The International Astronautical Congress (IAC)
The world’s premier space event

What is the IAC?
The IAC is the one place and time of the year where all global space actors come together. The event attracts more than 3000 participants each year.

Covering all space sectors and topics, it offers everyone the latest space information and developments in academia and industry, networking opportunities, contacts and potential partnerships.

Each year, the IAC changes country, theme and local organiser, enabling all to learn more about, and be a part of the world space scene.

About the IAC 2016
The 67th IAC with the theme ‘Making Space Accessible and Affordable to All Countries’ is hosted by the Mexican Space Agency, and shall take place in Guadalajara, Mexico, 26 – 30 September 2016.

Mexico is in a new era and space is an enabler of new achievements and inspiration in science and technology. For all nations the access to space is a door to progress. But to make space accessible, it needs to be affordable and international collaboration must play an important role to make sure everyone can become a significant international space player.

A Platform for All
Scientists, researchers and engineers: Present your latest work during the technical sessions and keep up-to-date on global developments

Agency officials: Highlight your latest news, interact with and get feedback from the full range of space stakeholders

Industry representatives: Showcase your latest innovations and drive new partnerships

Students and young professionals: A dedicated programme provides you with maximum networking and career development opportunities

Policy-makers: See how space services can be the answer to a range of national and international needs and challenges

Astronauts: Share your experience and vision for space exploration with one of the most heterogeneous audiences world wide

Press members: Hear the latest on space developments and exploitations, direct from the world’s leading space actors

General public: Learn more about the global space community, its science and key actors

Local organizer: Attract the global space community and highlight your country’s space activities

Heads of Agencies events
Outreach Activities
Young Professionals’ events
IAC Exhibition
Associated and Side Events – Such as the Global Networking Forum and UN/IAF Workshop. These complement the diverse IAC programme, covering niche topics or the needs of dedicated stakeholders within the space community.

Exhibition – Where all parts of the space sector showcase their latest work, and build business networking events.

Social programme – Introducing the local space and cultural environment.

Sponsorship and Exhibition
The IAC is a unique opportunity to be seen, heard and appreciated by one of the biggest and widest space audiences of the year. There are multiple opportunities to get involved and be visible in the organisation or programme of the congress.

For detailed information on sponsorship and exhibition opportunities at IAC 2016 see www.iac2016.org or contact giuliamaria.berardi@iafastro.org and Isabella.marchisio@iafastro.org

The structure behind it
Technical Programme – Presenting scientific and technological breakthroughs, technical sessions provide the latest advances in space science, research, technology, exploration, regulation and education. More than 1000 papers are presented annually.

Plenary Programme – High-level speakers present the latest trends and insights in space research, technology and exploration. During thematic sessions, plenaries, highlight lectures and late-breaking news sessions, experts discuss and answer questions on the latest space developments.

Registration
Registration for IAC 2016 is open – You can register on the Congress website www.iac2016.org. For more on the IAC, see www.iac2016.org
Guadalajara, Mexico

Guadalajara is Mexico’s second biggest city. This is the birthplace of mariachi music and tequila, but also one of the country’s industrial and business centers, sometimes referred to as Mexico’s Silicon Valley. Capital of the state of Jalisco, Guadalajara is an elegant city, and at the same time a partying city: there is no shortage of traditional mariachi, lively bars and tequila. A stroll through Guadalajara will give you an appreciation for the green spaces and public art in the city’s many parks and plazas. At the heart of Guadalajara is the cathedral. The adjacent Government Palace has a strikingly baroque facade and a spectacular mural in the interior main staircase, which was painted by Jose Clemente Orozco. Guadalajara’s name is etched in the façade of the Teatro Degollado in this beautiful neoclassical building dating to 1814. The Plaza Tapatia is here and stretches over half a mile to the neoclassical Catedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Whether you choose to explore the city on foot, double-decker bus or carriages (horse-drawn carriage), you’ll find that Guadalajara’s numerous plazas, colonial architecture and modern conveniences make this a delightful city to visit.

The surrounding of Guadalajara are also worth a visit. San Sebastian del Oeste, the best place to look at the stars, is a small town where, looking at the horizon, the sky blends with the blue of the Pacific Ocean and, at night, the sky lights up with hundreds of stars. Lake Chapala, the largest water reservoir in Mexico, a place of recreational and tranquility, one of the most charming places in the world, perfect to relax. Tapalpa and Mazamitla, the magic towns offering fun adventures in their forests. Los Camarones Beach and the Guaira Blanca Beach, two certified beaches with incredible abundance of crustaceans and local cuisine. The Plaza Tapatio begins here and stretches over half a mile to the heart of Guadalajara is the cathedral. The adjacent Government Palace in this beautiful neoclassical building dating to 1814. The Plaza Tapatia is here and stretches over half a mile to the neoclassical Catedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. 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