



# THE CITÉ INTERNATIONALE

A MICROCOSM OF THE WORLD IN THE HEART OF PARIS

CITÉ  
INTERNATIONALE  
UNIVERSITAIRE  
DE PARIS







# WELCOMING

## THE WORLD'S TALENTS

The Cité internationale universitaire de Paris—a property donated by the universities of Paris—is a one-of-a-kind campus. Each year, it welcomes 12,000 students, researchers, and artists of 150 nationalities to its 43 international houses. Conceived in 1925 by a group of peacemakers and humanitarians who knew how to unite countries, governments, policy makers, and private donors around their common goals, the Cité internationale upholds the universal values they believed in by making it possible for young people from all over the world to live in a multicultural environment. The Cité internationale serves as a model for community living. The houses, each unique in its own way, were conceived to offer residents the opportunity to experience community living in an international atmosphere. The Cité internationale is a microcosm of the world in the heart of Paris—a place in which the ideas of the world of tomorrow are born.



## A true culture of hospitality

The Cité internationale universitaire de Paris has always been a trailblazer in the field of international mobility and in welcoming international students and researchers. Universities and the principal host cities around the world are in competition to offer projects and services to attract people traveling and studying abroad. With this in mind, the Cité internationale set itself the goal of cultivating a true culture of hospitality in Paris and in Île-de-France. The Cité internationale has become a true support of the international outreach policy of the Universities of Paris.



As a scale model of the world, the Cité internationale serves as a source of ideas for ways in which to foster peace, cooperation, and tolerance between nations. As a model of campus life, it regroups services that facilitate the personal growth of students and researchers by providing public and private spaces, work and living spaces, and sporting and cultural activities.

**Frédérique Vidal,**

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION,  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

## **A living environment that promotes educational success**

The Cité internationale helps young people reach their full potential by creating a living environment that promotes the success of their studies.

### **An Ideal Location**

The Cité internationale is perfectly located within the 14th arrondissement of Paris. It is extremely well connected, with a fast commute to the principal establishments of higher education, research centers, and airports. It's location in proximity to the RER B and the Tram put the Cité internationale at the heart of the Parisian and regional transport system.

### **An International Environment**

All continents are represented within the 43 country and school houses that constitute the Cité internationale. The houses are managed by, and with, our partners.

### **A Green Living Environment**

With its campus of 84 wooded acres and the 2nd largest park in Paris, the Cité internationale is a green oasis in the heart of southern Paris. For the last ten years, the park has been managed ecologically. It has an extraordinary landscape heritage that allows a significant amount of biodiversity to flourish within Paris proper. The park is composed of gardens, wooded areas, long paths lined with trees, and a large central lawn. In all, there are around 3,000 trees, 100 species of plants, and 52 species of birds.

An international environment



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**12,000**  
students and researchers

 27 countries represented

**150**  
nationalities

 43 houses

**6,500**  
housing units

 80 international partners

 1,000 cultural events organised each year

Quality services



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Services include spaces for studying, having a bite to eat, enjoying oneself, and getting involved in the community

**1**  language center

**13**  studios de musique

**5**  restaurants

**1**  coworking space

 Sporting facilities including 1 swimming pool and 8 tennis courts



**1 MAIN LIBRARY**  
WITH 50,000 WORKS  
AND 9,200 PERIODICALS

**8 libraries within the houses**

More than **50** types of sports



## Federal governance

The Cité internationale is managed by a national foundation recognised for its public service and is presided over by honorary vice-president of the Conseil d'Etat, Jean-Marc Sauvé. The national foundation ensures overall coordination and manages common services, as well as the houses not affiliated with a country or school. The Chancellery of the Universities of Paris also plays an important role, as they own the Cité internationale's cultural patrimony.

The national foundation is managed by an executive board made up of representatives from the Chancellery of the Universities of Paris, from various Ministries (Higher Education, Research and Innovation, European and International Affairs, Culture), from the City of Paris, from the Region Île-de-France, as well as other qualified individuals, elected residents, and five ambassadors. In addition, the foundations that are connected to a specific country are managed by an executive board presided over by the ambassador of that country.

