## MIND

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Probes in progress: know more.

A source of light, life and energy, the Sun is at the heart of the concerns of part of the scientific community. Indeed, the threat of a solar storm constantly hangs over our planet.

These gigantic masses of waves and particles, released unpredictably on the surface of the Sun, can severely damage human-made networks.

While the most recent storm narrowly avoided Earth in 2017, our planet has already experienced other large-scale solar flares. In 2003, one of them caused a power failure in Malmö and the loss of contact with two Japanese satellites.

Even more impressive, the solar storm of 1989 plunged Canada into darkness and cut off the heating network for six hours in the middle of winter.

Linked to fluctuations in the solar wind, a phenomenon discovered a little over half a century ago, these eruptions have far from having revealed all their secrets: to this day, science remains unable to predict their occurrence.

But that may soon change: Two missions - one from NASA, the other from the European Space Agency - are currently underway to take measurements as close as possible to the solar star. Using two probes put into orbit, Parker Solar Probe and Solar Orbiter, American and European scientists are seeking to better define this phenomenon which, according to initial observations, seems much more complex than previously believed. here.

Documentary by Lars Ole Reimer (Germany, 2020, 53mn)







youtube.com/watch?v=q1w8Blpi-uw

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