

Dr. Fabiola Gianotti has been selected as the next Director-General of CERN, beginning on January 1, 2016 for a period of five years. She will be the first woman to be selected for this prestigious position.

She joined CERN in 1987 and worked on various experiments, most recently as the spokesperson for the ATLAS collaboration at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), one of the world's largest scientific experiments.

Dr. Gianotti, a member of the Accademia dei Lincei in Italy, has received numerous Scientific honors and awards including: the Gold Medal from the Milan Municipality, the 2012 Special Fundamental Physics Prize, a doctorate honoris causa from the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), and most recently the Niels Bohr Institute Medal of Honour for her contribution to the ATLAS experiment at CERN, and for her promotion of science.

Dr. Gianotti is one of the most influential women in the world, included among the “Top 100 most inspirational women” by The Guardian newspaper in the UK in 2011, chosen as a runner-up for Time magazine’s 2012 “Person of the Year,” included among the “Top 100 most powerful women” by Forbes magazine in 2013 and considered among the “Leading global thinkers of 2013” by Foreign Policy magazine.

Dr. Gianotti holds a Ph.D. in experimental particle physics from the University of Milan. Since 2013 she is an honorary professor at the University of Edinburgh. A trained pianist, Dr. Gianotti also has a professional music diploma from the Milan Conservatory.