

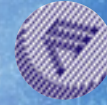
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# GLEX2025

GLOBAL SPACE EXPLORATION  
CONFERENCE

# HIGHLIGHTS



7-9 May 2025 | New Delhi, INDIA भारत

*Reaching New Worlds: A Space Exploration Renaissance*



# WELCOME MESSAGE

This year's IAF Global Space Exploration Conference, held from 7–9 May in the vibrant and bustling capital of India, New Delhi, marked a historic milestone for our global space community. Hosted by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and co-hosted by the Astronautical Society of India (ASI), GLEX 2025 brought together over 1,500 participants from 36 countries, making it the largest IAF Global Conference to date.

Embracing the powerful theme *“Reaching New Worlds: A Space Exploration Renaissance”*, the conference fostered inspiring discussions, strong partnerships, and bold visions for the future - from human lunar missions to international cooperation on the next frontier. I would like to echo what His Excellency Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India said during his GLEX inaugural speech: “space is about exploration as much as empowerment”. I hope GLEX 2025 empowered all its delegates with the tools and connections needed to continue the space exploration efforts.

It was also great to see the remarkable engagement of ten astronauts from around the world. The IAF International Astronauts Chapter at GLEX 2025 featured pioneers such as the first Indian, first Turkish, and first Emirati, and the first commercial astronauts - each sharing deeply personal insights about their journeys beyond Earth.

Let us continue to build on the momentum of GLEX 2025 as we embark on a new chapter in space exploration together. Enjoy this booklet capturing the main highlights from the conference.

Looking ahead, the IAF Global Conferences journey will continue in Kigali, Rwanda with the IAF Global Space Conference on Climate Change (GLOC 2026) on 2-4 June 2026, following the successful GLOC 2023 in Oslo, Norway.

