

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL BLACKOUT : INITIATIVES

Patrick Lagadec, publié sur Linked In le 29 avril 2025

The whole would call for international initiatives (public and private) to learn from the event. And specifically, beyond what we already know:

- the key surprises,
- the hidden vulnerabilities and explosive chain effects,
- the best reactions (from those in charge, and from those impacted, including the citizens),
- the decisions that the best organizations are considering,
- the information and the difficulties encountered,
- the kind of national and European exercises to be organized now,
- and obviously the actions to be taken to prevent total black-outs.

After the Ice storm in Quebec and Ontario (January 1998), after the Toronto SARS epidemic (2003), after Katrina (2005), Électricité de France and Paris Airports decided to send a team to learn everything that could be learnt.

And it really proved useful: less than a year after the ice storm, France was deeply impacted by two giant storms; the lessons learnt in Montreal were instantly applied.

I remember the Whitney bank experience, during Katrina. They had a well designed backup system, but the blackout was so large that it was rapidly insufficient. It was decided to relocate the backup servers very far from the South.