



ORGANIZED BY



INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL
FEDERATION

HOSTED BY



Turkish
Space Agency

77TH
INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL
CONGRESS
ANTALYA, TÜRKİYE
5 - 9 OCTOBER



THE WORLD NEEDS
MORE SPACE

PUBLIC,
PLENARY
& IAF GNF
PROGRAMME

FINAL PROGRAMME

CO-HOSTED BY



SUPPORTED BY



IAC2026.ORG

77TH INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL
CONGRESS (IAC 2026) 5 - 9 OCTOBER

Hall: 2

Stand: 2D-01 2D-02
2D-04 2E-04



ITALIAN TECHNOLOGY GOES TO SPACE



Discover Italian Space Design and
Technology at the International
Astronautical Congress



Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale





Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

ITALIAN SPACE AGENCY

ASI is currently among the top six space agencies in the world, a distinction that reflects Italy's prestigious role in the European and global space sector. Italy is one of the First Nations **to have launched a satellite** and the third largest contributor to the European Space Agency (ESA), after France and closely following Germany. Italy is also among the early signatories of the Artemis Accords for NASA's new lunar program. Through its own Agency, Italy operates in **all areas of space applications**. With a strong diplomatic capacity, ASI has strategic collaborations with all major space agencies.

Through these collaborations and continuous cooperation with the scientific community and Italian industries, the Agency has achieved significant **successes in the fields of cosmology, human and robotic exploration, space propulsion, telecommunications, satellite navigation, and Earth Observation**. One of the most remarkable results of these collaborations is the International Space Station, where Italian astronauts operate, and whose habitat modules were built for over 40% by the national industry.

www.asi.it

roketsan.com.tr

ŞİMŞEK-2

SPACE LAUNCH
VEHICLE



ROKETSAN

FROM UNDER THE SEAS
TO THE DEPTHS OF SPACE



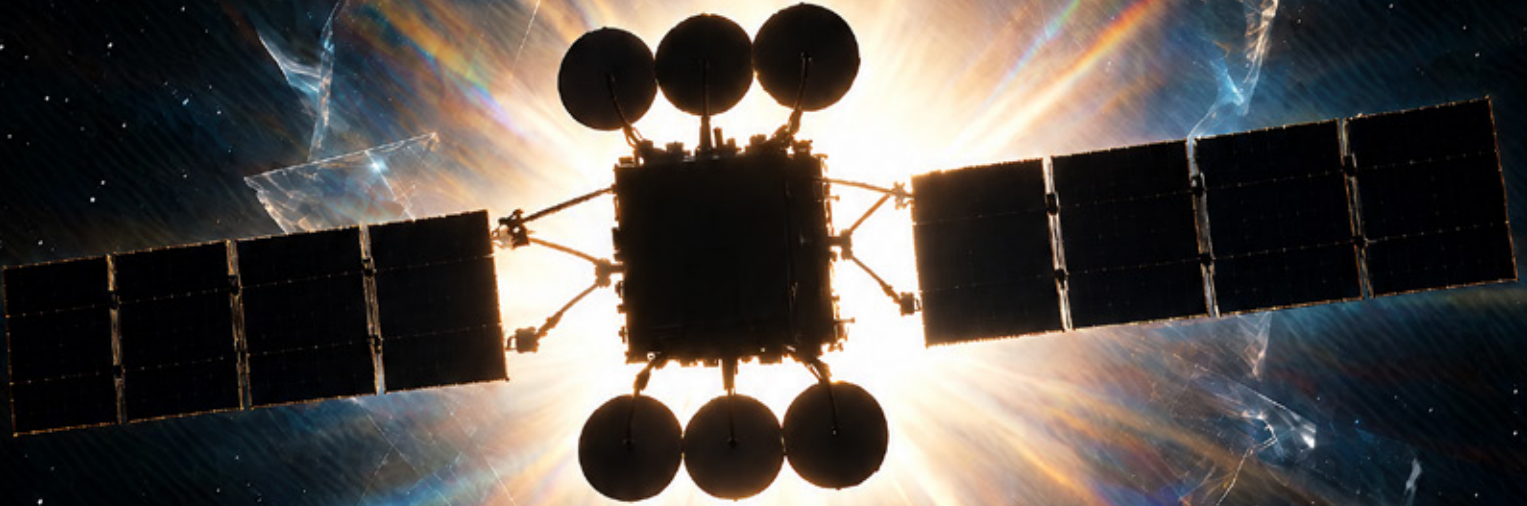


[MISSION: T-7A]
[ORBITAL SLOT: 42° EAST]

[CRITICAL COMMS: BROADBAND & NARROWBAND]
[TECH: SOFTWARE-DEFINED PAYLOAD]

TÜRKSAT 7A: COMING SOON

Türkiye's Second Indigenous and National Communication Satellite



NATIONAL POWER BEYOND BORDERS

The pinnacle of national technology is on the horizon.

ENGINEERED IN TÜRKİYE. BUILT FOR THE WORLD.

in X @ YouTube IN / turksat





UNINTERRUPTED, SECURE, EVERYWHERE.

Strategic broadband solutions from satellite to ground, from sea to air, at every point where terrestrial infrastructure cannot reach.



MARITIME & AVIATION

Uninterrupted communication in open seas and airspace. Operational continuity.

DEFENSE & SECURITY

Encrypted, highly secure communication for units in the field.

ENTERPRISE & BROADBAND

TürksatNet, GSM Backup, and digitalization for remote areas.

DOMESTIC POWER: PEYCON ANTENNA FAMILY (Ka-Band Solutions)



Hidron (Maritime & Defense)



AerON (Mobile & Flyaway)



Micron (Compact & Field)

Discover the Limits of Connection: www.turksat.com.tr

in X @ YouTube / turksat



CSA



中国宇航学会
CHINESE SOCIETY OF ASTRONAUTICS

The Chinese Society of Astronautics (CSA) was founded in 1979

CSA is China's leading non-governmental space-related academic organisation

CSA is committed to bringing together space professionals and fostering international space cooperation



260+

260+ institutional members

400000

Over 40,000 individual members

49

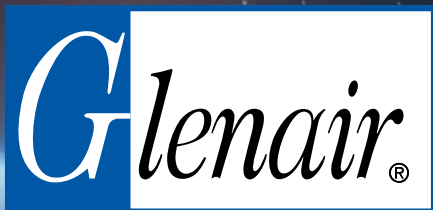
49 technical committees

2

2 international organisation branches



<http://www.csaspace.org.cn/>



Space-Grade Interconnect Solutions

For Launch Vehicle and Satellite Applications



Shielded Wire Harnesses
and Complex Cables



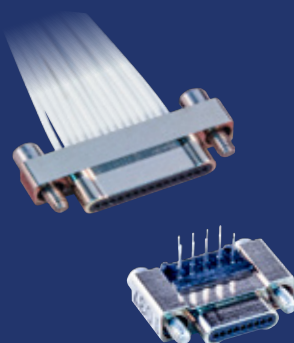
Flex and Rigid Flex
Circuit Assemblies



High-Speed Protocol Interconnect Solutions



Series 806 Mil-Aero
Micro Miniature D38999



QPL and Glenair
Signature Nano
Connectors



US- and EU-Made
Hold-Down and Release
Mechanisms



Assisted Separation
Force Blind-Mate
Connectors

VISIT GLENAIR AT IAC • STAND 1G-04

E-Mail: marketing@glenair.co.uk

www.glenair.com



IAC 2027
POZNAN
POLAND

IAC2027.COM



BE PART OF **IAC 2027!**

THE 78TH INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS

27 Sept – 1 Oct 2027 | Poznań, Poland

One Space. Shared Future

Meet us at our booth first!

Hall 1 | stand B04

Organized by:



INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL
FEDERATION

Hosted by:



mtp
GRUPA

thew.y

Co-hosted by:



Supported by:

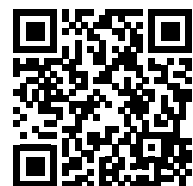




WE MAKE **SPACE** WORK

***Solving the hardest problems
to meet your mission.***

At Aerospace, we help advance technologies,
make systems more resilient and deployable,
and foster global collaboration to reach the stars.



aerospace.org/iac2026



Paul Calle. 1969. Used with permission.

◆ NOMINATIONS FOR 2027 ARE NOW OPEN ◆

NOMINATE THE NEXT GIANT LEAP

- ▶ DISCOVERY ▶ INNOVATION
- ▶ HUMAN ACHIEVEMENT IN SPACE

Nominations Due November 1, 2026

MAKE A NOMINATION

CONGRATULATIONS INAUGURAL LAUREATES

FALCON 9 BOOSTER LANDING TEAM



View the SpaceX laureate bios online at purdue.edu/space/prize

PRESENTED BY





GSOC 2027
IAF GLOBAL SPACE &
OCEANS CONFERENCE



INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL
FEDERATION



ORGANIZED BY:

HOSTED BY:

3 - 5 MAY 2027 | MALDIVES

**GSOC 2027 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
NOW OPEN!**

Submit your abstract by
13 November 2026

*The Ocean of Space
for the Oceans of Earth*

GSOC2027.ORG



CONTENTS

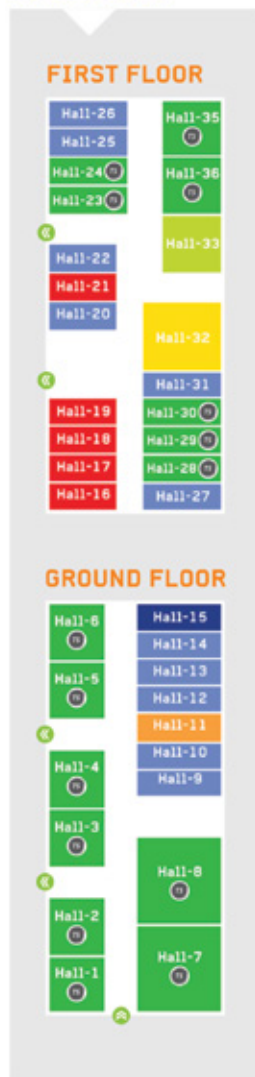
1. Venue Layout & Floor Plans	2
2. Congress at a Glance	5
3. Plenary and IAF GNF Programme at a Glance	6
4. Daily Congress Programme	7
Monday 5 October	7
Tuesday 6 October	13
Wednesday 7 October	23
Thursday 8 October	32
Friday 9 October	41

1. Venue Layout & Floor Plans



IAC 2026 FLOOR PLANS

NEST PLUS BUILDING



NEST CONVENTION CENTER



- NEST Football Pitch
- Exhibition Area
- Plenary Programme
- Gloria Sports Hall
- Technical Sessions
- Special Sessions
- IP Sessions
- B2B Area
- Bilateral Rooms
- Meeting Rooms

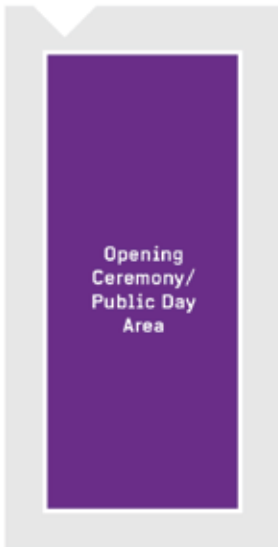
- Offices
- Speaker Prep. Room
- Committee Meeting
- VIP Luncheon Area
- Members Lounge
- Press Center
- Press Conf. Room
- Service Area / Offices
- Future Space Area
- Prayer Room

