



IAF Startups Competition @ IAC 2026 Antalya, Türkiye

CALLING ALL SPACE STARTUPS

In the frame of the upcoming International Astronautical Congress (IAC) 2026 that will be taking place in Antalya, Türkiye from 5 – 9 October 2026, the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) is hosting during Industry Day, on Tuesday 6th October 2026, the IAF Startups Competition.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Are you part of a startup that was incorporated before January 1st, 2026? Don't miss the opportunity to pitch in front of a jury of world-famous space experts and investors. Each startup will have 5 minutes to pitch plus 3 minutes of feedback and questions from the jury.

WHY APPLY?

All participants (speakers/presenters) in the IAF Startups Competition will get a one-day waiver to the IAC 2026 for date of the competition* and will benefit from exposure to the world aerospace leaders.

PRIZES

The selected startups will have the opportunity to benefit from a range of prizes designed to support their growth and international development. These may include mentoring and coaching sessions provided by leading companies, investors, and venture organizations; market access and partnership opportunities; strategic business reviews; and introductions to relevant stakeholders across the global space ecosystem.

In addition, the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) will award one of the participating startups with two complimentary registrations to the next International Astronautical Congress (IAC) 2027 in Poland, providing continued visibility and networking opportunities within the international space community.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND NEXT STEPS

Applications will be assessed based on the startup's solution, level of maturity, and overall potential. Geographical representation will also be considered to ensure a balanced selection of startups from different regions.

Following the review process, 10 startups will be selected and invited to pitch their innovative solutions during the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) 2026. Selected startups will be



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informed directly and provided with further information regarding their participation and presentation requirements.

HOW TO APPLY?

In order to be considered for the IAF Startups Competition, the following materials must be submitted by **Friday 21st August 2026, 11:59 PM CEST**:

- Complete online application form ([IAF Startups Competition @ IAC 2026 Antalya, Türkiye - CALL FOR ALL SPACE STARTUPS – Fill in form](#))
- Submit your Pitch Deck (maximum 5 slides) to startups@iafastro.org

For any questions, please get in touch with the IAF Secretariat at startups@iafastro.org.

**One day waiver to the Congress only grant access for the day of your participation in the session. Should you wish to attend the entire IAC, you will be requested to register and purchase a ticket to the IAC 2026*