



70th INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS

21-25 October 2019 | Washington, D.C.

Space: The Power of the Past, the Promise of the Future



IAC2019.ORG



IAC 2019

Call for Special Session Proposals



The International Programme Committee of IAC 2019 solicits proposals for Special Sessions (SpS) within the technical scope of the congress.

IAC 2019 Special Sessions will supplement the regular Technical Programme of the congress and provide a sample of the state-of-the-art research or development in both academia and industry in special, novel, challenging and emerging topics in the field of space. Special Sessions that emphasize on multidisciplinary and transversal aspects, as well as cutting-edge topics are especially encouraged and welcome.



How to Apply

- Prospective organizers of special sessions should submit proposals using the online IAF submission system, accessible through the website www.iafastro.net
- Before submitting your proposal, please take a look to the IAC 2019 technical programme to try to prevent content overlap: <https://iafastro.directory/iac/browse/IAC-19/catalog-technical-programme>
- Notification of acceptance will be sent to the organizers on 9-10 April 2019.
- Organizers are allowed to edit their proposals before the submission deadline.



Selection Process

- Special Sessions proposals will be evaluated by the IPC Steering Group for acceptance based on the following criteria:
 - Multidisciplinary topic
 - Novelty and originality of the topic
 - Innovative format
 - Focus on audience engagement
 - Quality of contents
 - Qualification and experience of the organizers
 - Relevance to the IAC Congress Theme



Additional Information

Special Session can last 60 or 90 minutes, based on the format and the preference of the organizer. They shall take place during all the congress week, from Monday PM to Friday PM. We encourage more **interactive, innovative** and **exchange-oriented** meeting formats.

There are four possible formats for Special Sessions:



Workshops differ from technical sessions in that they are targeted to small audiences with a focus on audience participation (e.g. question and answer sessions and group work). Workshops offer a platform for presenting novel ideas in a more interactive way than the other tracks.



Panels are sessions that include a group of experts invited to debate a topic or reflect on their diverse experiences through interaction with audience. Panel sessions are not to be considered as paper sessions consisting of a set of talks by experts, but rather motivate debates and interaction among panelists and the audience.



Group discussions are sessions that facilitate the attendees to discuss a theme or topic with the moderation of the session organizer. Group discussions can be semi-structured or structured around a set of questions and can be formal or informal in nature. They can also provide opportunities for the group to do more in-depth questioning of the people organizing the discussion and promote interaction between local interest groups by bringing together people who can develop new ways to function and interact with each other.



Open option: We also welcome the submission of other formats as long as the organizer(s) provide a convincing rationale and structure related to the aim and theme of the IAC 2019.

- The person who submits the proposal is called the **Session Leader** and will be the main interface with the IAF Secretariat.
- The **SpS Organizer(s)**' role is to invite the speakers, provide the session inputs for the Final Programme and lead the session.
- The **SpS Faciliator** (if any) role is to help the audience and the panelists understand their common objectives and assists them to plan to achieve those goals without taking a particular position in the discussion.
- There is no financial subsistence provided for session organizers and invitees. All IAC participants are required to register and pay the registration fee corresponding to their category.



IMPORTANT DATES

- Call for Special Sessions: **14 November 2018 – 18 February 2019**
- SpS selection: **26-28 March 2019**
- Proposal acceptance notification: **9-10 April 2019**
- Notification of scheduling: **21-25 April 2019**
- Congress dates: **21-25 October 2019**

CONTACT

Should you have any questions about Special Sessions, you can contact us at sps@iafastro.org