IAC 2026 FLOOR PLANS

FUTURE SPACE AREA

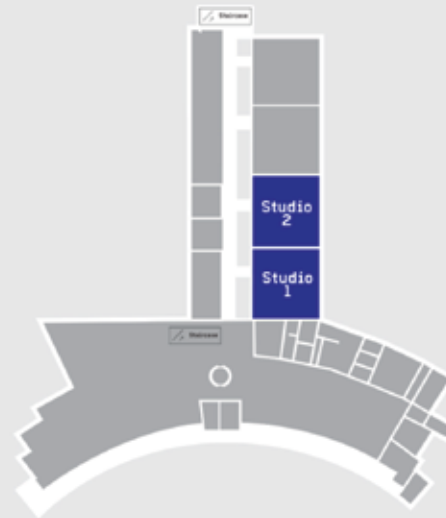


NEST FOOTBALL PITCH



GLORIA SPORTS ARENA

FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR

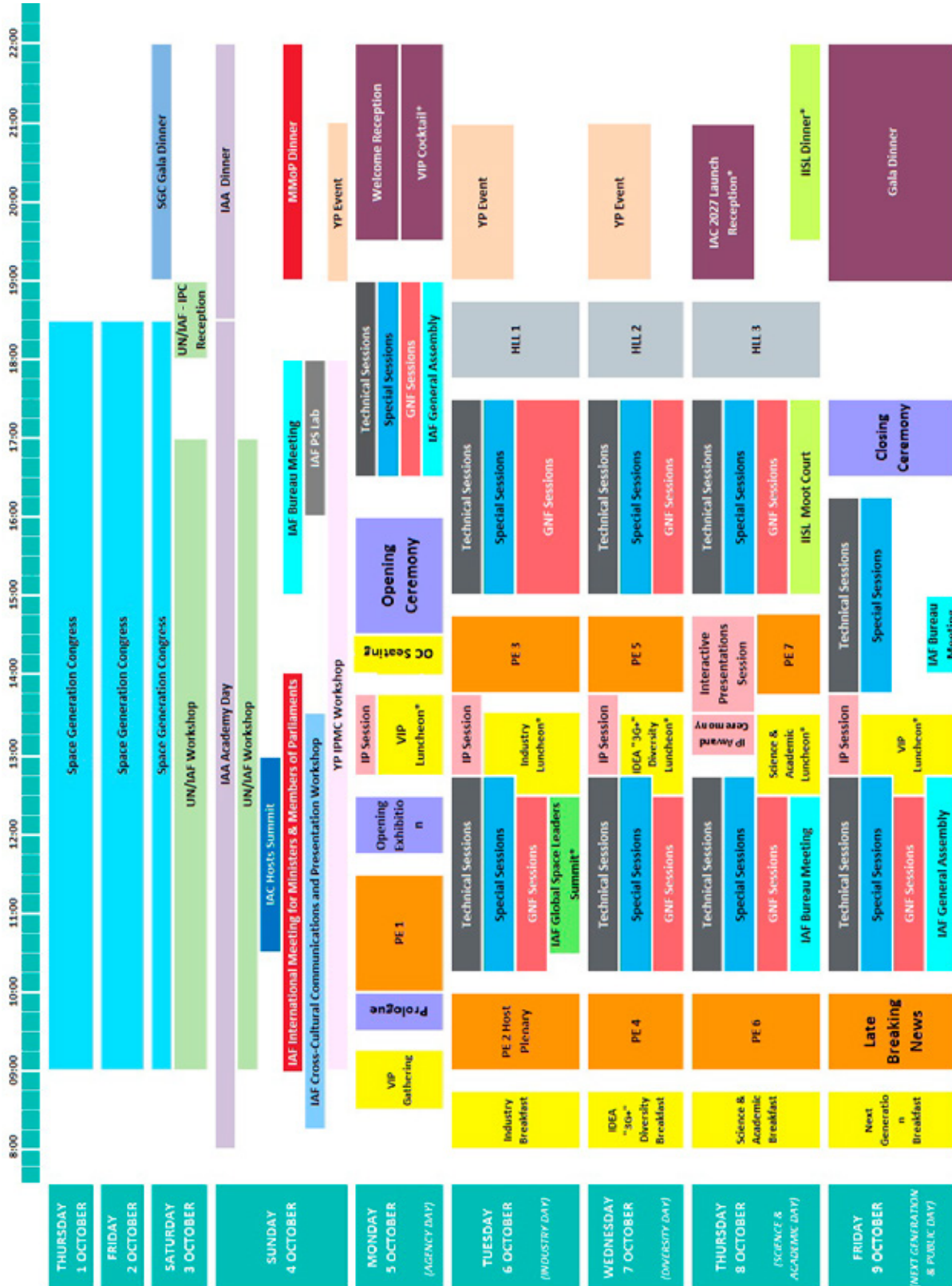


- NEST Football Pitch
- Exhibition Area
- Plenary Programme
- Gloria Sports Hall
- Technical Sessions
- Special Sessions
- IP Sessions
- B2B Area
- Bilateral Rooms
- Meeting Rooms

- Offices
- Speaker Prep. Room
- Committee Meeting
- VIP Luncheon Area
- Members Lounge
- Press Center

- Press Conf. Room
- Service Area / Offices
- Future Space Area
- Prayer Room

3 Congress at a Glance



Please Note: *By invitation only: Pre-Congress events as well as the IISL Moot Court are dedicated to the respective participants

4 Plenary and IAF GNF Programme at a Glance

Monday 5 October	Agency Day	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00
Tuesday 6 October	Industry Day	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00
Wednesday 7 October	Diversity Day	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00
Thursday 8 October	Science & Academy Day	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00
Friday 9 October	Public Day	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00

3 Daily Congress Programme

All the timings are in accordance with GMT +2 hours

Monday 5 October

08:30 – 09:15 **VIP Gathering**

Location: Gloria Sports Arena Restaurant

09:15 – 10:00 **Prologue**

Location: Gloria Sports Arena, Sports Hall

Master of Ceremony



Christian FEICHTINGER

Executive Director,
International Astronautical Federation
(IAF),
France

Keynote Speakers



Gabriella ARRIGO

President,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Italy



Mehmet FATİH KACIR

Minister of Industry and
Technology,
Ministry of Industry and
Technology,
Türkiye

Ministers' Round Table: "Space – A National Strategic Priority?"

Lead



Josef ASCHBACHER

Director General,
European Space Agency (ESA),
France

77TH INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS

5 – 9 OCTOBER, ANTALYA, TÜRKİYE

PROGRAMME
AT A GLANCE

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Ministers



Mehmet FATİH KACIR
Minister of Industry and
Technology,
Ministry of Industry and
Technology,
Türkiye



**H.E. Ahmad Belhouf
AL FALASI**
Minister of Sports and
Chancellor of the Higher
Colleges of Technology,
United Arab Emirates



**Juan Cruz CIGUDOSA
GARCÍA**
Secretary of State for
Science,
Innovation and
Universities,
Spain



Michał JAROS
Secretary of State,
Minister of Economic
Development and
Technology,
Poland



Sherzod SHERMATOV
Minister,
Digital Technologies
of the Republic of
Uzbekistan,
Uzbekistan

10:00 – 11:30

Plenary 1 – One-To-One with Heads of Agencies



Location: Sports Hall – Gloria Sports Arena

Master of Ceremony



Christian FEICHTINGER
Executive Director,
International Astronautical Federation
(IAF),
France

Opening Welcome



Yusuf KIRAÇ
VP: Relations with International Organizations,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Chairman of The Board and President,
Turkish Space Agency (TUA),
Türkiye

Speakers:



Matt ANDERSON
Deputy Administrator,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States



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



Li GUOPING
Chief Engineer,
China National Space
Administration (CNSA),
China



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



**Jean-Claude
PIEDBOEUF**
Acting President,
Canadian Space Agency
(CSA),
Canada



Hiroshi YAMAKAWA
President,
Japan Aerospace
Exploration Agency (JAXA),
Japan



MODERATOR
Gabriella ARRIGO
President,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Italy



MODERATOR
Enrico PALERMO
Head,
Australian Space Agency,
Australia

11:45 – 12:30 Exhibition Opening

Location: NEST Exhibition Halls

12:30 – 13:30 VIP Luncheon (upon invitation only)

Location: NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre, Cafeteria A-B-C Foyer (left-side)

Sponsored by:



Welcome Remarks



Gabriella ARRIGO

President,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Italy

Speakers:



**Juan Carlos CORTÉS
PULIDO**

Director,
Spanish Space Agency
(AEE),
Spain



**Maria GALINDO
GARCIA DELGADO**

Secretary of Digital Policies,
Government of Catalonia,
Spain

14:00 – 15:30 Opening Ceremony

Location: NEST Football Pitch

Speakers:



**Christian
FEICHTINGER**

Executive Director,
International
Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
France



Gabriella ARRIGO

President,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Italy



Asanda NTISANA

VP: Honours and Awards,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Space and Stakeholder
Liaison Specialist,
South African National
Space Agency (SANSA),
South Africa

16:30 – 17:00

IAF GNF – Lunar Space Science: Priorities, Plans, Cooperation Perspectives



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Lunar exploration is a priority for many space nations. There are a number of robotic missions, plans for infrastructure deployment and human lunar missions. All these activities require profound knowledge about lunar exosphere, radiation environment, priority locations etc, as well as experiments for technology verification.

At the same time, new plans, activities and cooperation projects provide better opportunities for a variety of fundamental research on the lunar surface and in cis-lunar space. This GNF panel discussion will include agency, academia and international experts to address key topics in lunar science planning, implementation and results analysis.

Sponsored by:



Speakers:



Bernard FOING

CEO,
ILEWG LUNEX
EuroMoonMars;
Chief Scientist,
QOSMOSYS,
Space Renaissance
International (SRI),
Netherlands



Anatoli PETRUKOVICH

Director of Space
Research Institute,
Space Research Institute
(IKI), Russian Academy of
Sciences (RAS),
Russia



Zhongmin WANG

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



MODERATOR

Dmitry ZARUBIN

Space Research Institute
(IKI), Russian Academy of
Sciences (RAS),
Russia

17:00 – 17:30

IAF GNF – From Phased Array Antenna To Software-Defined X



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

We present a payload architecture built around a centralized compute platform. From this platform, we grow out a reconfigurable payload category: one that supports communications and sensing workloads concurrently or independently on a single satellite. The architecture is industrialized — designed and manufactured under the same industrial cadence, with iteration loops measured in days. We discuss what software-defined payloads make possible for operators and integrators building broadband, direct-to-cell, and on-orbit compute infrastructure, and present a reference form factor.

Sponsored by:



Speaker:



Derek CHEN

CEO,
Beijing Final Frontier Deep
Space Company, Ltd.
China

17:30 – 18:15

IAF GNF – International Cooperation for Technology Scaling



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Using international cooperation to strengthen sovereign capability, grow commercial opportunities, and generate economic benefits despite having more limited domestic markets and resources than major space powers.

Using the UK as a case study, the panel will examine practical and transferable approaches to accelerating technology development, increasing exports, and building trusted international partnerships while retaining domestic capability and value. Discussion will cover a range of cooperation models, including licensing partnerships, agency-to-agency engagement to address export control and assurance challenges, and collaborations beyond traditional ESA frameworks with non-ESA nations. The session will also highlight the role standards-based cooperation through organisations such as ISO, ECSS and CCSDS in reducing barriers to trade, improving interoperability, and enabling companies to access multiple global markets

Sponsored by:



Speaker:



Tony FORSYTHE

Head of Space Technology,
UK Space Agency,
United Kingdom

18:15 – 19:15

IAF GNF – Progress of the China Manned Space Program



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

This session presents the mission progress of China's Tiangong Space Station, covering flight crews, space-station configuration, implementation of key-technology verification and construction phase missions, on-orbit experimental resources, and future expansion plans. It also introduces China's Lunar Exploration mission and relevant international cooperation in the field of manned spaceflight.

