



COSMOS2020 NEWSLETTER #46

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News, Stories, Events



European Parliament's vote on the EU Space Programme

Statement by Commissioner Bieńkowska on the European Parliament's vote on the EU Space Programme

On 17th of April 2019, the European Parliament endorsed the provisional agreement reached by the co-legislators on the EU Space Programme for the next budget period from 2021 to 2027. The European Commission proposed the Programme in June 2018. Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Commissioner for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, said:

"I welcome today's vote at the European Parliament. Space technology, data and services have become indispensable in the daily lives of Europeans and for Europe to pursue its strategic interests. We therefore need to ensure continuity and financial stability in our space activities. The new EU Space Programme will not only do that, but also address global challenges, such as fighting climate change, a transition to a low-carbon economy, smart mobility and digital economy. More will be invested in space activities to adapt to new needs and technologies, while reinforcing Europe's autonomous and secure access to space."

As part of EU's next long-term budget for 2021-2027, the [Commission put forward on 6 June 2018](#) its proposal for a €16 billion Space Programme to boost EU space leadership. In March 2019, the Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament [reached a common understanding](#) on the Regulation. The budgetary aspects and some related horizontal provisions of the future EU space programme are subject to the overall agreement on the EU's next long-term budget, [proposed by the Commission in May 2018](#).

Source: [EC](#)



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European Council
Council of the European Union

EU space policy programme 2021-2027

Press release of European Council provides insights on the EU space policy programme for the years 2021-2027.

Read more for the proposed Regulation for a space programme for the European Union part of the follow-up to the Commission's Communication on a Space Strategy for Europe (SSE).

[Read here the progress report, including the text of the common understanding in the annex.](#)

The regulation will ensure:

- high-quality, up-to-date and secure space-related data and services;
- greater socio-economic benefits from the use of such data and services, such as increased growth and job creation in the EU;
- enhanced security and strategic autonomy of the EU;
- a stronger role for the EU as a leading actor in the space sector.

It will achieve this by:

- simplifying and streamlining the existing EU legal framework on space policy;
- providing the EU with an adequate space budget to continue and improve on existing space flagship programmes such as EGNOS, Galileo and Copernicus, as well as monitor space hazards under the 'space situational awareness' programme (SSA), and cater for access to secure satellite communications for national authorities (GOVSATCOM);
- establishing the rules for governance of the EU space programme; standardising the security framework of the space programme.

[Read more](#)

SCIENCE | BUSINESS[®]

Agreement on broad themes for Horizon Europe missions

European Union ministers met on 19 February in scheduled Competitiveness Council sessions to discuss the specifics of Horizon Europe, the EU's forthcoming €94.1 billion research programme.

The article of [Science/Business](#) provides highlights on the meeting and the its main topic the proposed five topics for "Horizon Europe mission areas": climate change, cancer, oceans, carbon neutrality, and food.

Read more in the discussion paper [here](#)

The full article is available [here](#)



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European Space Policy challenges

Interview of Roberto Viola, Director General, EC DG CONNECT to Scitech Europa at the 11th European Space Policy conference in Brussels.

Topics discussed:

Which are the challenges facing space and how DG CONNECT is helping to overcome them?

Quantum Technologies Flagship and its role for space?

Link between the digital and space economies?

EC support of the 5G across Europe?

Financing for digital infrastructure and implementation in the EU?

BIG Data as a challenge?

[Read more](#)



EIB Report: The future of the European space sector

Study of EC and EIB on the future of the European space sector: How to leverage Europe's technological leadership and boost investments for space ventures

The study reviews access-to-finance conditions met by companies active in the European space sector and proposes potential solutions to improve them. One of the principal objectives of this study is to analyse how public funds in the EU could be deployed to attract private investment and otherwise catalyse the development of the sector, considering also that such public funding should be entitled to achieve adequate returns. The study further explores how soft measures and advisory services could help promote private investment in the sector.

The study was carried out by InnovFin Advisory in collaboration with the European Investment Advisory Hub, with the support of SpaceTec Partners.

[Read more and access the full report](#)



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UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs

United Nations/Romania International Conference on Space Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture and Precision Farming

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the Government of Romania through the Romanian Space Agency (ROSA) are jointly organizing the above Conference to promote the use of space technology and solutions for sustainable agriculture and precision farming, to address key issues related to global food security.

