



2025 IPMC Young Professionals Workshop at the 76th IAC

Sydney, Australia

Sunday September 28th, 2025

Deadline extended

Call for Delegate Nominations for the 2025 IPMC Young Professionals Workshop

Goal: The IAF's International Project/Programme Management Committee (IPMC) strives to support a better inclusion of Young Professionals in the international space industry and the development of the next generation workforce. Every year, the IPMC organizes the Workshop for Young Professionals, with the goal to collect findings and recommendations that can help bridge the generational gap in the workplace and improve the way projects are collectively executed.

We would like your organization to nominate delegates for this workshop and represent their views in this international forum. The nominations shall be sent to the Workshop Organizing Committee at ipmc.yp.workshop@gmail.com **by November 22nd**, 2024. Nominations shall include all of the following:

- Name of the IAF-affiliated entity nominating the Young Professional(s)
- Name, Surname, Job Title and email address of the person nominating the Young Professional(s)
- Name, Surname and email address of the nominated Young Professional(s)
- Short endorsement message to support the nomination and highlight the candidate(s)' key strengths
- Confirmation that each nominated Young Professional has been granted preliminary authorization (and will be financially supported) for the registration, travel and attendance to the Workshop Final Event at the 76th IAC in Sydney Australia
- Attachments: CV and Motivation Letter for each nominated Young Professional. The Motivation Letter shall include an indication of the Young Professional's preferred workshop topic.

Eligible delegates would fit the profile of a young professional. Young professionals are typically defined as being age 35 and under and having at least one to two years of experience on a project team and/or in the aerospace industry. A diversity of backgrounds (e.g., engineering, management, science, etc.) is encouraged in order to produce thoughtful and well-rounded observations and recommendations that will be presented to the IPMC and IAF community.

Selected delegates are expected to take part in the remote / online workshop activities, and to attend the workshop's Final Event in person, as well as the International Astronautical Congress (IAC). The delegates will be assigned to teams working fully online on the workshop topics until the day of the final event. To each team, a mentor will be assigned to support the working group advance in their research. The kickoff meeting is foreseen **by early December 2024**. Online attendance of the selected delegates is required.

For the 2025 Workshop, **four topics** have been defined:

Project management and collaboration etiquette in the era of globalization and digitalization – How to ensure maximum participation and productivity in teams whose members are from different geographies and cultural backgrounds? Which are the non-negotiable rules of professional etiquette in the global space community? What can project managers do to ensure their behaviors come across as respectful and well-meant, in spite of the unavoidable differences and possible mistakes in cross-cultural collaboration?

Space organizations balancing innovation and risk – How can space organizations, directly or indirectly, promote innovation and make it compatible with sound, rigorous project execution? What balance is sought between innovating and managing risk? Which avenues are in place to foster innovation within core-project activities, especially leveraging fresh ideas by young professionals?

Project Manager and Project Technical Authority: contributing to project success with different roles, skills and career paths – How do proper interplay and balance between the Project Manager and the Project Technical Authority look like in a successful space project? What are the main differing priorities and sources of conflict between these two roles, and how can they be reconciled? Which competencies or techniques can assist Project Managers and Technical Authorities in working effectively together?

Artificial Intelligence in the Project Management Office – How can Artificial Intelligence be safely applied to reduce the clerical administrative burden on project teams? Which tasks or processes are more suitable to be automated through use of AI? What changes in skills and competences of PMO personnel would be needed to cope with implementation of Artificial Intelligence in their duties?

The Young Professionals Workshop culminates in a one-day in-person event where delegates present their results to the IPMC and a wider IAC audience. This final meeting is held in connection with the 76th IAC, which will enable delegates to interact with senior professionals and field experts.

Delegates will also have a chance to submit their results to the IAF paper selection process and – if successful – present their paper in the appropriate IAC Technical Session.

For more details on the workshop, the topics, and expected workload, please see the [Statement of Work](#).

Please note that registration to the 76th IAC and in-person attendance to the Final Event are required to participate in the workshop.

Also note that the YP Workshop organization does not provide grants for delegates to attend the Final Event and the IAC, nor does the IAF. Delegates are responsible for their own funding. Nominating organizations are strongly encouraged to financially support their delegates.

Additional information on the IAF, IPMC and IAC can be found at [IAF](#) as well as [IAC 2025](#). Questions on the Young Professionals Workshop can be addressed to ipmc.y.p.workshop@gmail.com.

Kind Regards,

2025 IPMC Young Professionals Workshop Organizing Committee
ipmc.y.p.workshop@gmail.com