Sponsored by:



77TH INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS

5 – 9 OCTOBER, ANTALYA, TÜRKİYE

PROGRAMME
AT A GLANCE

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Speakers:



Liwei YANG

*Deputy Director General,
Deputy Chief Designer,
China Manned Space
Engineering,
First Chinese Astronaut,
China Manned Space
Agency,
China*



Qiang WANG

*Acting Director-General,
Technology and
Engineering Center for
Space Utilization(CSU),
Chinese Academy of
Sciences,
United Arab Emirates
China*

19:30 – 22:00

Welcome Reception

Location: *NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre*

19:30 – 22:00

VIP Cocktail (*upon invitation only*)

Location: *NEST Football Pitch*



Tuesday 6 October

08:00 – 08:45 Industry Breakfast

Location: VIP Lounge, NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Welcome Remarks



Gabriella ARRIGO

President,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Italy

IRC White Paper Presentation “Global Industry Needs and Capabilities in a Shifting Space Market”

Speaker:



Kangsan KIM (Antonio STARK)

Global Space Policy and
Strategy Expert,
ispace, inc,
Republic of Korea

09:00 – 10:00 Plenary 2 – Bridging Eras: From Silk Road Astronomy to Lunar Exploration



Location: D1, D2, and D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The global space sector is entering a structural transformation. Space is no longer defined solely by exploration milestones or isolated commercial ventures. It is increasingly shaped by how nations build end-to-end capability, secure reliable access, and contribute resilient infrastructure to the shared global ecosystem.

Over the past decade, a broader set of capable space actors has begun developing national capacity across satellites, deep-space missions, launch access, and commercial platforms. This shift is redefining industrial competitiveness, supply-chain resilience, and the balance of participation in global space activities.

As the host nation of IAC 2026, Türkiye offers a timely and concrete perspective on this transformation. Rooted in a rich scientific heritage and accelerated by sustained national investment, Türkiye has rapidly scaled its capabilities—from sovereign satellite development to deep-space ambitions—while fostering an expanding private space ecosystem.

This Host Plenary aims to move beyond national storytelling and instead open a strategic global discussion: How can nations build capability and access in space while strengthening—rather than fragmenting—the resilience, interoperability, and responsibility of the shared global ecosystem?

The session will connect three pillars: 1. Capability development through institutional missions such as the Turkish Lunar Mission (TLM-1), 2. Industrial competitiveness through major programmes such as TÜRKSAT-6A and next-generation satellite systems, and 3. Access infrastructure and commercial scalability through private initiatives, orbital transportation ambitions, and enabling infrastructure.

By bringing together national leadership, industrial actors, private sector innovators, and an international partner perspective, the plenary will examine what kind of space ecosystem is being built, who it serves, and what policy and industrial choices are required for durable and responsible growth.

Speakers:



Ahmet AKYOL
CEO,
ASELSAN,
Türkiye



Hasan Hüseyin ERTOK
Chief Operating Officer,
Fergani Space,
Türkiye



Arif KARABEYOĞLU
Faculty Member, KOÇ
University in İstanbul,
Board member for the
Turkish Space Agency,
Turkish Space Agency
(TUA),
Türkiye



Michael LÓPEZ-ALEGRIA
VP: Astronauts Relations
and Outreach,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Chief Astronaut, Senior
Vice President of Human
Spaceflight,
Axiom Space, LLC,
United States



Mehmet NEFES
Director,
TÜBİTAK Space
Technologies Research
Institute,
Türkiye



MODERATOR
Yusuf KIRAÇ
VP: Relations with
International
Organizations,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Chairman of The Board
and President,
Turkish Space Agency
(TUA),
Türkiye

10:15 – 11:30

IAF GNF – Heads of Industry – One on One Conversations



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

This GNF is a fireside chat with industry leaders belonging to different industrial categories. The conversation will address global market perspectives, pain points, proposed remedies and future industrial opportunities and needs.

Speakers:



Massimo COMPARINI
Managing Director, Space
Business Unit,
Leonardo Spa,
Italy



Barbara FREI-SPREITER
CEO,
Beyond Gravity,
Switzerland



Max HAOT
CEO,
Vast,
United States



Jaret MATTHEWS
CEO,
Astrolab,
United States



Angel RAMIREZ
Chairman,
Celeres,
Spain



MODERATOR

Carlo MIRRA

Chair,
IAF Industry Relations
Committee, Head of ESA
Business Affairs,
Airbus Netherlands B.V.,
Netherlands



MODERATOR

Geraldine NAJA

VP: Industry Relations and
Space Economy,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Director of Space
Transportation,
European Space Agency
(ESA),
France

10:30 – 12:30 IAF Global Space Leaders Summit (upon invitation only)

Location: Gloria Sports Arena, Ground Floor

Organized by the IAF and held annually in conjunction with the International Astronautical Congress (IAC), the **3rd edition of the IAF Global Space Leaders Summit (GSLS)**, under the theme “**The New Space Era: Global Challenges, Strategic Opportunities and Responsible Governance**”, will bring together Heads of Space Agencies from established and emerging space nations for open, forward-looking dialogue on the policies, partnerships and governance frameworks shaping the future of space.



Following the resounding success of its inaugural edition in 2024, which brought **60 Heads of Space Agencies** around one table for the first time, the GSLS has established itself as a unique platform for global space leadership. Conducted on neutral ground and in a spirit of international cooperation, the GSLS fosters trust, strengthens partnerships, and advances collective action on issues of strategic importance.

11:45 – 12:30 IAF GNF – Artemis II Mission Results: The Industry Perspective



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The Artemis Accord nations will send astronauts on increasingly difficult missions to explore more of the Moon for scientific discovery, economic benefits, and to build upon our foundation for the first crewed missions to Mars. Artemis II was the first crewed flight under the Artemis campaign and the last test flight for Orion. The lessons we learn will directly prepare us to return humans to the surface of the Moon. Lockheed Martin designed and builds Orion for NASA, Airbus designed and builds Orion's European Service Module (ESM) for ESA, and Thales Alenia Space Italy is a key subcontractor for Airbus. The Orion for Artemis II carried astronauts beyond the Moon for the first time in 53 years and broke the distance record set by the Apollo 13 mission in 1970.

The Lockheed Martin-built Orion is the only spacecraft ready now that is uniquely designed to take and keep humans safe in deep space. Artemis II had a full environmental control and life support system, the displays and controls, full fire suppression, a full toilet, food preparation, and exercise machine compared to Artemis I. This panel will discuss the quick-look results of the flight from the industry perspective. Tim, Wolfgang, and Maria will analyze the performance of the first-flight crew items, such as ECLSS, displays and controls, and crew systems. Jeremy Parsons, the NASA Acting Assistant Deputy Associate Administrator for the Moon to Mars Program Office, will moderate the discussion. They will also discuss the performance of the vehicle for the reused items on Artemis II, and the performance of systems that are part of the Orion reuse plan. The reuse of Orion crew modules and systems is key to the cost savings seen in the production contract.

Sponsored by:

AIRBUS

LOCKHEED MARTIN

**ThalesAlenia
Space**

Speakers:



Wolfgang DUERR

Vice President and Head of Global Business Institutional Space, Airbus Defence and Space GmbH, Germany



Annamaria PIRAS

Director of LEO Programs, Thales Alenia Space Italia, Italy



Kirk SHIREMAN

Vice President, Human Space Exploration & Orion Program Manager, Lockheed Martin Corporation, United States



MODERATOR

Jeremy PARSONS

Acting Assistant Deputy Associate Administrator for the Moon to Mars Program Office, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), United States

12:30 – 13:30

Industry Luncheon (upon invitation only)

Location: NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre, Cafeteria A-B-C Foyer (left-side)

Sponsored by:



88TH INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL
CONGRESS [GENEVA]

Welcome Remarks:



Geraldine NAJA

IAF Vice President for Industry and Space Economy, IAF Bureau, Director of Space Transportation, European Space Agency (ESA), France

Speakers:



Didier MANZONI

Deputy CEO and General Manager, Space, APCO Technologies, Switzerland



Liv MINDER

Director Global Consulting Investment Promotion, Switzerland Global Enterprise, Switzerland

EXCELLENCE IN INDUSTRY AWARD CEREMONY

Master of Ceremonies:



Geraldine NAJA

IAF Vice President for Industry and Space Economy,
IAF Bureau,
Director of Space Transportation,
European Space Agency (ESA),
France



Carlo MIRRA

Chair,
IAF Industry Relations Committee, Head of ESA Business Affairs,
Airbus Netherlands B.V.,
Netherlands

AWARDEES

Firefly Aerospace (Large Space Industry Category)



Shea FERRING

Chief Technology Officer,
Firefly Aerospace,
United States



Farah ZUBERI

Director of Spacecraft Mission Management,
Firefly Aerospace,
United States



On March 2, 2025, Firefly Aerospace made history as the first commercial company to successfully land on the Moon. Firefly's Blue Ghost lunar lander delivered 10 NASA science and technology instruments to the Moon's surface and enabled several first-of-its-kind demonstrations, including tracking GPS signals on the Moon for the first time, unlocking new ways to mitigate hazardous lunar dust, taking X-ray imagery of Earth's magnetosphere from Moon, and robotically drilling and collecting science deeper into the lunar surface than ever before.

Firefly completed all mission objectives and performed several bonus operations, including capturing incredible imagery of a total solar eclipse on March 14 when the Earth blocked the sun and cast a shadow on the lunar surface for over two hours of totality. The team also captured the lunar sunset on March 16, providing data on how lunar dust levitates and creates a lunar horizon glow first documented by Eugene Cernan on Apollo 17. Following the sunset, Blue Ghost operated 5 hours into the lunar night as designed.

In total, Blue Ghost sent nearly 120 gigabytes of data back to Earth, significantly surpassing the mission requirements and unlocking new insights that will have a substantial impact on future human and robotic missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

Firefly's Blue Ghost Mission 1 not only marked the longest commercial operations on the Moon to date but also set the tone for the future of commercial exploration across cislunar space.

Lunar Outpost (Small and Medium Enterprises)



Justin CYRUS

Founder & CEO,
Lunar Outpost
United States



MAPP (Mobile Autonomous Prospecting Platform) is Lunar Outpost's customizable exploration-class lunar rover. Rugged, reliable, and spaceflight-proven, MAPP enables governmental, commercial, and scientific partners to go farther and achieve more on the Moon. From deploying critical infrastructure to delivering instruments for breakthrough science, MAPP turns lunar ambitions into action. In 2025, MAPP made history during Lunar Outpost's Lunar Voyage 1 (LV1) at the Moon's South Pole. It became the first U.S. rover teleoperated on the lunar surface and in cislunar space. During the mission, MAPP collected and downlinked critical data, including multiple images, and achieved TRL 9 for key rover systems and subsystems. The mission also marked the first successful commercialization of a lunar rover system, partnering with NASA, LEGO, adidas/Juventus, Nokia, MIT, and others. Lunar Voyage 2 (LV2) in 2026 will send another MAPP rover to Reiner

Gamma to investigate a mysterious magnetic anomaly in partnership with NASA and Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory. The Lunar Voyage 3 (LV3) MAPP rover is already through critical design review and will scale commercial operations. Launching with Artemis IV, Lunar Voyage 5 (LV5) MAPP will support NASA's DUSTER investigation. It will become the first robotic rover to deploy alongside astronauts to conduct dust and plasma science—advancing the goal of a sustained human presence on the Moon.