Clay Mowry  
*President,*  
*International Astronautical Federation (IAF)*

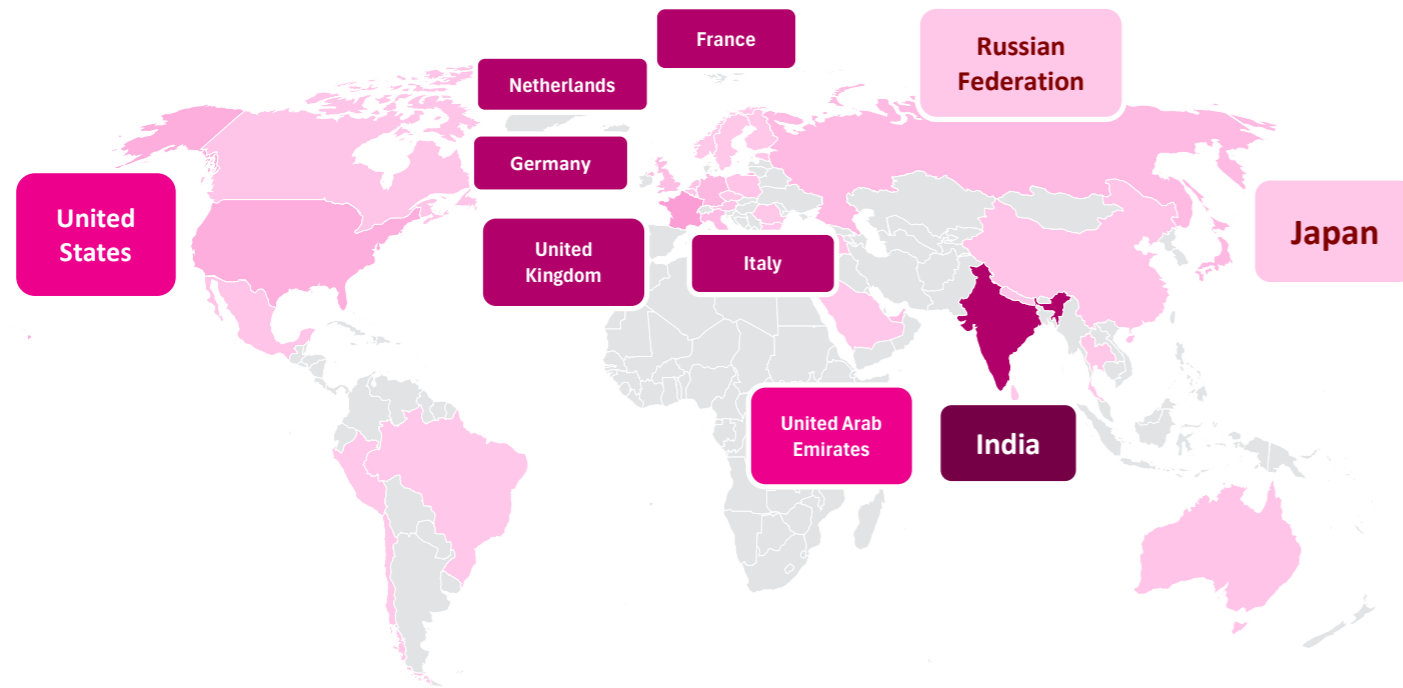


# STATISTICS

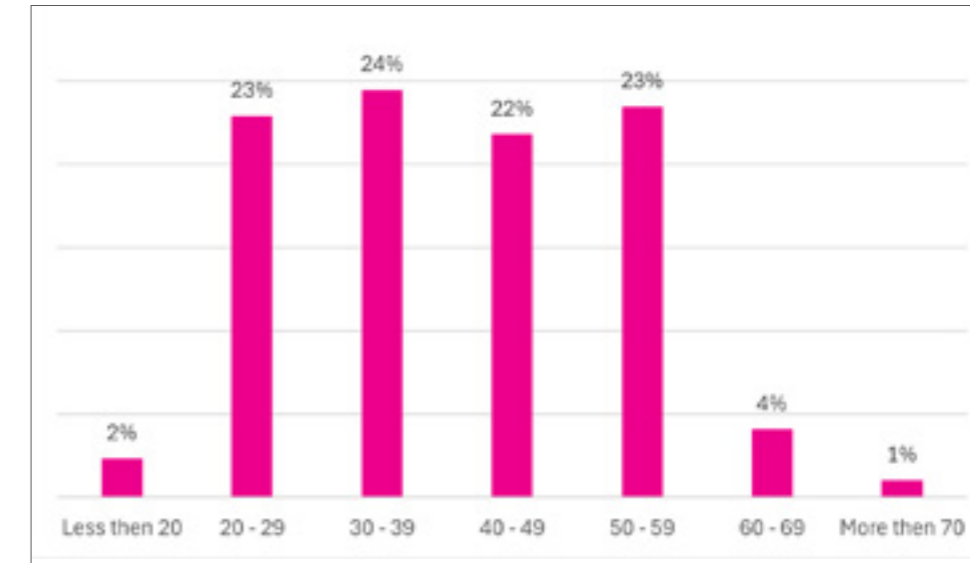
**1500**  
PARTICIPANTS

FROM **36**  
COUNTRIES

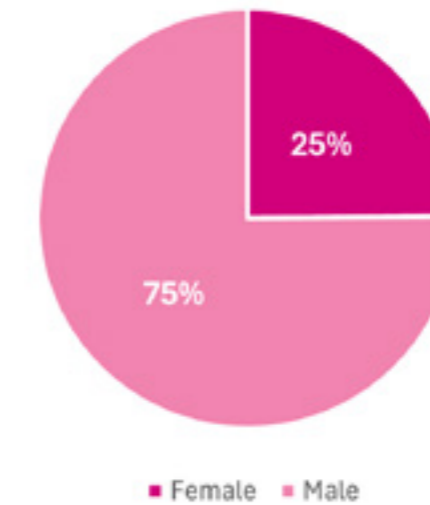
Participants from Top 10 Countries



Participants per Age



Participants by Gender





# WEDNESDAY

7 May 2025



## THE ARRIVAL

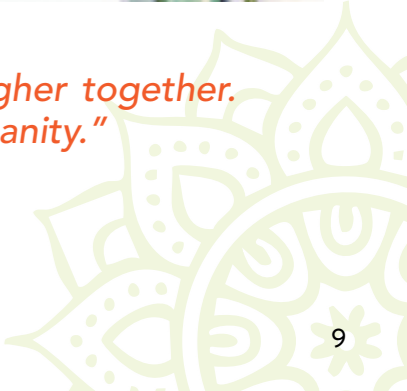
The fourth edition of the IAF Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX 2025) took place on 7 – 9 May in New Delhi, India. More than 1,500 participants from 36 countries attended the event, making it the largest IAF Global Conference ever organized by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF).





*"India's space journey is not about racing others. It is about reaching higher together. Together we share a common goal – to explore space for the good of humanity."*

**H.E. Shri Narendra MODI**  
Prime Minister of India



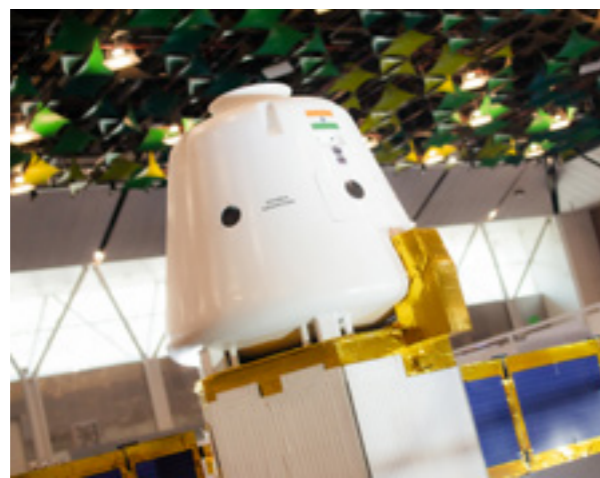


*"Europe is open for business. That means we are offering opportunities to the companies, to partners, business to business cooperations here in India, and also worldwide".*