## Making the success of tomorrow's talents possible

At the Cité internationale, everything we do is to foster academic success and encourage the creation of collaborative projects. There are many services made available to residents.

### Quality Campus Services

We offer an extensive array of services to our residents: libraries, auditoriums, a language lab, a coworking space, a theater, a choir, artist studios, music studios, stadiums, a pool, tennis courts, gyms, etc...

### Personalised welcome services for those traveling and studying abroad

As an active player in international mobility and with the support of its partners— notably the Region Île-de-France and the City of Paris—the Cité internationale has developed a genuine culture of hospitality. For the last 17 years, it has offered services to accompany people traveling and studying abroad, both resident and non-resident.

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**At the beginning of each academic year, the Cité internationale sets up a welcome desk—the Welcome Desk Paris—which offers services in multiple languages, and allows all administrative procedures to be taken care of in one place.**

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### An asset for parisian higher education and research

By hosting international students and researchers, the Cité internationale helps bolster the international reputation of higher education in both Paris and Île-de-France. As such, it supports the international outreach policy of the Universities of Paris and institutions of higher education and research in the Region Île-de-France.

### An opportunity for cultural outreach for partnered countries

For partnered countries, the Cité internationale's houses are an ideal way of reinforcing university partnerships with France.



© Bertrand Vacarisas

Open to the public, they offer an up close and personal look into their country's culture and promote the spread of the house country's language. Each year, the houses organise many cultural events and debates.



Thanks to the existence of institutions like the Cité internationale, students benefit from what is most seriously lacking in Paris: housing options that are compatible with their budget and their family's income.