13:45 – 14:45

Plenary 3 – Geopolitics vs. Innovation: Balancing Corporate Flexibility and Sovereign Capability in a Volatile World



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The global commercial space sector stands at a defining crossroads: the drive for open, borderless innovation versus the imperative for sovereign national capability. As space systems become indispensable to economic resilience and security, commercial operators are no longer merely vendors – they are strategic assets navigating a contested, high-stakes geopolitical environment.

This industry plenary addresses a central dilemma for space leaders: how commercial entities balance scaling across global markets with the strict requirements of defense and institutional clients. From Earth observation fleets and in-space infrastructure to sovereign launch and orbital cargo systems, the session examines the operational realities of the dual-use era. How do commercial companies maintain agility and international market access when their capabilities become critical in regional conflicts?

This plenary brings together executive leaders from established defense primes, high-growth commercial innovators, and emerging space agencies to bridge diverse regional models. The panel will explore three critical themes: 1. Strategic autonomy versus global collaboration, examining how nations build sovereign access to orbit without severing commercial ties; 2. The dual-use dilemma of managing export controls and data sovereignty while scaling platforms; and 3. The emerging-market imperative, highlighting how Global South spacefaring nations leverage commercial architectures to secure independent capabilities.

Hosted in Türkiye – a nation actively fostering a formidable sovereign aerospace and defense ecosystem – this session directly reflects the theme of IAC 2026, “The World Needs More Space.” To build a secure, resilient world, the global space industry must create pathways that align open commercial innovation with sovereign responsibility.

Speakers:



Awais AHMED

Founder & CEO,
Pixxel,
India



Dana BAKI

Chief Commercial &
People Officer,
The Exploration Company
GmbH,
United Arab Emirates



Mike GOLD

President,
Redwire,
United States



Murat IKINCI

CEO,
Roketsan,
Türkiye



Humbulani MUDAU

CEO,
South African National
Space Agency (SANSA),
South Africa



Robbie SCHINGLER

Co-Founder and Chief
Strategy Officer,
Planet,
United States



MODERATOR

Kangsan KIM (Antonio STARK)

Global Space Policy and
Strategy Expert,
ispace, inc.,
Republic of Korea

14:50 - 15:50

IAF GNF – From Chip to Constellation: ASELSAN’s End-to-End LEO Architecture



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The rapid expansion of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite constellations is redefining the architecture of space communications. The demand for resilient connectivity, low-latency services, and scalable satellite infrastructure is accelerating the transition toward large-scale multi-orbit space networks.

In this executive keynote, ASELSAN will present their vision for end-to-end LEO communication architecture, spanning the entire value chain from IC design up to the satellite constellation.

ASELSAN has been steadily expanding their capabilities across the space ecosystem, including space-qualified electronics, satellite communication payloads, smart platform solutions, ground infrastructure and advanced satellite communication terminals. These capabilities enable the development of integrated architectures allowing operators to build resilient and flexible networks.

First, the industry is moving toward integrated constellation architectures, where system performance is optimized across space, ground, and user segments rather than within individual components.

Second, Technical Challenges of LEO Communication Architectures. While LEO constellations unlock significant performance gains, they also introduce a new class of complex technical challenges that span multiple domains. One of the primary challenges is network orchestration at scale. Managing hundreds of satellites requires advanced algorithms for tracking, routing, and handover optimization. The complexity of large constellation systems requires a new level of system engineering integration, covering payload technologies, ground infrastructure, network orchestration and operational resilience.

Third, ASELSAN’s End-to-End Approach. ASELSAN addresses these challenges through a holistic “from chip to constellation” approach, delivering vertically integrated solutions across the entire LEO ecosystem. From Chip, Payload and Platform, Network and System to up to Cybersecurity by Design, ASELSAN’s approach will be presented. Through this keynote, ASELSAN will present how an end-to-end architectural approach — from chip to constellation — enables scalable, secure and resilient space communication systems.

The session will conclude with a strategic discussion on the evolution of global satellite communication architectures and opportunities for international collaboration in the emerging ecosystem.

Sponsored by: 

Speaker:



Yusuf Bora KARTAL
Executive Vice President
Communication and
Information Technologies,
ASELSAN,
Türkiye

15:50 – 16:35

IAF GNF – Post-ISS Transition: Commercial Leo Destination Companies Discuss The Latest Developments



Location: Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

In March of 2021, NASA kicked off the Commercial LEO Destinations program (CLD), ushering in a new age of commercial innovation in space exploration and marking the transition from the ISS to the next generation of space stations. Five years later, NASA is refining the next stage of its commercial LEO strategy, as multiple destination providers advance commercial station concepts and NASA evaluates how best to support design, demonstration, certification and eventual service procurement.

This discussion brings together the CLD commercial companies to share their unique perspectives on their company's offerings, their progress to date, and their future goals.

Sponsored by:



Speakers:



Max HAOT
CEO,
Vast,
United States



Jonathan W. CIRTAIN
Chief Executive Officer and
President,
Axiom Space, LLC,
United States



Marshall SMITH
CEO,
Starlab,
United States



Randy LILLARD
Program Manager of
Orbital Reef,
Blue Origin,
United States



MODERATOR
Jeff FOUST
Senior Staff Writer,
SpaceNews,
United States

16:40 – 17:40

IAF GNF – Sky Was The Limit: The Italian – Turkish Partnership In Space



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Italy has a longer space history than it is often imagined. With the launch of its first satellite in 1964 it became the third country in the world to enter the space race after the Soviet Union and the USA. A few years earlier, it established the Fucino Space Centre, a hub for satellite communications and today the world's largest teleport for civilian use, handling services that are essential to everyday life. Another milestone came in 1992, when the first Italian astronaut travelled into space aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis. Building on this long-standing commitment, Italy developed a wide range of space technologies that are essential for living, working and communicating. A number of modules and structures on the International Space Station are Italian, including its large panoramic "window" Cupola, as well as satellites and observation systems such as COSMO-SkyMed, capable of monitoring the planet day and night, even through the clouds, providing valuable data for environment, security and emergency management.

From an industrial perspective, this is a story of success that perfectly matches Türkiye's ambitions and determination in pursuing a "space path" towards innovation and applied technology. The first example was Göktürk-1, the first Turkish

satellite, jointly developed by Italian and Turkish companies and launched into orbit by an Italian launcher. The best is yet to come: Türkiye's Lunar Research Programme (Ay Araştırma Programı) and Artemis Accords provide new opportunities.

To witness the strategic and even personal Turkish-Italian cooperation two exceptional testimonials will take the stage during the event: Alper Gezeravcı, the first Turkish astronaut, and the Italian Walter Villadei, who were crewmates in the "Axiom 3" mission in January-February 2024. Their journey brought the friendship between Italy and Türkiye into space itself, becoming a powerful symbol of what our two countries can achieve together. The sky was the limit...!

Sponsored by: **ITA** 
ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

Speakers:



Massimo COMPARINI
Managing Director, Space
Business Unit,
Leonardo Spa,
Italy



Mario COSPITO
Extraordinary
Commissioner,
Italian Space Agency (ASI),
Italy



Alper GEZERAVCI
First Turkish Astronaut,
Turkish Space Agency
Board Member, Turkish
Space Command
Coordination & Execution
Director F-16 & KC-135R
Pilot,
Turkish Space Agency
(TUA),
Türkiye



Giuseppe MANZO
Ambassador of Italy to the
Republic of Türkiye,
Australia



Walter VILLADEI
Italy



MODERATOR
**Andrea DELLA
NEBBIA**
Head of Economic and
Trade department,
Embassy of Italy,
Türkiye

17:45 – 18:45

Highlight Lecture 1 – Sustainability and Safety of Large Satellite Constellations from the Starlink Perspective Looking Forward



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

SpaceX operates the world's largest satellite constellation in support of Starlink, which provides broadband connectivity to millions of people globally. Starlink is a constellation consisting of nearly 10,000 satellites operating from 350–550 km in low-Earth orbit (LEO). The operation of Starlink puts SpaceX in a unique position managing the sustainability and safety aspects of Earth-orbiting satellites, which are critical as more constellations are deployed. This highlight lecture will focus on the best practices that Starlink has developed, and the challenges that it faces, in operating the Starlink satellite constellation.

Starlink invests significant resources in ensuring the safety of its constellation. The practices it has developed extend from the launch of the satellites to their end-of-life strategy, and include operating at low altitude where any debris and non-functional satellites reenter rapidly, promoting the active sharing of satellite positions and planned maneuvers with other operators, maneuvering at highly conservative risk levels, and proactive deorbiting of satellites to minimize failures on orbit. Most recently, SpaceX has developed the Stargaze system to provide space situational awareness data on objects in LEO, and opened its space safety sharing platform to other operators to enable the sharing of real-time ephemeris.

SpaceX recently announced plans to deploy a large constellation in LEO for the purpose of AI-based compute, which will require the development of new approaches to operations leveraging the investments already made in Starlink. As access

to space accelerates and humanity pushes towards space-based data centers and infrastructure on the moon and other planets, continuing to develop the technologies and defining approaches for safe operations in LEO and beyond could not be more important

Speaker:



Michael NICOLLS

Senior Vice President
of Starlink Engineering
and President of
SpaceXAI,
SpaceX,
United States

19:00 – 21:00

IAF Young Professionals Networking Event (restricted to Young Professionals)

Location: Studio 2, Level T, Gloria Sports Arena



Wednesday 7 October

08:00 – 08:45 IAF IDEA 3G+ Diversity Breakfast

Location: NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre, Cafeteria A-B-C Foyer (left-side)

Speakers:



Gabriella ARRIGO

President,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Director,
International Affairs
Directorate,
Italian Space Agency (ASI),
Italy



Nikol KOLEVA

VP: Diversity Initiatives,
IAF Bureau,
Executive Director,
Space Generation
Advisory Council (SGAC),
Bulgaria



09:00 – 10:00 Plenary 4 – Intercontinental View of Space Governance from Regional Space Organizations



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

This unprecedented cross-continental plenary dialogue originates from the First Meeting of Regional Inter-Governmental Space Agencies convened in Noordwijk, the Netherlands in May 2026, where APSCO, ESA, AfSA and ALCE adopted a joint statement agreeing to stage this dedicated session on the sidelines of IAC 2026. Moving beyond isolated national perspectives, the session brings together top leadership from the world's four core regional intergovernmental space organizations to unpack how regional cooperation frameworks reshape global space undertakings. Discussions will cover the formulation of regional space policies, joint flagship space projects, cross-regional capacity building, technology transfer, and how regional bodies support the integration of emerging space nations into the global space ecosystem. Participants will also address shared global challenges via a regional lens, including space traffic management, climate change mitigation, disaster risk reduction and food security supported by space infrastructure. Dialogue will further explore viable region-to-region partnership models that bypass geopolitical hurdles to advance mutually beneficial joint initiatives. Fully aligned with the IAC 2026 core theme "The World Needs More Space", the session elaborates how regional space organizations deliver more inclusive, diversified and equitable access to space resources. As the first IAC plenary gathering heads of major continental space agencies, it delivers unique macro-geopolitical insights for policymakers, industrial stakeholders, researchers and representatives from emerging space countries across all attending delegations.

Speakers:



Josef ASCHBACHER

Director General,
European Space Agency
(ESA),
France



Jiang HUI

Secretary-General,
Asia-Pacific Space
Cooperation Organization
(APSCO),
China



Tidiane OUATTARA

President of the African
Space Council,
African Space Agency
(AfSA),



**Oscar Fredy
González RIVERA**

General Secretary,
Latin American and
Caribbean Space Agency,
Mexico



MODERATOR

Aarti HOLLA-MAINI

Director,
United Nations Office
for Outer Space Affairs
(UNOOSA),
United States

10:15 – 11:15

IAF GNF – Space Manufacturing: Driving the Next Revolution in Biotechnology, Advanced Materials, and Human Exploration



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Space manufacturing is rapidly emerging as a foundational capability for the future of human space exploration and the development of a sustainable space economy. Recognized by the World Economic Forum in 2025 as one of the 12 transformative technologies expected to reshape future space missions, space manufacturing harnesses the unique conditions of microgravity, vacuum, radiation, and extreme thermal environments to produce materials, components, and biological systems with properties that are difficult—or impossible—to achieve on Earth.

