

Polish statement

The space sector is now one of the most modern and technologically advanced industries with increasing significance for the global economy. Speaking of the development of space technologies it should be remembered that they have been, and still are, developed as a result of scientific research. It is development of the basic sciences: astronomy, physics, mechanics, electronics and nanotechnology, that allows to build increasingly sophisticated devices and instruments; it is thanks to the basis sciences that today we have satellites, spacecrafts and the International Space Station. Therefore, equally important to the space industry building is to support science at the global, European and national levels.

Poland, a country that has recently become the 20th member of the European Space Agency, is also taking part in the development of the space activity. The Polish tradition of interest in the space dates back to the fifteenth century. The Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus made the first scientific revolution in this field. The Polish astronomer Johannes Hevelius constructed one of the first modern astronomical instruments. Polish astronomers, including Alexander Wolszczan, Maciej Konacki or Andrzej Udalski, make discoveries in the universe today. In the field of space technology development we also have achievements to be proud of. Our flagship scientific unit, the Space Research Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences, builds high-quality research instruments that have been used in the missions such as Rosetta, Cassini-Huygens and Mars Express, ExoMars and at the Herschel Space Observatory. Polish antennas built by Technical University of Wroclaw are working at the International Space Station. The first two scientific satellites were built last years as part of the Polish-Canadian-Austrian programme BRITE. Young Poles are also active in the space sector. In 2012, the PW-Sat satellite built by students of the Warsaw University of Technology was launched into the Earth's orbit. The next one will be launched next year. Each year robots built by students from the technical universities from Poland are winning the prestigious international contest Rover Challenge organized by The Mars Society. These achievements are treated not only as a confirmation of the quality of Polish science and technology, but also as our contribution to the implementation of the European Space Policy.

Polish Universities and Academia make research in the field of climate change and Earth protection. But Big Data management is the priority for our country. The modern Earth Observation test bed platform was designed by Polish company Creotech Instrument in the frame of ESA programme. The modern solutions and applications will be created on the base of it. We want to build the multi-subject platform on European level, based on the data from the Sentinels' constellation.

Poland wholly subscribes to the view presented in space manifesto and declares the cooperation in its realisation. Polish Universities and Academia are open to teamwork with partners from all around the world and thanks to their experience, knowledge and pursuit to make the best use of the Polish science and technology potential can significantly contribute to the growth of global innovation.