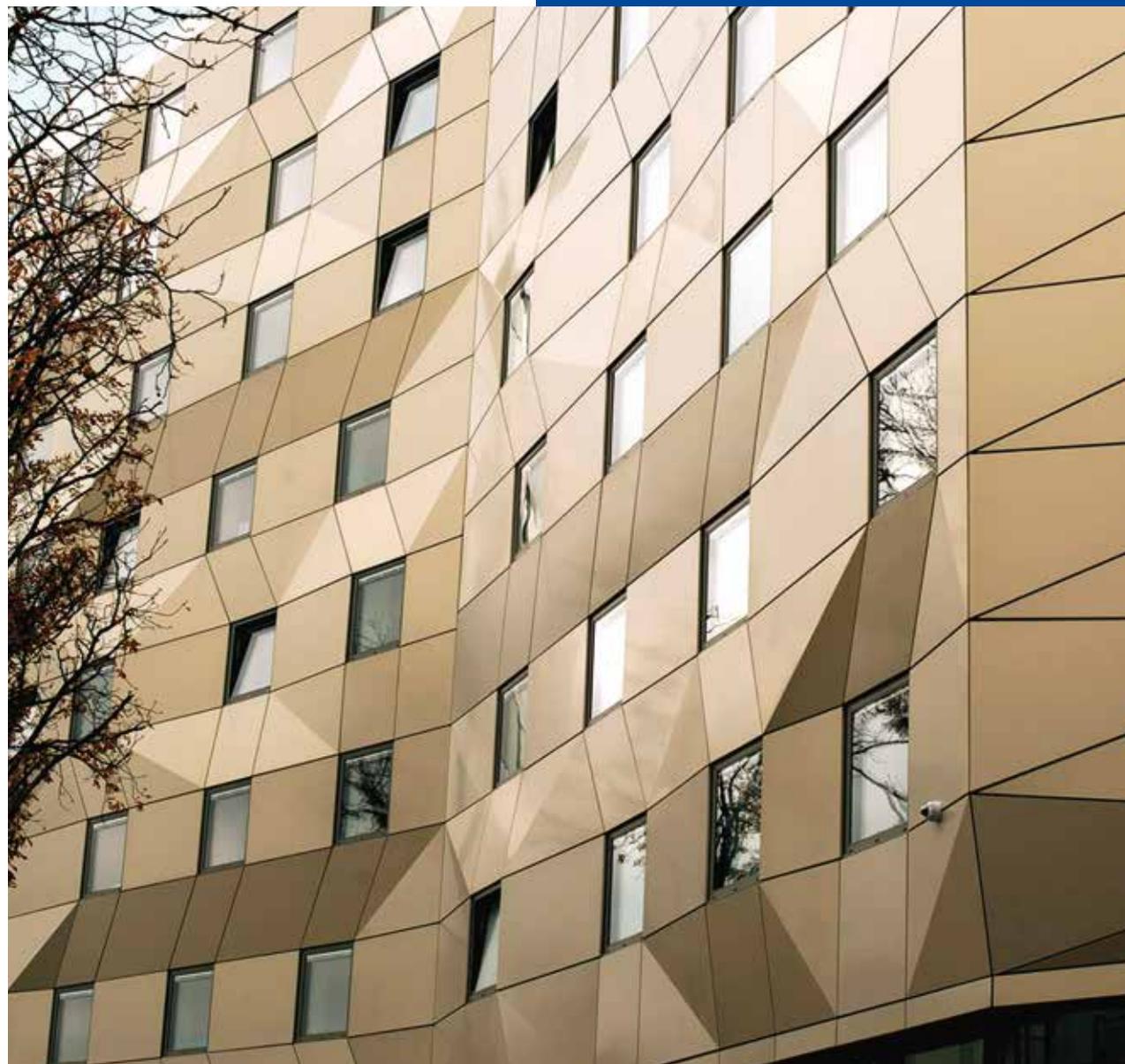
**Frédéric Mion**

DIRECTEUR OF SCIENCES PO

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**The Île-de-France House is a commendable example of sustainable development. As the first positive-energy community housing project in France, it helps raise awareness for issues surrounding climate change.**

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©Julia Grandperret - Gobelins-École de l'Image



# A SPACE

## OF CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL INFLUENCE

Conceptualised in the pacifist period between the world wars, the Cité internationale was created from a dream and the determination of a group of individuals who hoped to promote peace by creating a space where the world's youth could learn to live together. For nearly a century, it has been built around strong values: tolerance, mutual respect, solidarity, and peace. It allows its residents to live in an international, multicultural, and multilingual environment. The Cité internationale's intellectual and artistic events serve as the occasion to nurture these values by bringing in outside lecturers from universities, the political sphere, and the media.



## **The houses: windows on the cultures of the world**

Nearly 1,000 cultural events are organised each year in the Cité internationale's houses.

They are important welcoming spaces and sites of international intellectual, artistic, scholarly, and cultural exchange. As representatives of the identities of their respective countries, the houses offer programming that highlights the artistic and intellectual life of the country they represent: exhibitions, performances, concerts, projections, workshops, debates, conferences, etc...



## A melting pot

All of the campus houses intermingle nationalities with the intention of representing the largest number of different nationalities within each house. This precept is written in the statutes of the Cité internationale and allows the ideals of harmonious community living and dialogue between cultures to be put into practice, while promoting linguistic and cultural exchanges between residents. At least 30% of residents in each house are of another nationality than that of the house theme.



15 TO 70  
different nationalities per house



The Cité internationale universitaire de Paris was born from the desire to bring together people from all over the world through education, culture, and research. From these beginnings, it has continued to be a true safe haven where students and researchers of all backgrounds can come together.

**Anne Hidalgo,**

MAYOR OF PARIS

## Making creation possible

The discovery of and respect for different cultures is the foundation on which the Cité internationale is built. Since its creation, the campus has been a hotspot for culture and cultural heritage.

### A birthplace of ideas

Whether it be the houses linked to a country or the houses linked to specific schools, each has its own identity and offers, in addition to housing, common spaces that promote harmonious community living. In the houses, residents are encouraged to participate in community life and to implement communal projects.

Thanks to the intermingling of nationalities and of disciplines, students living at the Cité internationale are constantly meeting new people, exchanging ideas, and exercising their creativity. These intersections of discipline and of culture are extremely enriching and establish the Cité internationale as a place in which ideas are born.

Each house is equipped with a resident's committee that plays an essential role in the activities and the management of daily life.