The field encompasses a broad spectrum of technologies, including advanced materials, additive manufacturing, biomanufacturing, autonomous robotics, artificial intelligence, digital manufacturing, and in situ resource utilization. Microgravity enables unprecedented opportunities to fabricate high-performance alloys, composites, semiconductors, optical fibers, and other advanced materials with enhanced structural and functional characteristics, while also enabling novel additive manufacturing processes for lightweight structures, medical devices, and mission-critical components. These innovations not only reduce cost, increase reliability, and support sustainable exploration architectures for the Moon, Mars, and beyond, but also drive transformative advances in aerospace, healthcare, energy, electronics, and advanced manufacturing on Earth.

Space biomanufacturing represents another rapidly expanding frontier, offering unique opportunities to produce high-value biomedical products—including stem cell therapies, engineered tissues, organoids, extracellular vesicles, biopharmaceuticals, and vaccines—with enhanced quality and functionality. These capabilities have the potential to revolutionize healthcare for astronauts during long-duration missions while accelerating the development of next-generation therapeutics, regenerative medicine, and precision healthcare for terrestrial populations.

This Global Networking Forum will convene internationally recognized leaders from academia, industry, government, and the investment community to explore the latest scientific advances, commercialization opportunities, and strategic partnerships shaping the future of space manufacturing. Through discussions spanning advanced materials, additive manufacturing, space biomanufacturing, and emerging industrial applications, participants will gain actionable insights into how innovations developed in space are enabling future exploration while generating breakthrough technologies that strengthen global competitiveness and create tangible benefits for industries and society on Earth.

Speakers:



Xuejun ZHANG

Director,
Changchun Institute of
Optics, Fine Mechanics
and Physics (CIOMP),
Chinese Academy of
Science,
China



Hargsoon YOON

CEO,
Space Liin Tech,
China



Luis ZEA

Chief Scientist,
Starlab Space,
Guatemala



Hubert ANTON MOSER

Chief Technology Officer,
Flawless Photonics,
???



MODERATOR

Fathi KAROUIA

Senior Research Scientist,
Blue Marble Space
Institute of Science (NASA
Ames Research Center),
In-Space
Commercialization Lead,
BioServe Space
Technologies, University of
Colorado Boulder,
United States



MODERATOR

Gong WANG

Professor and Director,
Centre for Space
Manufacturing
Technology, Hong Kong
Institute of Science &
Innovation,
China

10:30 – 11:30

Press Conference – Official IAC 2026 Press Conference

Location: Hall 33, First Floor, NEST Plus Building

11:30 – 12:30

IAF GNF – The Space Economy: Structural Growth Engine or Strategic Hype? Governance, Value Creation, and Global Asymmetries



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Over the past decade, the “space economy” has become one of the most frequently invoked concepts in space policy, industrial strategy, and investment discourse. Market projections routinely forecast trillion-dollar valuations, while space is increasingly framed as the next frontier for economic growth, technological spillovers, and geopolitical influence. Despite optimism, fundamental questions remain insufficiently debated: is the space economy a structurally transformative economic engine, or a narrative inflated by speculative expectations, financialization, and strategic signalling? This panel proposes a critical discussion on future of space economy that moves beyond launch counts, satellite numbers, headline market sizes. Instead, it aims to interrogate the economic substance of space activities, their real capacity to generate sustained value on Earth, and the conditions under which space can become a driver of inclusive, durable growth.

First axis of debate concerns distinction between derived and intrinsic space economic value. Many current business models rely on public procurement, institutional anchor customers, downstream services that remain marginal in global economic terms. Is the space economy creating new value chains, or primarily redistributing public investment and risk?

Second axis addresses the role of governance and regulation as economic enablers rather than constraints. The absence of mature international regulatory frameworks for issues such as orbital sustainability, resource utilization, and spectrum management creates both opportunities and systemic risks. This panel explore whether the current “regulate later” approach accelerates innovation—or instead undermines long-term economic viability by amplifying congestion, fragmentation, and legal uncertainty. Third, often overlooked dimension concerns the global distribution of space economic benefits. While space is frequently presented as universal opportunity, access to capital, infrastructure, and regulatory leverage remains highly asymmetric. Finally, the panel will confront the uncomfortable but necessary question of limits. Where should public and private actors draw the line between strategic investment, long-term vision, hype-driven allocation of resources?

Speakers:



Marco FERRAZZANI

Director of Internal
Services,
European Space Agency
(ESA),
France



Lucie LOW

Chief Science Officer,
Axiom Space, LLC,
United States



Brad POWELL

Deputy General Counsel,
Vast,
United States



Christopher PUHL

Business Development
Manager,
Exobiosphere ,
Luxembourg



Carlo SAVERIO IORIO

Adjunct Professor,
York University,
Director,
Centre for Research and
Engineering in Space
Technologies (CREST),
Belgium



MODERATOR

Özgün ERLER BAYIR

Professor of International
Relations,
İstanbul University, Faculty
of Political Sciences,
Türkiye

10:30 – 11:30

Press Conference – NASA Artemis Accords Briefing

Location: Hall 33, First Floor, NEST Plus Building

12:30 – 13:30

IAF IDEA 3G+ Diversity Luncheon (*upon invitation only*)

Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

IAF Excellence in “3G+” Diversity Award Ceremony



Master of Ceremony:



Nikol KOLEVA

VP: Diversity Initiatives,
IAF Bureau,
Executive Director,
Space Generation
Advisory Council (SGAC),
Bulgaria

AWARDEE

SPACE Academy of Azercosmos



SPACE Academy of Azercosmos is Azerbaijan's national platform for developing the country's future space workforce through education, scientific excellence, engineering and international cooperation. As one of the world's fully institutionalized national space academies and a full member of the International Space Education Board (ISEB), the Academy has established a sustainable national ecosystem that connects education with research, innovation and industry while expanding equitable access to space opportunities across the country.



Imran MUKHTAROV

Head,
Academy of the
Azerbaijan Space Agency
(Azercosmos),
Azerbaijan

13:45 – 14:45

Plenary 5 – Next Generation Space Infrastructure: Building the Orbital Backbone for a Space-Faring Economy



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The era of launch constraints is ending; the era of large-scale construction is beginning. As reusable heavy-lift vehicles unlock unprecedented access to orbit, humanity is no longer limited to small, isolated satellites. We are now presented with the engineering and economic challenge of the century: once we can bring massive volumes of material to space at scale, what infrastructure do we build? This session aims to showcase young professionals and emerging leaders who are architects of this new orbital and cislunar economy – those designing the nodes, networks, and logistical backbones that will support a permanent human expansion into the solar system.

Speakers:



Manwei CHAN

Director,
International and Science
Development, Voyager
Technologies,
United States



Aayushi DOSHI

Astrophysics Data Analyst,
American Museum of
Natural History,
United States



Phoebe DUNBABIN

PhD Candidate,
University of New South
Wales,
Australia



Ezra FIELDING

Doctoral Researcher,
Centre National d'Etudes
Spatiales (CNES),
France



James SHIN

Graduate Research
Assistant,
Cavendish Laboratory,
University of Cambridge,
United Kingdom



MODERATOR

Joe LONDON

Co-Founder & President,
Rendezvous Robotics, Inc.,
Special Advisor to
President on the
Sustainability, Investment
and Security (SIS)
Agenda,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
United States

14:50 – 15:35

IAF GNF – Europe's Exploration Ambition



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Europe is entering the most consequential decade for exploration in its history. At the ESA Council at Ministerial Level in Bremen in November 2025, Member States approved the largest contributions in the Agency's history, over €22 billion, translating the long-term ambitions of ESA's Strategy 2040 into funded programmes. What remains to be settled is the exploration roadmap itself, and 2026 is the year it will be decided.

This Global Networking Forum session brings the Director General of ESA together with the heads of CNES, DLR, ASI, UKSA, AEE and ESA CWG chair at a decisive moment: after the International Space Summit in Paris, and before the ESA Interim Ministerial Meeting (IMM) in Rome. Panellists will set out what Europe intends to explore in the coming decade, and what they will ask their ministers to fund in December: Europe's lunar ambitions and the Argonaut lander, its role in low Earth orbit after the ISS, and the open question of autonomous European access to space for crew and cargo.

The conversation will address the hard questions alongside the visionary ones, how Europe balances partnership with strategic autonomy, how agencies work with a maturing commercial sector rather than around it, how exploration ambition survives contact with national budget cycles, and what Europe offers international partners, including emerging space nations, as a reliable and open collaborator.



Speakers:



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



Juan Carlos CORTÉS PULIDO
Director,
Spanish Space Agency
(AEE),
Spain



Rebecca EVERNDEN
Director,
UK Space Agency ,
United Kingdom



Francois JACQ
Chairman and CEO,
Centre National d'Etudes
Spatiales (CNES),
France



Walther PELZER
Director General,
German Space Agency,
Member of the Executive
Board,
Deutsches Zentrum für
Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.
(DLR),
Germany



Tanja PERMOZER
Head of Unit,
Ministry of Economy,
Slovenia



MODERATOR
Heriberto SALDIVAR
Head of Strategy,
European Space Agency
(ESA),
France

15:45 – 16:30

IAF GNF – The First Turkish Lunar Mission: Developing a High-Resolution Observatory of Lunar Water-Cycle Processes



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The international community has entered a new lunar era defined by sustainable resource utilization. At the center of this effort are the processes governing the lunar water cycle, which the First Turkish Lunar Mission (TLM-1), targeted for launch in the first half of 2027, is uniquely positioned to investigate. By combining indigenous spacecraft technologies with high-resolution energetic neutral atom observations, thermal and surface characterization, optical imaging, and measurements of lunar radiation environment, TLM-1 will provide a new, integrated view of the interactions among the solar wind, lunar surface, magnetic anomalies, and thermal environment. Through its indigenous technologies and international partnerships, Türkiye aims to contribute new scientific knowledge and capabilities to the global lunar exploration community.

This lecture explores how the First Turkish Lunar Mission contributes to the global Lunar exploration efforts through three core pillars:

1. Engineering the Indigenous Deep Space Platform: Developed by TÜBİTAK UZAY, the TstarD platform forms the core of the TLM-1 spacecraft with more than 80% domestic content, marking Türkiye's transition to deep-space operations. The lecture details the engineering of this high-performance spacecraft, integrating indigenous technologies including the hybrid propulsion, vision-based navigation (VBN), onboard data handling, communications, power, thermal control, and attitude and orbit control systems. The spacecraft also carries domestically developed scientific and imaging payloads including a radiation calorimeter, radiation dosimeters, and video cameras. It serves as a case study for rising space nations on balancing satellite heritage with cutting-edge indigenous innovation to execute a 400,000 km journey to the Moon.

