

How to Activate a Solaris Cell?

While creating an email and a Telegram group for your cell is a good start, **a cell only becomes truly active when it has held physical meetings.** Until then, it is not active and cannot achieve anything.

The digital tools that help us deploy the network are **not an end in themselves**—they are simply practical means. **Only the meeting of cell members marks the beginning of its activity.** Without meetings, there is no cell.

When members meet, it is suggested that they **introduce themselves**, specify **where they are from**, and **what skills they can contribute** to the mutual aid network, as well as to the **internal functioning of the cell.**

For example, they may have:

- A room available to host meetings.
- The profile and dynamism to be one of the cell's coordinators or its first referent.

It is also important for everyone to share **what motivated them to join Solaris.**

When people get to know each other, **trust can be established.** Only then can the cell begin to **compile its local directory.** This can start at the first meeting or later.

This implicitly means that **someone will need to take charge of the directory**, at least provisionally, as the cell's referent. **No one other than the referents should have access to this directory**, and it should **not be shared or circulated.** This local directory should also **not be sent to cantonal coordinators.**

Entering the directory is not a requirement to join Solaris. One can join when they feel ready. However, it is important to understand that **until you are listed in the directory, you are not actively contributing to the mutual aid network**—you benefit from it but do not help, as no one will contact you.

The directory is **what fuels the search engine of this human internet.** It is through the directory that **requests and responses, needs and resources, will connect.**

For Information to Circulate Properly in the Network:

- **All members should subscribe** to the **Telegram channels for Suisse Romande and their canton.**
- **Regularly check** the website SolarisSuisse.ch.

Roles in a Cell

1. Members

Members work **for the cell and the common good.**

This requires:

- **Leaving egos and personal activism at the door**—regardless of individual beliefs, opinions, or commitments outside of Solaris.
- **Focusing on the concrete operation** of a mutual aid and benevolence network, driven by **collective intelligence** toward a higher purpose beyond personal concerns.

Each member is **sovereign** and strives for greater sovereignty while **respecting others' skills** and placing trust in others where they themselves lack expertise. This balance requires **inner vigilance** in each person's relationships with others.

Each member **freely takes their place** based on their skills, motivations, availability, and passions. This is what they contribute to the **collective intelligence at work**.

Note: While not a strict rule, experience shows that the **ideal size for a well-balanced cell is between 15 and 30 members**. In rural or urban areas, if a cell exceeds **50 members**, it may be wise to **split into multiple cells** (by neighborhood or village). Again, this is not an absolute rule.

2. Coordinators

The **coordinators of a Solaris cell** are responsible for:

- Ensuring the cell **functions optimally**.
- Maintaining **communication with coordinators of neighboring cells and the canton**.
- Stimulating the **development of the radio network** and the cell's own activities.
- Upholding the **Spirit of SOLARIS**, just like every cell member.

They should have a **dynamic profile** that energizes the group.

Coordinators also:

- **Organize meetings** within their cell, as well as **meetings between coordinators and cells**.
 - **Cells should not be isolated**—they should **interact**, especially with neighboring cells, to **build trust and synergy**.
 - Members can **physically participate in multiple neighboring cells**.
 - **Coordinators of neighboring cells must know each other physically and have met in person**.

Coordinators **volunteer** for the role or may be asked by cell members. Their tenure can be **temporary or permanent**, depending on their availability and the trust placed in them by members. **There should be at least three coordinators per cell**.

Conflict Resolution:

- Conflicts may arise (as human nature dictates). These should be **managed at the cell or cantonal level**, depending on the situation.
- Not everyone may agree with a cell's direction, but **as long as it respects the Spirit of Solaris and its ethics, the essentials are preserved**.
- If **trust in a coordinator or referent is seriously questioned** by cell members, that person **should step down**. If they do not, they **must be removed and replaced**. Simply notify the **cantonal coordinators**. If it involves a **cantonal coordinator**, notify the **national coordination**.

3. Cantonal Coordinators

Cantonal coordinators also:

- **Administer the Telegram channel and cantonal email** to update the list of new cells and publish useful information for the canton.
- **Get help managing the cantonal email**.

Recommendation: There should **always be at least 3 coordinators** at both the **cell and cantonal levels**, but more may be needed in **denser areas**. In such cases, coordinators can **divide the territory** for greater efficiency.

Cantonal coordinators should, **if possible, meet or exchange** (via video conference or phone) to **share experiences**, as this benefits everyone.

Important: The **hierarchy from local cell coordination to canton, region, and national levels does not represent a power structure.** Instead, think of it as a **zoom lens**—adjusting the focus to administer the territory at the appropriate level.

4. Referents

The **referents of a Solaris cell** are the **local keepers of the cell's directory.** They are the ones contacted for requests and act as the **search engine of the human internet that is Solaris.** This is a **real responsibility** that requires a **sense of service and care for others.**

- **Each cell has its own directory, visible only to its referents.** Neighboring cells **do not have access,** nor do the cell's coordinators—**to protect private data.**
- **Directories are not shared or circulated.**

Referents are responsible for:

- Keeping their directory **up to date,** including a **printed version.**
- Contacting referents from neighboring cells if a request **cannot be fulfilled within their own cell.**

Referents of neighboring cells must know each other physically and have met in person. Human connection is always the foundation of good cooperation.

Conclusion

These are **common-sense principles** that outline an **optimal framework** for the human network that is Solaris. However, as always, **it is up to you locally,** based on the **specifics of your area,** to **adapt and optimize these principles** as needed.