PRESS RELEASE

IAF and JAXA Formalize Partnership for GLEX 2028 in Japan

Antalya, Türkiye, 7 October 2026 – The International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) have officially formalized their partnership for the organization and hosting of the **IAF Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX 2028) which will take place in Japan on 16 -18 May 2028**.



The agreement was signed by Gabriella Arrigo, IAF President, and Hiroshi Yamakawa, JAXA President, during the 77th International Astronautical Congress (IAC 2026) in Antalya, Türkiye. Under this agreement, the IAF will organize GLEX 2028, while JAXA will host the conference at Aichi Sky Expo, in the Aichi-Nagoya region of Japan. The signing marks an important milestone in the preparations for GLEX 2028 and reinforces the longstanding partnership between the IAF and JAXA, an IAF member since 2003.

As one of the IAF's flagship Global Series Conferences, GLEX brings together leaders, experts, researchers and stakeholders from across the international space community to exchange knowledge, share experiences and explore emerging developments and advance international cooperation in space exploration.

GLEX 2028 will provide an international platform to address the future of space exploration, examine new opportunities and challenges, and strengthen partnerships across the global space ecosystem. Hosted in Japan, a country with a distinguished track record in space science, technology and exploration, the conference will also highlight Japan's contributions and capabilities while fostering international exchange.

Through this partnership, the IAF and JAXA reaffirm their shared commitment to advancing international cooperation in space exploration and promoting the peaceful use of outer space for the benefit of humanity.

The IAF and JAXA look forward to welcoming the global space community to Japan for GLEX 2028, on 16-18 May 2028.

GLEX 2028 Key Information

Event: IAF Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX 2028)
Dates: 16 -18 May 2028
Venue: Aichi Sky Expo, Japan
Organiser: International Astronautical Federation (IAF)
Host: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Website: https://www.iafastro.org/events/global-series-conferences/iaf-global-space-exploration-conference-glex-2028/

#GLEX2028 #iafastro

Media Contact: media@iafastro.org

About the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION

Founded in 1951, the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) is the world's leading space advocacy body with more than 621 members from 84 countries, including all leading space agencies, industries, research institutions, universities, societies, associations, institutes and museums worldwide.
Following its motto *"Connecting @ll Space People"* and its vision of *"A space-faring world cooperating for the benefit of humanity"*, the Federation advances knowledge about space, supporting the development and application of space assets by promoting global cooperation.
As organizer of the annual International Astronautical Congress (IAC) – world's premier global space event – and other thematic IAF Global Conferences, the IAF actively encourages the development of space activities for peaceful purposes and supports the dissemination of scientific and technical information related to space.

https://www.iafastro.org/

About the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Established in October 2003 the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) serves as Japan's national space agency. With approximately 1,500 staff, JAXA undertakes a wide range of activities spanning basic research, technology development and the practical utilisation of space.

Its work encompasses promoting satellite applications to improve quality of life, advancing scientific understanding of the universe and the origins of life, and exploring the Moon and planets to expand the horizons of human activity. JAXA also contributes to the operation of the International Space Station (ISS) and the utilisation of the space environment, while developing advanced rocket technologies to meet diversifying launch requirements. In addition, the Agency pursues aeronautical research to enhance aviation safety and develop environmentally friendly technologies, alongside fundamental engineering research to ensure Japan's autonomous capabilities in space.

https://global.jaxa.jp/