2. **Dynamic Mapping of Water–Cycle Processes via LNT:** The scientific centerpiece of TLM-1 is the Lunar Neutrals Telescope (LNT), developed by the Swedish Institute of Space Physics (IRF). Offering unprecedented spatial resolution and sensitivity, LNT will capture high-resolution energetic neutral atom (ENA) images of the Moon to advance our understanding of Moon–solar wind interactions. By detecting ENAs, TLM-1 will provide a high-resolution dynamic view of key processes influencing the lunar water cycle—investigating how solar-wind interaction contributes to water precursors, how this interaction varies across the lunar surface and magnetic anomalies, and how these processes relate to the environments in which volatiles can migrate and eventually become trapped in Permanently Shadowed Regions (PSRs).
3. **Thermal and Surface Characterization via LNR:** Complementing LNT is the Lunar Narrow Field-of-View Radiometer (LNR) developed by Shenzhen University, China to characterize the thermal and radiative properties of the lunar surface at high spatial resolution. Precise knowledge of extreme temperature gradients is essential for interpreting volatile mobility and cold-trapping conditions, as well as for ensuring the survival of future lunar assets. Together, LNT and LNR will enable solar wind–surface interactions to be investigated alongside the thermal conditions that influence volatile retention, redistribution, and cold trapping.

The Turkish Lunar Mission is more than a national milestone; it represents a significant contribution to global lunar science and exploration. Integrating the LNR, LNT, indigenous radiation instruments, and optical cameras, TLM-1 will serve as a comprehensive environmental laboratory for investigating the physical processes governing the lunar water cycle. This lecture will provide the IAF community with new insights relevant to future In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU) while highlighting Türkiye's emergence as a Lunar nation.

Sponsored by:



Speaker:



Burak YAĞLIOĞLU

Senior Chief Researcher,
TUBITAK UZAY,
Türkiye

16:35 – 17:05

IAF GNF – NASA's Artemis II Preliminary Lunar Science Release



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

NASA's Artemis II mission captivated the world and put lunar science in the spotlight. The mission was just the beginning—of NASA's return of humans to the Moon, and of the science that Artemis II will unlock. NASA is opening the doors to the global science community and aerospace professionals around the world to access, analyze, and apply mission data with the release of the agency's first comprehensive collection of Artemis II lunar science data, set for October 7, 2026.

Join NASA leaders for an exclusive early look at the data, images, audio, and accompanying resources. Attendees of this session will be uniquely primed to access and apply the data upon its release.

Speakers:



Matt ANDERSON

Deputy Administrator,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States



Nicola J. FOX

Associate Administrator
for the Science Mission
Directorate,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States



Lori GLAZE

Associate Administrator
for the Human Spaceflight
Mission Directorate,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States



Kelsey YOUNG

Artemis II Lunar Science
Lead and Artemis
Science Flight Operations
Lead, Science Mission
Directorate,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States

17:10 – 17:40

IAF GNF – Space Governance: Hong Kong's Role and Perspective



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

As space activities continue to expand globally, effective space governance is essential for fostering innovation, international collaboration, and the sustainable use of outer space. This session consists of a keynote speech on Hong Kong's potential role in the evolving space sector and its contribution to national and international space initiatives. It is followed by a panel discussion where experts from academia, government, and industry will discuss opportunities in space governance, research, talent development, and commercialisation, as well as how Hong Kong can leverage its strengths in innovation, finance, and global connectivity to support the growth of the space economy.

Sponsored by:



Speakers:



Gustavo MEDINA TANCO

Professor,
Laboratory of Space
Instrumentation (LINX),
Inst. of Nuclear Sciences,
UNAM,
Mexico



Hongyu YU

Professor,
Executive Director
of PolyU Aerospace
Research Academy,
Hong Kong Polytechnic
University,
Hong Kong – China



Xiaozhou YU

Full Professor/PhD,
School of Mechanics and
Aerospace Engineering,
Dalian University of
Technology (DUT),
China



Ayhan İNCİRCİ

Director of International
Relations,
Turkish Space Agency
(TUA),
Director of International
Relations Director
General, External
Relations and Legal
Affairs Department,
Asia-Pacific Space
Cooperation Organization
(APSCO),
Türkiye



Fei XING

Professor, Department of
Precision Instrument,
Tsinghua University,
China



MODERATOR

Lei WU

Chief Editor, Producer, and
Senior Space Journalist,
China Global Television
Network (CGTN),
China

17:15 – 17:45 **Press Conference – GLEX 2028 Press Conference and Official Signing Ceremony**

Location: Hall 33, First Floor, NEST Plus Building

17:45 – 18:45 **Highlight Lecture 2 – WSA Highlight Lecture: From Satellite Resources to Coordinated Disaster Response**



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Speakers:



Godela ROSSNER
Head of Earth
Observation Department,
Deutsches Zentrum für
Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.
(DLR),
Germany



**Sultan Mohammed AL
ZEIDI**
Principal Space Projects
Manager at Space
Missions Department,
UAE Space Agency,
United Arab Emirates

19:00 – 21:00 **IAF Young Professionals Networking Event
(restricted to Young Professionals)**

Location: Studio 2, Level T, Gloria Sports Arena

Thursday 8 October

08:00 – 08:45 IAF Science & Academic Breakfast

Location: NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre, Cafeteria A-B-C Foyer (left-side)

The IAF dedicates the fourth day of the IAC to Science and Academia, vital elements of the space sector for research and development of new technologies as well as pivotal domains for future applications and discoveries.

As part of its mission to Connect @ll Space People, the Federation strives to promote the academic sector, especially from the regional area where its yearly IAC is held.

This year the IAF is proud to present the Turkish Academic Sector!

Speaker:



Arif KARABEYOĞLU

Faculty Member, KOÇ University in İstanbul, Board member for the Turkish Space Agency, Turkish Space Agency (TUA), Türkiye



WELCOME REMARKS

Gabriella ARRIGO

President, International Astronautical Federation (IAF), Director, International Affairs Directorate, Italian Space Agency (ASI), Italy

09:00 – 10:00 Plenary 6 – Navigating the Cislunar Crossroads: Partnerships, Security and Japan as a case study



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

This panel examines how future cislunar infrastructure is taking shape through two distinct but increasingly connected approaches: one centred on international cooperation and shared capabilities, and another shaped by security considerations and strategic autonomy. As the Moon becomes a focus for exploration, commercial activity, and national security interests, decisions made today will influence whether future lunar infrastructure develops in a coordinated, interoperable way or becomes fragmented across competing initiatives. Starting from cislunar architectures born in Japan, the session will open into a broader discussion on how cooperative and security-driven approaches can be reconciled. Where can interoperability and standardisation still be achieved? What are the trade-offs in cost, schedule, resilience, and strategic control? And how can diplomacy and commercial partnerships help prevent these approaches from diverging too far? By connecting Japan's work to a wider international conversation, the panel aims to identify practical ways to support a more coordinated, sustainable, and resilient cislunar ecosystem.

Speakers:



Takeshi HAKAMADA

Founder & CEO, ispace, inc, Japan



Sara PASTOR

Lunar Projects Group Leader, Directorate of Robotics and Human Exploration European Space Agency (ESA), The Netherlands



Seiko SHIRASAKA

Professor, Keio University, Japan



Caitlin SMITH

Director, Government
Program Development,
SpaceX,
United States



MODERATOR

Charlotte NASSEY

Senior Government Affairs
& Policy Officer,
ispace, inc,
Luxembourg

10:15 – 11:15

IAF GNF – Space in Support of Global Threats and Crisis Response



Location: D3- NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Today, Space has no longer only a supporting role, it is becoming central to plan strategic military operations, respond to crises, human-generated or natural, and protect critical infrastructure. All rely heavily on satellite-based positioning, secure communications, and real-time imagery, a dependence that introduces new layers of risk, from operational disruption to systemic failure.

This panel will look at how space technologies may evolve over the next decade, from more resilient satellite constellations to AI-enabled Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance systems and hardened communications. Will these advances reduce risk or simply redistribute it? It will also address a key geopolitical concern: are we gradually evolving towards the militarisation of space?

The panel will focus as well on the rapid expansion of commercial megaconstellations and the overlapping frontier between civilian and military capabilities. This trend raises important questions about the legal framework: when dual-use systems are targeted or disrupted, how should states respond?

At the same time, space assets are becoming more vulnerable: Jamming, spoofing, cyberattacks, and anti-satellite weapons are no longer theoretical—they represent real and growing threats to both military and civilian systems. States are responding by investing in resilience to mitigate these risks through redundancy, and rapid-launch capacity for example, though each approach introduces its own operational and financial risks. The discussion will also address the growing number of national Space Forces: do they help reduce strategic risk by clarifying roles and responsibilities, or does their existence increase the long-term risk of weaponisation?

Finally, drawing on recent conflicts where commercial imagery and satellite communications played a decisive role, the panel will consider how policymakers and legislators could help in define the use of space assets for humanitarian and crisis responses adapting existing frameworks — e.g. the UN Outer Space Treaty —or will a fundamentally new governance architecture be required?

Sponsored by:  **LOCKHEED MARTIN**

Speakers:



Pascale EHRENFREUND

President,
Committee of Space
Research (COSPAR),
France



Christopher GEIGER

Vice President, Internal
Audit and Enterprise Risk,
Lockheed Martin
Corporation,
United States



Pascal LEGAI

Senior Security Adviser,
European Space Agency
(ESA),
France



Milenia LERARIO

CEO,
e-GEOS,
Italy



Özgür ÖZMEN

Commander,
Turkish Air Force Space
Command,
Türkiye



MODERATOR

Maria Gabriella SARAH

Seconded Expert in
Strategy, Impact and
Partnerships to European
Commission's Joint
Research Centre,
European Space Agency
(ESA)
France

11:30 – 12:00

IAF GNF – Lunar Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Challenges and Opportunities



Location: D3- NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The exploration of the Moon is of the highest importance for humanity as it holds secrets of the solar system creation. Dedicated processes are required to preserve scientific investigation of the Moon, especially in unexplored areas and sites of scientific and cultural significance to assure successful and sustainable research of the Moon and its orbital environment. In particular, the lunar surface holds significant scientific value for astronomy, solar physics, space weather research, astrobiology, and fundamental physics. At the same time, it is a focal point for commercial activities aimed at exploiting potentially valuable resources. Certain regions on the Moon are of greater scientific or economic importance and therefore attract heightened interest from multiple stakeholders. This underscores the need for effective management of these areas called Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The panel, composed of representatives from COSPAR, IAU, MVA and Industry will discuss the status of the definition and management of SSSI, including the activities of the "Friends of Lunar SSSI". This group includes experts from national delegations and the relevant organizations.

Speakers:



Elena-Ulpia BOTEZATU

Co-Chair,
Action Team on Lunar
Activities Consultation
(ATLAC),
Romania



Timothy CICHAN

Space Exploration
Architect,
Lockheed Martin
Corporation,
United States



Bernard FOING

CEO,
ILEWG LUNEX
EuroMoonMars;
Chief Scientist,
QOSMOSYS,
Space Renaissance
International (SRI),
Netherlands



Chris JOHNSON

Member,
International Institute of Air
and Space Law (IIASL),
United States



MODERATOR

Pascale EHRENFREUND

President,
Committee of Space
Research (COSPAR),
France

12:00 – 12:30 IAF GNF – WHERE SENSING MAKES SENSE: Earth Observation as an Enabler for Global Policy-relevant Solutions



Location: D3- NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Energy, agriculture, digital transition, peace and security, climate resilience and insurance: these strategic priorities reflect shared challenges that demand joint solutions, demonstrating opportunities to expand the impact of Earth observation (EO), also enabled by international collaborations.

This GNF session uses the findings of the ESPI report, “Where Sensing Makes Sense,” developed in cooperation with the European Space Agency, as a springboard to explore how global partnerships can turn fragmented EO capabilities into cooperative solutions that are systematically embedded into policy and decision-making.

Grounded in an evidence-based assessment of over 300 policy documents and 600+ EO downstream projects, the study provides recommendations to ensure that EO capabilities are no longer standalone tools, but effectively integrated across the entire policy cycle.

The panel convenes sectoral experts and continental space leaders to discuss opportunities for EO to better deliver in line with policy needs, exploring global challenges and agreeing on joint actions forward to build on the assessment provided by the report.

