Dère (Service Public de Wallonie, Mobilité et Infrastructures)	Climate change impacts on Walloon waterways: a prospective study for the management of low flow periods
14:25	Olivier Machiels (Arcadis Belgium)	Assessment of the impact of climate change and future water demands on surface water availability in Walloon waterways
14:45	Frederiek Sperna Weiland (Deltares)	Rheinblick - a transboundary climate change assessment for the river Rhine - exploring possibilities to transfer the scientific methods to the Meuse
15:05	Coffee break & posters	
15:50	Sébastien Erpicum (Université Liège)	Environment and fish migration
15:55	Abdul Baqi Ahady (RWTH Aachen University)	Soil moisture thresholds identification for agricultural drought sensitivity through coupling modeled and satellite data in a humid temperate catchment
16:15	Sam Maijvis and Tom O'Mahoney (Deltares)	Fish Friendly Weir Operation in the Dutch Meuse
16:35	Utashi Ciraane (University of Liège)	Model assessing the suitability of river flows for Atlantic salmon smolts
16:55	Bernhard Becker, Benjamin Dewals, Merle Gerritsen, Marjolein Jacobs-van Eerd, Sébastien Erpicum	Closing and concluding remarks
17:10	End of symposium	

LIÈGE université Deltares SCHONEMAAS WATERKETEN

INTERNATIONAL MEUSE SYMPOSIUM

Parallel programme B: Getting grip on organic micropollutants in the Meuse Basin

Time	Speakers	Title
10:05	Roel Kwanten	Water quality modelling
10:10	Aline Grard (University of Liège - PeGIRE (Aquapôle)	Modelling of micropollutants in rivers at the watershed scale to assess the quality of water and sediments
10:30	Ivo Freriks (Rijkswaterstaat)	Monitoring and modeling microplastics in Dutch rivers and possibilities of discharge permits
10:50	Discussion	
11:10	Coffee break & posters	
11:55	Marjolein Jacobs-van Eerd	The detection of harmful substances in water
12:00	Liesa Brosens (VITO)	From source to tap: tracing back the origins of 1,2,4-triazole in Belgian drinking water
12:20	Roel Kwanten (Rijkswaterstaat)	Successful search of propamocarb in the Meuse: international cooperation between Wallonia and the Netherlands.
12:40	Discussion	
13:00	Lunch break & posters	
14:00	Trailer movie I'm the Meuse	
14:05	Merle Gerritsen	Using models to predict water quality
14:05	Joost van Dijk (Nelen-Schuurmans)	Predicting water quality using machine learning: introduction of an ML model for WFD monitoring
14:25	Melissa Palos Ladeiro (University of Reims Champagne-Ardenne)	Modelling the microbiological and ecotoxicological dynamics of transboundary water bodies using active monitoring of sentinel species and mathematical models
14:45	Discussion	
15:05	Coffee break & posters	
15:50	Marjolein Jacobs-van Eerd	The governance of water quality issues
15:55	Charlotte Offringa (Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University)	Governing Agricultural Nutrient Pollution under the Water Framework Directive: Explaining Policy Instrument Choices Across Dutch Regions.
16:15	Annemiek Pas Schrijver (Wageningen University)	A forgotten river? The status quo in the transboundary Geer
16:35	Discussion	
16:55	Bernhard Becker, Benjamin Dewals, Merle Gerritsen, Marjolein Jacobs-van Eerd, Sébastien Erpicum	Closing and concluding remarks
17:10	End of symposium	

LIÈGE université Deltares SCHONEMAAS WATERKETEN