### An architectural landmark

The Cité internationale, with its buildings constructed between 1925 and 1969 and 2013 and the present, is truly an open air architectural exhibition. From regional and classical to modern and sustainable, the houses embody a wide range of styles not found anywhere else in Paris. Certain houses have an architectural flair inspired by their home countries, like the Japan House with its two Foujita frescos, or the architectural style of the first house constructed at the Cité internationale, the Foundation Deutsch de la Meurthe, meant to recall the architecture of British



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**La Cité internationale est un site protégé. Cinq maisons et une partie du parc sont classées ou inscrites aux Monuments historiques.**

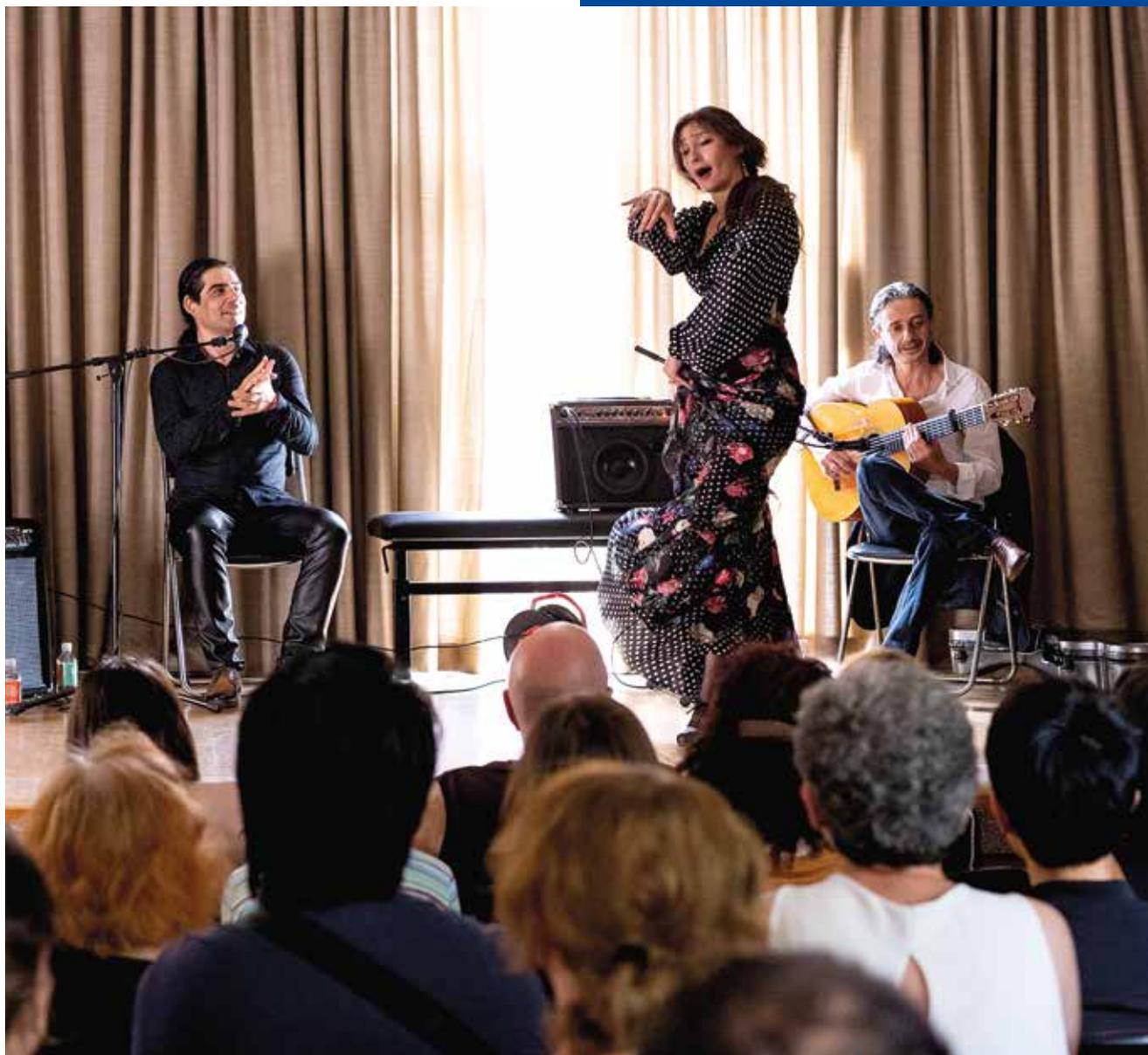
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universities. Others were designed by famous architects such as Le Corbusier (The Pavillon Suisse, Brazil House), Willem Marinus Dudok (Dutch College), or Claude Parent (Avicenne Foundation).

