

LYESSE LALOUI, PH.D.

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Prof. Lyesse Laloui is an active scientist at EPFL since 1994, where he directs the Soil Mechanics Laboratory as well as the Civil Engineering Section. In addition, he is the honorary director of the International Joint Research Center for Energy Geotechnics in China and until 2020 was an adjunct professor at Duke University, USA. He is also a full member of the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences. In 2021 he has been elected as the European Vice President of the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and will serve his new role between 2022-2026.

Prof. Laloui has a strong focus on sustainability and geo-energy topics. His efforts to help meet society's needs in areas such as climate change, renewable energy and the optimisation of natural resources have been recognized and awarded by European Research Council with an Advanced ERC Grant for his project BIOGEOS (BIO-mediated GEO-material Strengthening), followed by an ERC Proof of Concept Grant (PoC) in 2020. Prof. Laloui has also developed several projects for the European Commission as well as the Swiss National Science Foundation.

Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the Elsevier Geomechanics for Energy and the Environment journal, he is a leading scientist in the field of geomechanics and geo-energy. His research portfolio includes 13 written and edited books and over 350 peer reviewed papers; resulting in more than 9000 times with an h-index of 48 (Scopus). Two of his papers are among the top 1% in the field of Engineering. Prof. Laloui has given keynote and invited lectures at more than 40 leading international conferences. He received the "Excellent Contributions Award" of the International Association for Computer Methods and Advances in Geomechanics in 2008, the "2012 Vardoulakis Lecture" from the University of Minnesota, the "12th G.A. Leonards Lecture" from the University of Purdue in 2014, the "2016 RM Quigley Award" from the Canadian Geotechnical Society, the 30th Roberval Award at the French Academy of Science in 2018 and the "2020 Kersten Lecture" at the Geo-congress 2020 in Minneapolis. Prof. Laloui has four patents that he is developing in the context of three start-ups (MeduSoil, Enerdrape, Nesol), and he is also a founding partner of the international engineering company Geog.