The Conference will be held in Cluj, Romania, from 6 to 10 May 2019, hosted by the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine (USAMV) in Cluj-Napoca and supported by the Office for Soil Science and Agrochemistry (OSPA), Cluj, and the Romanian Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (SRFT).

The Conference is aiming to address key issues related to utilization of space technologies and solutions for a sustainable agriculture, addressing number of indicators and targets under the sustainable Development Goals framework and considering the challenges related to food security worldwide, with increasing populations and corresponding pressures on the available agricultural land. [Event website](#)



4th ESA CubeSat Industry Days

The event in ESA-ESTEC is open to European CubeSat industry companies and research institutes/centres, and ESA personnel with (potential) interest in CubeSat missions, systems and technologies.

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- present ESA's ongoing CubeSat/nano-sat activities
- capture the current European industry state-of-the-art, near-term developments and future priorities in CubeSat/nano-sat systems, technologies/products, payloads, and services
- discuss key issues relevant for future operational missions (e.g. radiation hardness, engineering and quality standards, bus/interface standards, frequency allocation, space-ground interface etc)



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- update roadmaps for potential future CubeSat technology developments and demonstration missions in the context of ESA activities
- identify any specific proposals for follow up in the ESA technology programme

[Read more](#)



Quantum Technologies for Satellite gravity measurement Workshop

Joint workshop: National Centre for Earth Observation, Centre for EO Instrumentation and the QT Hub for Sensors and Metrology

This workshop focuses on the potential offered by new quantum technologies for the next generation of gravity sensors and future space missions and the subsequent benefits for science, society and the economy. It will investigate how disruptive quantum technologies are changing the traditional Earth Observation landscape in gravity measurements, and the new opportunities for the public and private sectors.

[Read more](#)



SMART SPACE: ESA's Business Applications Annual Conference

The 9th edition of ESA's Business Applications Annual Conference is jointly hosted by ESA Space Solutions, as well as CNES, in Toulouse (France) on 3rd - 5th June 2019.

The conference will bring together agencies, industry, users, experts, entrepreneurs and investors to foster partnerships and inspire new ideas.

Why attend?

- Find out about the latest developments in satellite applications
- Be inspired by demonstrations of successful services enabled by space
- Meet with technical and business experts
- Create new contacts and exchange ideas with other attendees
- Learn about funding and support opportunities from ESA and CNES
- Take part in our exciting and exclusive social event



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The thematic sessions will focus on:

- Smart finance
- Smart technologies
- Smart mobility
- New space economy
- Smart health
- Smart resources
- ...and more!

This event is open to residents from all ESA Member States. If you are from outside of one of these countries, contact (space-applications-event@esa.int) for information as to whether you can register.

[Read more](#)



GEO Data Technology Workshop: The Era of Big EO Data

Join the Group on Earth Observations international data community in Vienna, Austria from 23-25 April 2019 for the GEO Data Technology Workshop.

The workshop will focus on exploring how to best make available Earth observations-based knowledge for international policy frameworks, including the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Climate Agreement.

[Read more](#)



Scientific Advances from the European Commission Horizon 2020 projects on Space Weather

The Journal of Space Weather and Space Climate ([JSWSC](#)) opens a Topical Issue on "Scientific Advances from the European Commission Horizon 2020 projects on Space Weather".

All EC-H2020 projects, funded by any of the H2020 work programme parts, which address space weather issues, are welcome to submit articles.

The emphasis should be on novel scientific results.

Deadline for submissions is 30 September 2019.

[Read more](#)



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Emerging Technologies for Earth Observation Conference

The Center for EO Instrumentation will hold a 2-day Emerging Technologies for Earth Observation Conference to reveal and discuss new and emerging developments in EO instrumentation and mission concepts.

The conference sessions will cover:

- New detectors and detector concepts
- New on-board calibration techniques
- EO payloads for small spacecraft – miniature high-performance instrumentation.
- Instrument technology and mission architecture considerations for commercial missions
- Recent advances in additive layer and other advanced manufacturing techniques for EO instrumentation
- Advanced on-board image processing concepts for imaging missions, such as super-resolution and AI/deep learning
- Latest developments in LIDAR for EO
- New techniques and future concepts – more left-field/exotic techniques from around the laboratories.
- New mission opportunities

[Read more](#)



Tenders, Calls, Competitions



The 2019 MSCA call for Individual Fellowships is open

The EU provides a record € 296,5 million to support experienced researchers of any nationality, in any field of research.

This Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Individual Fellowships (IF) Call is open to researchers who have a doctoral degree or at least four years' full-time research experience by the time of the call deadline.

You have the choice to apply for a European Fellowship if you are moving within the EU or associated countries or if you are interested to come to the EU or an associated country from any other country in the world. Within this strand, two panels are particularly attractive for scientists who want to pick-up their research career after a break (Career Restart Panel) or who had worked outside Europe for a while and would like to return (Reintegration Panel).

The call is open from 11th of April to 11th of September 2019.

Learn more about the conditions for [application, timing, etc.](#) and the links to the proposal templates as well as the guide for applicants.

[Source: EC](#)



FOSS4G Earth Observations Data Challenge

FOSS4G 2019 EO Data Challenge in the frame of FOSS4G 2019 Bucharest, Romania.

In FOSS4G EO Data Challenge, OSGeo is challenging startups, developers, students and researchers to come up with useful, valuable or interesting open source applications using large volumes of EO data (and their evolution in time) and state-of-the art technologies (AI/ML, HMC, STAC, data cube, COG). Linking of EO data with other sources of open data (e.g. OpenStreetMap, Copernicus Services – Land, Atmosphere, Climate) is highly encouraged.

The challenge is organised in the frame of the open source geospatial event of the year - FOSS4G 2019.

[More info about the challenge. Read more for FOSS4G 2019.](#)



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ESA Kick-start Activities

ESA's Kick-start Activities are designated to enable companies to undertake compact Feasibility Studies that explore new service and application concepts which make use of space capabilities.

The Invitations to Tender for Kick-start Activities are divided into Thematic Calls.

List of upcoming opportunities::

1. [Blockchain](#) (open - closes 8th April 2019)
2. [Mining](#) (opens 9th April 2019 - closes 20th May 2019)
3. [Space for Sport](#) (opens 21 May 2019 - closes 1st July 2019)
4. [AI](#) (Please note the deadlines are different for each AI macro-area - see below)
 - AI Consumer goods, business and industrial services (opens 13th May 2019 - closes 21st June 2019)
 - AI Social Impact (opens 25th June 2019 - closes 30th August 2019)
 - AI Infrastructure (opens 2nd September 2019 - closes 11th October 2019)
 - AI Environment and natural resources (opens 14th October 2019 - closes 29th November)

[Read more](#)



Copernicus Masters 2019 - submit your solution

Copernicus Masters 2019 challenges are already open for submitting ideas and solutions!

The [Copernicus Masters](#) is an international competition that awards prizes to innovative solutions, developments and ideas for business and society based on Earth observation data. Big data produced by Earth observation holds huge potential for the creation of innovative products and services. A wide variety of industries and areas of public interest stand to profit from the advances of the Copernicus programme.

In 2019 challenges offer great opportunities to solve important problems faced by business and society together with our world-class partners. From smart farming to sustainable finance, there is a challenge for everyone!

[Read more](#)

Don't miss the webinar of Copernicus Masters to get an overview of the competition and the challenges, how to register on the database, and how to complete your submission.

[Webinar info](#)



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Sentinel Hub Custom Scripts Contest

Sentinel Hub, together with the Copernicus EU Earth Observation programme and the European Space Agency, are looking for new and innovative ideas and scripts for Sentinel Data processing and visualisation.

Take part in Sentinel HUB Custom Script Contest. You can hand in up to three different scripts either as a single author or as a representative of a group. The participation of students is strongly encouraged, be it a university or high school. The contest could be an interesting project for high school science classes.

The categories are:

- Agriculture and Forestry
- Marine environment
- Snow and Glaciers
- Disaster management and prevention (wildfires, floods, hurricanes, ...)
- Air quality and Urban planning
- Other scripts (all not fitting into one of the other categories)

Among the other attractive prizes, the best overall script will win a trip to the European Space Research Institute (ESRIN) in Rome, travel and two nights in a hotel included, sponsored by ESA, the opportunity to talk with experts in relevant fields and to see the Phi Experience, opening up exciting insights into modern Earth observation.

[Read more](#)



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Trainings, Webinars, Resources



"Horizon 2020 Proposal Writing Workshop" course

Europa Media is organising course on Horizon 2020 Proposal Writing.

The scope of the course is to cover in details the main sections of the proposal, focusing on the problematic parts and get a deeper insight into developing competitive H2020 proposals.