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**Porteuses de l'identité des pays qu'elles représentent, les maisons proposent une programmation variée mettant en valeur la vie artistique et intellectuelle du pays représenté : expositions, spectacles, concerts, projections, ateliers, débats, conférences...**

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# A SPACE

## OF OPENNESS TO THE WORLD

In total, the campus houses 12,000 students and researchers of 150 different nationalities every year. The Cité internationale's admission policies -based on academic excellence and an even distribution of nationalities -prioritizes students enrolled in a masters, PhD, or post-doctorate programs. These students, PhD candidates, and early-career researchers of all disciplines study and work in institutions of higher education and laboratories in the Île-de-France Region; they are in scientific programs, medical schools, business schools, humanities and social sciences programs, in the arts, etc...

Students and researchers living at the Cité internationale have the opportunity to live a unique, international experience.



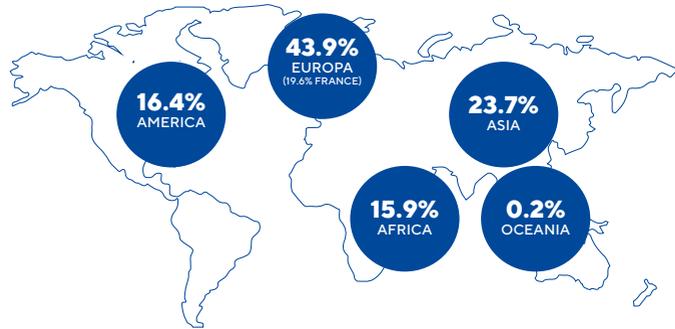
## Rich with diversity

150 countries are represented at the Cité internationale. After France, Morocco is the most represented country among resident students. Next on the list are China, United States and Tunisia.

## Establishing positive practices

Residents at the Cité internationale form a community that is active and invested in the world around them. Through their initiatives and collaborative projects that showcase both solidarity and civic engagement, they embody the values that the Cité internationale's founders held dear. Because the Cité internationale serves as both a living space and social environment to many of tomorrow's brightest thinkers, it helps establish positive practices.

## Residents at the Cité internationale



**92.4%**  
students



**57.4%**  
OF RESIDENTS STAY  
FOR BETWEEN  
6 AND 12 MONTHS

**7.4%**  
researchers

19%  
in a PhD  
program

24%  
with selective  
institutions

**0.2%**  
artists

11%  
in an  
undergraduate  
program

3.5%  
with research  
centers, and

**80%**  
international  
students

40%  
of residents are  
associated with  
universities,

13%  
with engineering  
schools

61%  
in a Master's  
program



It was here that I experienced an extraordinary intermixing of intellects and cultures. We were all citizens of a world without borders or cultural barriers.

### **Abdou Diouf,**

FORMER PRESIDENT OF SENEGAL  
AND ALUMNI OF THE LUCIEN PAYE  
FOUNDATION

**The Cité internationale serves as an important step in the lives of its residents by changing their perception of the world. Its impact on both personal and professional lives helps to build a better future.**  
[www.cite-alumni.fr](http://www.cite-alumni.fr)





© Antoine Meyssonmier

## A school of life and cultural exchange

The Cité internationale makes it possible to observe the world through a new lens. Through residents' proximity to each other, they take in the rich diversity of cultures and learn to live together in harmony. This diversity serves to inspire the creation of many projects.

### A unique experience

On campus, residents are very active in community life. They are encouraged to join in the administration, in collective life, and in campus development. They lead collaborative projects that showcase both solidarity and civic engagement in many fields, including technology, culture, peace, and sustainable development. Examples of this can be found in the Université de la paix event, the organic community garden, the second-hand shop, on campus

workshops, etc... Each year, the fund for resident initiatives helps finance selected student projects. Product of a collective effort, the *Jardin du Monde* (Garden of the World) has become a landmark at the Cité internationale. This organic community garden is a meeting space for residents to learn gardening skills and to understand nature and its needs.

