



DR. DIEGO MARTÍNEZ PLAZA

Managing Director at EU-SOLARIS ERIC

Holds a PhD in Engineering from the University of Seville (2013). In April 1990, he joined the Plataforma Solar de Almería (PSA-CIEMAT) as a testing engineer and he has worked always in the field of the application of concentrated solar radiation to very high temperature industrial processes and materials.

From 2003 to 2012, he was the Director of the PSA-CIEMAT, which is a worldwide leading centre in R&D about concentrating solar radiation. Later, he left that position to become principal investigator in the solar energy group at the Qatar Foundation's Research Institute on Environment and Energy. After more than three years at this institution, he returned to PSA-CIEMAT in 2016.

Since 2018, he has been responsible for coordinating activities and actions for the creation of the European research infrastructure for concentrated solar power/solar thermal energy. As a result of his work (and that of many others), at the end of 2022, the European Commission approved the establishment of this European research infrastructure consortium (EU-SOLARIS ERIC), led by Spain, with the aim of becoming the European reference infrastructure for the technological development of solar thermal technology and its applications within the framework of the global energy transition towards a decarbonized model.

Currently, since January 2023, he is the Managing Director of EU SOLARIS ERIC.