

# **SETI in France**

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The search of extraterrestrial intelligence in France started more than four centuries ago with a book by the philosopher and astronomer Fontenelle. One famous facility is the Nançay station built 50 years ago. This couldn't have happened without public funds.

The SETI@HOME software and some SETI League related activities have helped to make SETI known in France, but this is just a kind of candle in the dark. The public research organizations in France are in big trouble, but we need their support to make science go forward and come to be taught to students.

By drawing a history of SETI in France, we will see how public and private initiatives must begin to collaborate.