The trainers of the course are actual Project Managers and Proposal Writers. The exercises which the course includes are from concept development till the budget.

During the course you the participants will develop a project proposal in response to a work programme topic ("call").

The course includes also Impact and Exploitation workshop: to draft the Expected Impact section and identify the best scenario for exploitation and IP strategy; as well as Dissemination and Communication workshop: define the relevant target groups and the most appropriate dissemination and communication tools, channels and strategies for disseminating and communicating the results of the project with a view to maximizing its impact.

The course will be held on 16-17 May in Budapest, Hungary.

[more information read here](#)



European
IP Helpdesk

Webinar: Impact and Innovation in Horizon 2020 – a Guide for Proposers

European IPR Helpdesk is organising webinar on Impact and Innovation in Horizon 2020 – a Guide for Proposers.

The content of the webinar will cover from finding the right management framework for one's activity to the question of how to develop a credible strategy focused on the management and exploitation of the research results. The webinar will address different ways to define professional and systematic IP management in Horizon 2020 projects.

Learning Objectives

During the training participants will have the chance to learn about:

- Impact and innovation in Horizon 2020 project proposals
- Exploitation of project results
- Business landscape in project proposals
- Researchers' rights on project results
- IPR protection for project results
- State of the art, prior art definition - patent databases (e.g. Espacenet)
- Support and sources of information on IPR

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Workshop: From space to earth & back: how standards support space applications for Europe

CEN CENELEC is organising a workshop to pinpoint how standardization can support the European space industry and reinforce Europe's autonomous access to space.

The envisaged European Space Programme will boost EU space leadership beyond 2020. During the workshop, representatives from space industry, technology providers, policy makers, society and the standardization community will discuss various aspects of downstream space technology, including:

- The Space Strategy for Europe
- Applications from the global navigation satellite system Galileo and EGNOS for road, rail, air and maritime transport
- Socio-economic benefits from Earth observation, its application for safety and security of society and its meteorological purpose
- Space surveillance and tracking

The workshop will identify areas and ways in which standards can help Europe to remain a global leader in space applications and increase the use of space data for the wellbeing of citizens.

Date: Monday 24 June 2019, Brussels

[Read more](#)



European
IP Helpdesk

Webinar: Freedom to Operate in Horizon 2020

European IP Helpdesk webinar on Freedom to Operate analysis in Horizon 2020.

The first part will provide participants with a general description of Freedom to Operate analysis.

The second part will elaborate on the role of FTO in Horizon2020 projects and the European Commission position. Particular attention will be paid to the SME instrument, encouraging the beneficiaries to think about potential issues connected to intellectual property and intellectual property rights, even during the project proposal stage.

Finally, the third part of the web session will give a practical example of FTO in the day-to-day activity of the company PATEV, that has a long track record in helping SMEs solving issues connected to IPR. In particular, the examples will be helpful for participants to understand how FTO was useful for the company, what strategic decisions have been made on the information disclosed by the FTO analysis, and what would have happened if they would have chosen to make business without caring about potential IPR market barriers and restrictions.

[Read more](#)



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European
IP Helpdesk

Webinar: Maximising the impact of Horizon 2020 project result

European IP Helpdesk is organising an IP rights in H2020 webinar on 12.06.2019.

Learn more about exploitation of IP rights in H2020 projects. This webinar gives an overall view of the creation and the development of IP rights both during and after the duration of an H2020 project. The most common planning mistakes will be analysed and some practical tips will be given, so that you can have the best possible results from an H2020 project.

After the training, participants should have a better understanding of the following:

- The IP in the Consortium Agreements: a particular regard to the results of the research.
- Which are the best means to maximize the value of your IP?
- Assessing your IP: How can you estimate the value of your IP?
- Which are the best exploitation strategies and business plans for entering the market?
- Reap the rewards of your IP: taking a closer look at the different forms of licensing.

[Read more](#)



Space Mission Operations Course (SMOC) 2019

Goonhilly Earth Station Ltd and Catena Space announced the 4th annual Space Mission Operations Course (SMOC), a practical course to provide participants with both a theoretical understanding of Space Mission Operations and hands-on exercises.

The programme will start with a SMOC Foundation Day on 3 June 2019 to bring you up to speed on the basic concepts underlying the course. The in-depth course will then run for four days from 4-7 June 2019 in Cornwall, UK.

[Read more](#)



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