Speakers:



Pierre POTIN
Head of the Copernicus
Space Office,
European Space Agency
(ESA)



Annie SHELTON
Head, Science & Research,
Deep Space Food
Consortium,
United Kingdom



Ioana PETRESCU
Former Finance Minister
of Romania,
ESPI Global Fellow



Tidiane OUATTARA
President of the African
Space Council,
African Space Agency
(AfSA)



MODERATOR
Anastasiia POSNOVA
Research Fellow,
European Space Policy
Institute (ESPI),
France

12:30 – 13:30 IAF Science & Academic Luncheon (upon invitation only)

Location: NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre, Cafeteria A-B-C Foyer (left-side)

The International Astronautical Federation (IAF) is pleased to introduce the IAF Global Award for Academic and Scientific Top Research Achievement (IAF ASTRA Award) Winner Professor Scott Pace!

The IAF Global Award for Academic and Scientific Top Research Achievement (IAF ASTRA Award) is a unique and prestigious recognition intended to celebrate World High-Level Academicians and Researchers who distinguished themselves through outstanding contributions and achievements in scientific fields in the space sector.

AWARDEE

IAF Global Award for Academic and Scientific Top Research Achievement (IAF ASTRA Award)



Scott PACE

Director,
Space Policy Institute,
George Washington
University,
United States

13:45 – 14:45

Plenary 7 – Orbital Oversaturation: The Post-LEO Reality



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

As the global space economy expands at an unprecedented pace, Low Earth Orbit (LEO) is becoming the most intensely used—and increasingly strained—region of space. This session examines how congestion is becoming a defining constraint, exploring how shrinking access windows, heightened collision probabilities, and escalating maneuvering demands could reshape mission planning, satellite economics, and the overall safety of orbital operations. The discussion confronts the “elephant in the room”: the possibility that LEO may reach practical capacity sooner than anticipated, forcing government agencies, commercial operators, and researchers to rethink long standing assumptions about orbital sustainability.

At the heart of the conversation is an exploration of the tipping points that could fundamentally alter how LEO is used. These include not only physical crowding, but regulatory and operational bottlenecks—such as spectrum allocation, traffic coordination, and debris remediation—that become more complex as the orbital population grows. The session considers the cascading consequences for the broader space economy as many stakeholders reconsider whether LEO should remain the default orbit. Yet with constraint comes opportunity. As panelists will explore, LEO saturation could catalyze a strategic shift outward, accelerating the adoption of alternative orbital regimes and innovative architectures.

Finally, the session highlights the technological and governance innovations required to navigate this transition. Automation and AI driven traffic management, advanced propulsion for more agile orbit raising, improved debris mitigation, and active debris removal will all play critical roles in sustaining orbital access. At the same time, international policy frameworks must evolve to support more transparent, coordinated, and enforceable norms. By bringing together experts from government, industry, and academia, the session aims to explain not only the risks of a saturated LEO, but also highlight the transformative pathways that may shape a more distributed, resilient, and sustainable orbital ecosystem

Speakers:



Chris BLACKERBY

Group COO,
Astroscale,
Japan



Mariel BOROWITZ

Director of the Center
for Space Policy and
International Relations,
Georgia Institute of
Technology,
United States



Holger KRAG

Head of Space Safety
Programme Office,
European Space Agency
(ESA),
Germany



Andrew RATCLIFFE

Chief Engineer,
UK Space Agency,
United Kingdom



Marlon SORGE

Technical Fellow, Center
for Space Policy,
Strategy, and Executive
Director, Center for
Orbital and Reentry
Debris Studies,
The Aerospace
Corporation,
United States



MODERATOR

Clay MOWRY
IAF past President,
Chief Executive Officer,
American Institute
of Aeronautics and
Astronautics (AIAA),
United States

14:50 – 15:35 IAF GNF – Heat in the Dark: Missions in the Fronter Using Radioisotope Power Systems (RPS)



Location: D3- NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Some of the most strategic and scientifically compelling environments in the solar system are also the most hostile to conventional spacecraft power systems. These locations include areas of long duration lunar night, permanently shadowed regions of the lunar poles, dust-shrouded surface of Mars, and the radiation-intense moons of the outer planets. This panel convenes an international roster of organizations to discuss how their systems can utilize and take advantage of RPS, unlocking science and exploration throughout the solar systems. Panelists will articulate potential future missions that could be imagined, including long-duration seismic monitoring across lunar night cycles, in-situ volatile characterization at polar cold traps, enabling a lunar base, multi-year surface operations on Mars, and deep space missions to the ice giants and beyond. The session will examine the new generation of RPS technology, including Radioisotope Heater Units (RHUs) and Stirling Power conversion. Panelists will also discuss how the science and exploration communities can more effectively use new commercial RPS solutions. The frontier does not yield its secrets easily, and it does not yield them in daylight alone. This session makes the case that radioisotope power is not a niche technology — it is part of the enabling infrastructure in the solar system.

Sponsored by: 

Speakers:



A. C. CHARANIA
Chief Technologist,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States



Jacki CORTESE
Vice President, Civil Space,
Blue Origin,
United States



Joel GRAHAM
Associate Administrator,
Office of Legislative and
Intergovernmental Affairs,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States



Michael NORD
Mission Architect for Lunar
and Martian Programs,
Firefly Aerospace,
United States

15:45 – 16:15 IAF GNF – Leveraging IAF's space data and information for a shared future



Location: D3- NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The Federation has access to an incredible pool of data and information, through its Members, Committees and events. Most of this data is not yet exploited to its full potential. This workshop-style GNF will take the opportunity of IAC Antalya to take advantage of the expertise of those who gather at the IAF to explore further ways to collect, extract and fully utilise the vast amount of data and expertise that lies in this incredible hub of space experts and professionals. Specifically, the workshop will discuss the following questions, based on but not limited to the results of the targeted survey conducted earlier this year:

- Major trends and challenges that will characterize the next 20 years;
- Identify major breakthroughs, changes in landscape, opportunities and gamechangers;
- Work on a simple exercise of forecasting/horizon scanning;
- Discuss implications for the IAF.

Sponsored by:



VAST

Speakers:



Giorgio SACCOCCIA

President, Europe,
Vast,
Special Advisor to the
President on the IAF Hub,
IAF Bureau,
France



Masami ONODA

Director, International
Relations and Research
Department,
Japan Aerospace
Exploration Agency
(JAXA),
United States

15:30 – 16:30

Press Conference – IAC 2026 International Astronauts Press Conference

Location: Hall 33, First Floor, NEST Plus Building

16:25 – 16:55

**IAF GNF – Space Sustainability and Radiation Resilience:
Increasing Spacecraft Reliability and Mitigating Space
Debris – Academic, Scientific, Industrial and Policy Solutions
to a Global Environmental Challenge,**



Location: D3- NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The rapid growth of space activities has intensified concerns about the long-term sustainability of Earth's orbital environment. Space debris poses a systemic risk to satellites, critical infrastructure, and future missions, making it a pressing global environmental challenge that requires cross-sector responses.

This GNF session proposes a multidisciplinary panel discussion bringing together key actors from academia, science, industry, and policy to explore coordinated solutions.

The academic perspective, represented by EPFL, will address sustainable spacecraft design principles alongside advances in modeling space weather and ground-based monitoring of space debris. These approaches are essential for anticipating risks and embedding sustainability into mission lifecycles.

A central pillar of the discussion will be the scientific contribution of CERN, which will highlight its leading role in radiation monitoring in space and, crucially, in ground-based radiation testing of electronic systems. Radiation monitors based on CERN technologies have been used onboard Artemis II mission and recently deployed on the ISS. CERN's irradiation facilities and expertise in high-energy particle environments enables rigorous characterization of space components against radiation effects. These contributions, part of CERN Innovation Programme on Environmental Applications (CIPEA), are essential to space sustainability, as an improved knowledge of space radiation environments and enhanced radiation resilience help reducing failure rates, limit the generation of additional debris, and increase mission longevity.

From an industrial standpoint, ClearSpace will present progress in active debris removal missions, highlighting technological readiness and operational challenges associated with in-orbit servicing and cleanup.

This will be balanced by a policy perspective from the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, addressing evolving international regulations, norms, and cooperative frameworks required to ensure responsible behaviour in space.

The session will show how coordinated efforts – drawing on the strengths of Swiss-based organizations – can contribute meaningfully to global initiatives, reinforcing international collaboration in addressing one of the most complex environmental challenges of our time.

Sponsored by:



Speakers:



Enrico CHESTA
Aerospace and
Environmental Applications
Coordinator,
European Organization for
Nuclear Research (CERN)



Emmanuelle DAVID
Executive Director,
Ecole Polytechnique
Fédérale de Lausanne
(EPFL),
Switzerland



Grégoire HAUSER
Scientific Officer,
Swiss Federal Department
of Foreign Affairs,
Switzerland



Luc PIGUET
CEO and Co-founder,
ClearSpace ,
United States



MODERATOR
Grégoire BOURBAN
Head,
Space Exchange
Switzerland,
Switzerland

17:05 – 17:35

IAF GNF – Computing in Orbit: What Will It Take to Build this Next Infrastructure Layer?



Location: D3- NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Orbital computing is moving from individual demonstrations toward something much more ambitious: an interconnected infrastructure layer spanning compute, communications, spacecraft, power, launch, data services, and national security. But getting there requires solving more than any single technical problem. This panel brings together leaders building across the emerging orbital computing stack to examine what it will actually take to operate compute at scale in space.

How should compute, power, thermal management, communications, and spacecraft architectures evolve together? Where should processing happen across satellites, constellations, and ground infrastructure? How do optical networks and increasingly capable spacecraft change what can be done in orbit? And what technical and operational bottlenecks remain?

The discussion will also explore interoperability, resilience, autonomy, cybersecurity, launch and deployment, and the growing intersection between commercial and national security requirements. Rather than asking whether data centers can be built in space, this panel asks the harder question: What infrastructure, partnerships, standards, and capabilities have to come together to make orbital computing work at meaningful scale?

Sponsored by:



Speakers:



Leon ALKALAI
Founder, COB, & CTO,
Sophia Space,
United States



Brian MONNIN
Chief Commercial Officer,
Sophia Space,
United States



Al TADROS
Chief Technology Officer,
Redwire Space,
United States



Luca ROSSETTINI
Founder & CEO,
D-Orbit SpA,
Italy



MODERATOR
Jeff FOUST
Senior Staff Writer,
SpaceNews ,
United States

17:45 – 18:45

Highlight Lecture 3 – Pioneering Organ-Chip Research in Space to Advance Precision Health



Location: D1 and D2 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Aboard Artemis II was a trailblazing experiment that designed to take personalized medicine to new heights. The experiment was part of a strategic plan to gather valuable scientific data during the mission, enabling NASA to “know before we go” back to the lunar surface and on to Mars.

The AVATAR (A Virtual Astronaut Tissue Analog Response) investigation used organ-on-a-chip devices, or organ chips, to study the effects of deep space radiation and microgravity on human health. The chips contained cells from Artemis II astronauts and flew side-by-side with crew on their approximately 10-day journey around the Moon. This research, combined with other studies on the health and performance of Artemis II astronauts, will give NASA insight into how to best protect astronauts as exploration expands to the surface of the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

During this session, Dr. Lisa Carnell will share details about sending the first human avatars into deep space and how this collaboration between multiple government agencies and commercial companies could help transform precision health on Earth and in space.