**Josef ASCHBACHER**  
Director General, European Space Agency (ESA)



## EXHIBITION OPENING



# WELCOME VIP LUNCHEON

Sponsored by European Space Agency (ESA)





*"Space exploration holds a profound intellectual significance in India's space journey, inspiring millions of youths."*

**V. NARAYANAN**  
Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)



*"I think sometimes you do face challenges. Space is hard. Collaborating is hard. If it was easy, [then you know], everybody would be doing it."*

**Salem AL MARRI**

Director General, Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC)





*"What you have to do yourself as industry is to get prepared to get flexible and to have the possibility to approach the market segment whatever the requirements are."*

**Vincenzo GIORGIO**

VP Marketing & Sales, Thales Alenia Space Italia; CEO, ALTEC S.p.A.



*"It is for humanity. Space exploration has a fundamental role here, and together we will go further, together we will do it better for our future generations."*

**Daniel NEUENSCHWANDER**

Director of Human and Robotic Exploration Programmes, European Space Agency (ESA)



## WELCOME RECEPTION





# THURSDAY

8 May 2025



*"After I have gone to space and had that incredible experience of viewing our planet, it became my favourite planet."*

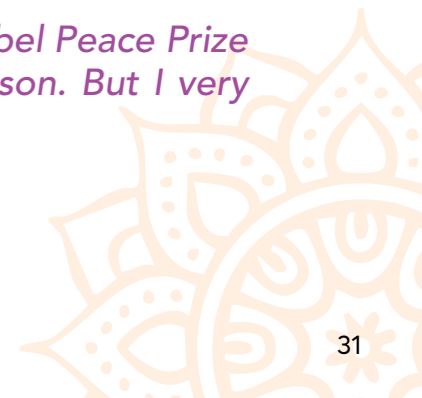
**Sirisha BANDLA**  
Astronaut, Virgin Galactic





*"I remember some people suggested the ISS as a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize back in the day. It didn't go through, because it needs to go to a person. But I very much like the idea."*

**Thomas PESQUET**  
Astronaut, European Space Agency (ESA)





*"Ax-4, is the first time that these three countries, which are India, Poland, and Hungary, will fly an astronaut in over 40 years. It will be the second flight for each of those countries, and obviously the first to the International Space Station."*

**Michael LÓPEZ-ALEGRÍA**  
Chief of the Astronauts Office, Axion Space LLC

# WELCOME VIP LUNCHEON

Sponsored by VIASAT



*"Contribution of India for astronomical observations is tremendous."*

**Vinod KUMAR**  
Director, IN-SPACe





*"Exploring the vast universe is a shared endeavour of all humankind."*

**Zhongmin WANG**

Director, International Cooperation Center, Deep Space Exploration Laboratory (DSEL)





*"We should not forget that the Moon, actually, is a part of the Earth."*

**Pascale EHRENFREUND**

President of Committee on Space Research (COSPAR); IAF past President



*"We are not aiming to compete for number one position, but the space sector, the domain, the technology, should benefit the society overall."*

#### **A. RAJARAJAN**

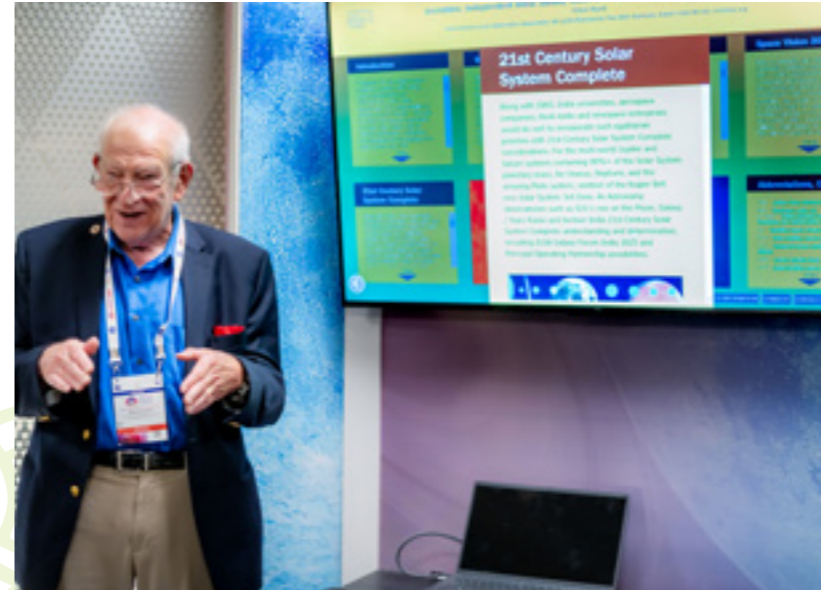
Distinguished Scientist and Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre,  
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

