José Ignacio Sánchez Galán

(Salamanca, Espanha, 1950)

PROFESSIONAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE

Position: Full Member and Chairman of Neoenergia's Board of Directors
Date of most recent election: August 22, 2025

Current professional positions and activities

He is also a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Chairman of Iberdrola S.A., as well as Chairman of the Boards of Directors of AVANGRID, Inc. and ScottishPower Ltd. (the Iberdrola Group's subholding companies in the United States and the United Kingdom, respectively).

He is a member of the Boards of Trustees of Fundación Princesa de Asturias, Fundación Carolina, Fundación Universitaria Comillas-ICAI, Fundación Conocimiento y Desarrollo, Real Instituto Elcano and Real Patronato del Museo del Prado.

He is a member of the electricity industry chief executives' group of the World Economic Forum (Davos), the European Round Table for Industry (ERT), the Global Leadership Council of UNICEF's Generation Unlimited Organization, the Renewable Hydrogen Coalition and the J.P. Morgan International Council. In Spain, he is a member of Círculo de Empresarios Vascos, Círculo de Empresarios (Madrid), Círculo de Economía and Asociación para el Progreso de la Dirección (APD).

Personal background and education

Married with four children, Ignacio Galán holds a degree in Industrial Engineering from the Escuela Superior de Ingeniería (ICAI) at Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Madrid). He also holds qualifications in Business Administration and Foreign Trade from ICADE at Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Madrid), and in General Corporate Management and Foreign Trade from the Escuela de Organización Industrial (EOI) in Madrid.

He holds honorary doctorates from the Universities of Salamanca, Comillas (Madrid), Edinburgh and Strathclyde (Glasgow). He was a visiting professor at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería (ICAI) and is a visiting professor at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Chairman of the Social Council of the University of Salamanca and a member of the Presidential Advisory Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

He speaks English, French, Italian and Portuguese.

Experience in the energy sector

In the industrial engineering sector, he served as Chief Operating Officer of Industria de Turbo Propulsores, S.A. (ITP) and as Chairman of Eurojet, the European aerospace consortium headquartered in Germany. He also held various management positions at Sociedad Española del Acumulador Tudor, S.A. (now Exide Group), which manufactures and sells batteries. From 2014 to 2016, he chaired the electricity group of the World Economic Forum (Davos).

Experience in other sectors

He was CEO of Airtel Móvil, S.A. (now Vodafone España, S.A.U.) and a member of the Supervisory Board of Nutreco Holding N.V., a publicly listed company in the Netherlands operating in the food sector. He was also a founding partner and director of Grupo Matarromera, which is engaged in viticulture and the production of wine and olive oil.

Other information

Among other distinctions, in 2026 he was named an Honorary Member of the Madrid Association of Economists and awarded the Gold Medal of the La Granda Courses (Asturias). In 2025, he received the Best European Utilities CEO award at the Extel 2025 Awards Europe & Emerging EMEA Equities, as well as the International Energy Award 2025, presented by the International Foundation for Energy & Sustainable Development, and was named Businessperson of the Year 2025 by Universitat Pompeu Fabra – Barcelona School of Management.

In 2023, he was included in the TIME100 Climate list, which brings together the 100 most influential leaders driving business action on climate; received the Best Business Leadership in the Energy Transition award, presented by El Periódico de la Energía; was recognized for the twelfth time as Best CEO of European Electric Utilities by the Institutional Investor Research Group; and received the José Echegaray Award from Ecoprensa, which honors internationally prominent figures who contribute to promoting the liberal spirit and ideology. He also received the World Jurist Association's Medal of Honor for promoting ESG principles and the ESG Leadership Award from The Foreign Policy Association. In 2020, he received the Management Leadership Award from the Spanish Association for Quality (AEC) and the Business Career Award from elEconomista.

In 2019, he was selected as one of the world's five best CEOs in the Harvard Business Review ranking and recognized by Bloomberg as one of the 30 leaders in the fight against climate change. He also received the 2019 National Innovation and Design Award in the Innovative Career category, presented by the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities; El Español's León Award for Best Business Management of 2019; and an Honorable Mention for his professional career from the Official Association of Industrial Engineers of Madrid. He was also named Español Universal 2018 by Fundación Independiente. In 2018, he was named an Honorary Member of the Engineering Institute of Spain. In 2014, he received the international Responsible Capitalism Award, presented by First Group, and was also appointed Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II.

In 2008, he was named Business Leader of the Year by the Spain–U.S. Chamber of Commerce and, in 2006, he received the CEO of the Year award at the Platts Global Energy Awards.