### A talented community

Since its creation, the Cité internationale universitaire de Paris has welcomed nearly

450,000 students, researchers, artists, and professional athletes from all over the world (Léopold Sedar Senghor, Abdou Diouf, Sebastiao Salgado, Costa Gavras, Luc Montagnier, etc...). It has an impressive alumni network at its disposal that is made up of many talented individuals who—from within their areas of expertise—have done their part in shaping, researching, discovering, writing, composing, and constructing the world we live in today.



It is always both joyful and emotional to return to the Cité internationale. It changed my life. It is where I learned to be European.

### Carlos Moedas,

FORMER EUROPEAN COMMISSIONER FOR RESEARCH, INNOVATION,  
AND SCIENCE AND ALUMNI OF THE PORTUGAL HOUSE



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**Le Vélo volant (The Flying Bicycle) is a resident run collaborative workshop where one can rent, exchange, or learn to repair a bicycle.**

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# CITÉ2025

## A RAPIDLY GROWING CAMPUS

The Cité internationale is developing like never before thanks to the growth of international mobility and the increase in partnerships between French and foreign universities. In 2025, a century after its creation, the Cité internationale will have added 10 additional houses - 1,800 new housing units - and will have updated its facilities and services.

This momentum is supported by many partnerships: by the countries that are building new houses and by the strong backing of the City of Paris and the Region Île-de-France, the Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation, and the Chancellery of the Universities of Paris.



## Historic development

The 10 new houses to be built as part of the development project will respect the specificities of the Cité internationale and embody its values of peace, openness, and solidarity. As with all campus houses, they will strive for architectural excellence and their installation at the future site will be respectful of the existing landscape heritage. At the same time, the services offered to residents are being modernised. The park has already been enlarged and beautified with the City of Paris' addition of more than 1,500 trees. The Cité internationale is highly ambitious, striving to be a campus with international standards that serves as an example of innovation and sustainable development by 2025.



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With the Korea House, we hope to contribute to the vitality of the Cité internationale and to the strengthening of scholarly and cultural exchange and cooperation between Korea and France.

**Jong-moon Choi,**

AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO FRANCE

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**South Korea, the first country to join the Cité internationale in 50 years, opened its house in September of 2018.**

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## Cité 2025's 10 houses

### **Additions to the India House :**

77 rooms (2013)

### **Île-de-France House :**

142 rooms, built by the Region Île-de-France (September 2017).

### **The Victor Lyon Foundation:**

39 family housing units for researchers, renovated by the real estate agency of the City of Paris - RIVP (September 2018)

### **Julie-Victoire Daubié :**

108 housing units for researchers (September 2018).

### **Francophone Student's House :**

300 housing units (beginning of 2021).



The Cité internationale plays a historic role in promoting peace between nations by encouraging international exchange. By joining the foundations already in existence, Egypt hoped to play a part in this noble and ambitious effort. The Egypt House - a project that is already well under way - attests to the successful collaboration between France and Egypt and to the historically friendly relations that join our countries together.

**Ehab Badawy,**

AMBASSADOR OF EGYPT TO FRANCE

### **Korea House :**

250 rooms (September 2018)

### **The Chinese Foundation - Garden of Harmony:**

300 rooms (end of 2022)

### **Pavillon Habib Bourguiba of the House of Tunisia:**

203 rooms (autumn 2020)

**Egypt House :** architectural project selected in 2019

**One remaining lot for construction has not yet been attributed.**



## Updated Sports Areas

**Multiple large sporting facilities have also been renovated.**

The rugby and soccer stadiums, as well as 4 tennis courts, are entirely new. Nearly 50 choices of sporting activities are offered to residents each year. The swimming pool has been renovated as well.

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The Foundation of China whose name He Yuan means Garden of Harmony.

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We build  
strong ties

Fondation nationale  
reconnue d'utilité publique  
par décret du 6 juin 1925

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