# TECHNICAL SESSIONS

TS



# INTERACTIVE PRESENTATIONS



# CULTURAL PROGRAMME & GALA DINNER

Gala Dinner hosted by the Government Gurajat





# FRIDAY

9 May 2025

*"When we are talking about humanity, I think what is important is how we are able to really help the common people."*

**B.N. SURESH**

Chancellor, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (ISST)





*"I think there is a global effort to be made to reduce the number of debris and ESA has launched the zero debris charter because we would like to be a model agency."*

**Eric MOREL DE WESTGAVER**  
Director of Strategy, Legal and External Affairs, European Space Agency (ESA)



During the session, Christian Feichtinger - IAF Executive Director, as the moderator, posed a lightning-round question to the speakers: “The future of space exploration is...” — and the astronauts responded with powerful one-word answers, showcasing both creativity and vision: BRIGHT (Lopez-Alegria), HERE (Bandla), EXCITING (Stibbe), COLLABORATION (Sharma), ACCESSIBILITY (Pratap), TOGETHER (Almansoori), CULTURAL (Thotakura), and BEYOND THE SKY (Gezeravci).





*“Even though we have these national laws or regional cooperations, the global consultation or coordination remains essential.”*

**Tanja MASSON-ZWAAN**

IAF VP: Technical Activities

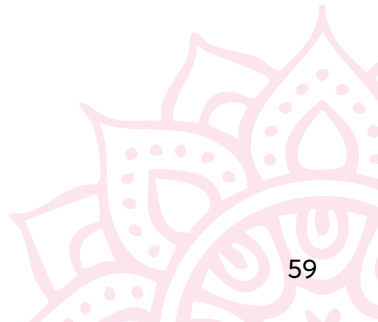
Assistant Professor and Deputy Director of the International Institute of Air and Space Law (IIASL), Leiden University





*"Conflict on the Moon is not an option (...) We should not carry it to the next planets."*

**Ranjana KAUL**  
Partner, Dua Associates





*"I believe everybody who was worthy to make that rocket, get there that morning, is more important than the people in the rocket."*

**Gopichand THOTAKURA**  
Astronaut, Blue Origin New Shepard-25 Mission

## TECHNICAL SESSIONS

TS



# INTERACTIVE PRESENTATIONS





*"We had an amazing conference which has already created history."*

**Anil KUMAR**

IAF VP: Relations with International Organizations  
Director, ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC)



# IAF INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTS CHAPTER

As part of the IAF International Astronauts Chapter, the conference proudly featured an esteemed group of ten astronauts, including the first Indian, first Turkish, first Emirati and first commercial astronauts. They actively engaged with the public and students, inspiring the next generation and promoting the benefits of space exploration.



## Visit to the Indian Institute of Technology (ITT): “Walking Among the Stars”



## Visit to the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)



## Q&A Session with Astronauts "Mission to Inspire: Astronauts & You"



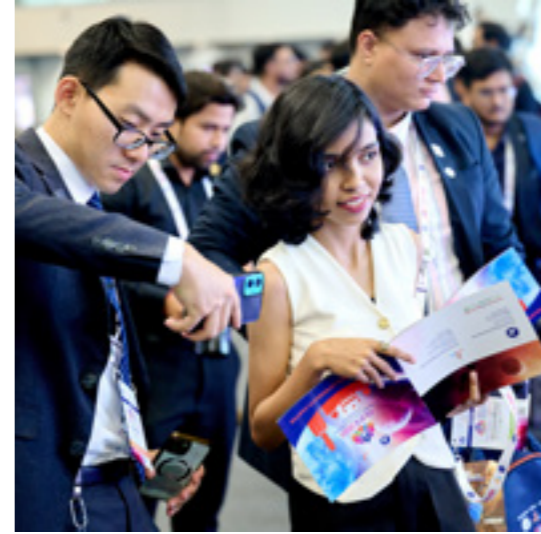


*"If you focus only on today's difficulties, then we would be stealing from the dreams and the nature of our next generations."*

**Alper GEZERA VCI**  
First Turkish Astronaut,  
Executive Board Member, Turkish Space Command Coordination & Execution  
Director, Turkish Space Agency (TUA), Türkiye



## Autograph Session





See You at  
GLOC 2026



2 – 4 June 2026  
Kigali, Rwanda

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