Speaker:



Lisa CARNELL
Division Director of the
Biological and Physical
Sciences Division,
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
(NASA),
United States

19:00 – 21:00

IAC 2027 Launch Reception (upon invitation only)

Friday 9 October

08:00 – 08:45 Next Generation Breakfast

Location: NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre, Cafeteria A-B-C Foyer (left-side)

09:00 – 10:00 Late Breaking News



Location: D1, D2 & D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

The Late Breaking News (LBN) are dedicated to showcasing the most recent, high-impact developments in the global space sector, highlighting major achievements, breakthrough innovations, newly announced missions, significant discoveries, and other time-sensitive milestones that emerge close to the Congress.

10:15 – 11:15 IAF GNF – ASE Session: Is Spaceflight Now Safe for Humans?



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

In the past decades, we have become better at managing the risks of spaceflight for humans. We have more reliable rockets, we understand better how the body behaves in microgravity, we have learned from our failures and we have improved our operations through years of experience. But although space is becoming more accessible to more people, spaceflight remains inherently risky. Are today's missions safer, or have we simply become better at managing the risks?

Speakers:



Andrew FEUSTEL
Lead Astronaut,
Vast,
United States



André KUIPERS
ESA Astronaut,
European Space Agency
(ESA),
Netherlands



Michael LÓPEZ-ALEGRIA
VP: Astronauts Relations
and Outreach,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Chief Astronaut, Senior
Vice President of Human
Spaceflight,
Axiom Space, LLC,
United States



Thomas MARSHBURN
Chief Astronaut and VP of
Mission Integrity,
Sierra Space,
United States



Naoko YAMAZAKI
Astronaut,
Japan Aerospace
Exploration Agency (JAXA),
General Manager,
Vast Japan,
Council Member,
The Earthshot Prize,
Japan



Moderator
Julie PAYETTE
Astronaut, President,
Association of Space
Explorers (ASE),
Canada

10:15 – 11:15

IAF GNF – Global Programme for Non-Rocket Industrialisation of Space



Location: D3 – NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

At IAC 77, distinguished engineer Anatoli Unitsky will present the uSpace Programme for the non-rocket industrialisation of near space and the development of a new geocosmic infrastructure. The main mission of the Programme is to move the environmentally harmful part of terrestrial industry into space and connect Earth and orbital space into a single geocosmic transport and industrial system. The Programme aims to establish an efficient space industry in orbit while restoring the fertility of degraded land and improving the environmental condition of our planet for the benefit of future generations.

At the engineering core of the Programme is the General Planetary Vehicle (GPV) — a self-supporting aerospace vehicle designed to encircle the planet along the equator. In a single mission, within one day, the GPV is designed to deliver up to 10 million tonnes of cargo and 1 million passengers to equatorial orbits at altitudes of up to 500 km, without damage to the ozone layer and without toxic emissions into the Earth's atmosphere.

The projected cost of payload delivery to orbit using the GPV is less than USD 1,000 per tonne of cargo and less than USD 1,000 per passenger.

uSpace views near space as the industrial environment of the future — a place for orbital manufacturing, energy and biotechnology facilities, as well as for the gradual relocation of environmentally hazardous and resource-intensive industries beyond the Earth's biosphere.

This approach implies a fundamental shift in the model of space activity: from the predominantly delivery of individual spacecraft and payloads to orbit towards the creation of permanent geocosmic infrastructure enabling large-scale human presence and industrial activity in near space. Anatoli Unitsky, PhD, is the author and developer of the uSpace Programme. He has more than 300 scientific publications, over 20 scientific monographs, and more than 300 patents and certificates covering inventions, industrial designs and trademarks across various fields of science, engineering and industry. He is the Founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of an international group of companies with more than 1,500 employees, has led several UN-Habitat and UNIDO projects, and is a member of the Federation of Cosmonautics of the USSR and an Academician of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences.

At IAC 77, Anatoli Unitsky will present the results of his decades of research and practical development of the technologies underlying the uSpace Programme, together with his vision of non-rocket industrialisation of near space as a potential next stage in the development of human civilisation.

uSpace Global Programme for the Non-Rocket Industrialisation of Near Space

“Earth is for Life. Space is for Industry!”

Speaker:



Anatoli UNITSKY

Chairman of the Board
of Directors and General
Designer,
Unitsky String Technologies,
Belarus

12:30 – 13:30 **VIP Luncheon** (*upon invitation only*)

Location: NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre, Cafeteria A-B-C Foyer (left-side)

16:30 – 17:30 **Closing Ceremony**

Location: D1, D2, and D3 - NEST Congress and Exhibition Centre

Master of Ceremony:



**Christian
FEICHTINGER**
*Executive Director,
International
Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
France*

Speaker:



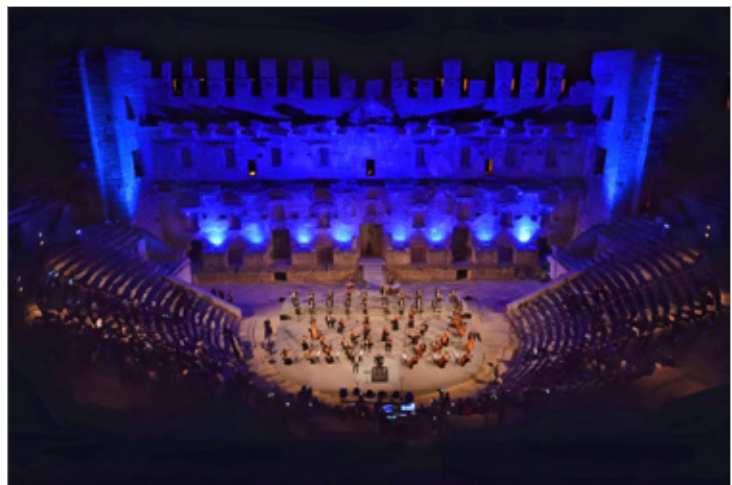
Asanda NTISANA
*VP: Honours and Awards,
International Astronautical
Federation (IAF),
Space and Stakeholder
Liaison Specialist,
South African National
Space Agency (SANSA),
South Africa*

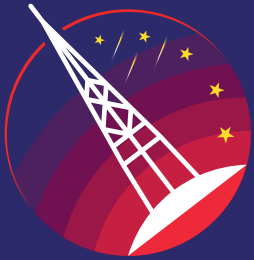
19:00 – 22:00 **Gala Dinner**

Location: Aspendos Ancient Theatre

Past, present and future will come together in the unique theatre of history!

The hosts promise an unforgettable and special gala event to the valuable participants of IAC 2026 in the unique atmosphere of Aspendos, one of the most important theatres in history; in Antalya, the apple of the eye of tourism. Gala dinner and special events before and during the event will offer a unique social program activity for the congress participants.





Organized by:



INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL
FEDERATION

Hosted by:



IAC 2027
POZNAN
POLAND

**78TH INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS**



**One Space.
Shared Future.**

**SAVE
THE DATE!**

27 September – 1 October 2027

IAC2027.COM

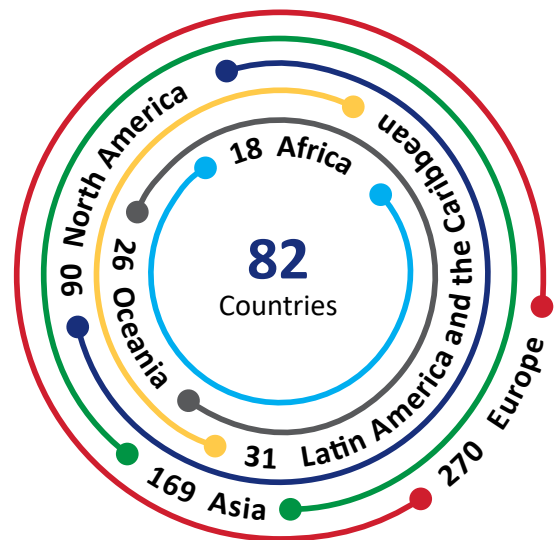
Co-hosted by:



Supported by:



Join the IAF, the World's Leading and Most Diverse Space Advocacy Body



Become an IAF Member

- ✓ Apply on <https://www.iaf-membership.org/>
- ✓ Participate in the IAF Committees in charge of defining the Technical Programme
- ✓ Propose to host a Plenary Event during the IAC
- ✓ Propose a Global Networking Forum (GNF) Event to showcase your organization's latest achievements or to discuss the most interesting topics about Space
- ✓ Participate and vote in the General Assembly and nominate IAF Officers
- ✓ Host one of our events!

Contact: membership@iafastro.org

JOIN US

1 

Connect to the [IAF Membership Platform](#) through the [IAF Website](#)

2 

Complete the Application Form and attach the requested documents.

3 

Remember to include the Logo of your organization and a short description.

4 

We will review your application and ask in case of missing information.

5 

Once reviewed, your application will be recommended by the IAF General Counsel.

6 

Final approval by the General Assembly during the IAC.

*Connecting @ll Space People
for a sustainable future* 

Sponsors and Media Partners

Anchor Sponsors

aselsan

ITA
ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

TURKCELL

Platinum Sponsors

esa

ROKETSAN

**TURKISH
AEROSPACE**

جناح الإمارات للفضاء
**UAE SPACE
PAVILION**

الإمارات
THE EMIRATES

Gold Sponsors

ASI
Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

CSA

**IAC 2027
POZNAN
POLAND**

**IAC
'29 SPACE
CITY**

इसरो
ISRO

IN-SPACE

एनसिल
NSIL

KASA

STAR·VISION

TURKSAT

VAST

Silver Sponsors

AIRBUS

**AXIOM
SPACE**

azercosmos

星河动力航天
让太空资源融入生活

GGPEN
Global Gateway for the Planet's Space

Glencair

JAXA

**SLOVENIA
BUSINESS**
SPIRIT Slovenia
Business Development Agency

SSA

TELEPIX

**ThalesAlenia
Space**
a Thales / Leonardo company

UZCOSMOS

Bronze Sponsors

AEROSPACE

BAE SYSTEMS

BLUE ORIGIN
FROM THE EARTH TO THE EARTH

**Canadian Space
Agency**
Agence spatiale
canadienne

cintas

Creatunion
开运集团

GOMSPACE

**THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY**
香港理工大学

**IAC
BARCELONA 2029**

OPEN COSMOS

PIEMONTE
THE PLACE TO INVEST

**space
applications
SERVICES**

ST Engineering

TÜBİTAK
UZAY

VEX
HUNGARIAN DEFENSE AND SPACE
EXPORT AGENCY LTD.

Sponsors

CERN

IAC *29

LOCKHEED MARTIN

Lunar Outpost

**Sophia
SPACE**

**Space
eXchange**
Switzer and

**Space: Science
& Technology**
A SCIENCE PARTNER JOURNAL

IRI
SPACE
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE
OF RAS

**UK SPACE
AGENCY**

zeno

Media Partners

AA
Anadolu Ajansı

anewz

**AVIATION
WEEK**
by informa

CGTN

ROOM
SPACE JOURNAL OF ARGENTINA

satnews

SPACE EARTH
PARTNERS AND ADVISORY

SPACE IN AFRICA

SpaceFlight

SPACE NEWS

spacewatch[®]
global
INDEPENDENT
REPORTING ON SPACE



ORGANIZER:



**INTERNATIONAL
ASTRONAUTICAL
FEDERATION**

International Astronautical Federation (IAF)

100 Avenue de Suffren
75015 Paris, France
Phone: +33 1 45 67 42 60
Email: info@iafastro.org
www.iafastro.org

HOST:



Turkish
Space Agency

Turkish Space Agency (TUA)

İşçi Blokları Mahallesi
Muhsin Yazıcıoğlu Caddesi
No: 51/C - Çankaya – Ankara, Türkiye
Phone: + 90 312 412 8929
Email: tua@tua.gov.tr
www.tua.gov.tr/en

*Connecting @ll Space People
for a sustainable future*



Be part of the conversation @iafastro and #IAC2026

