



Side event

59th session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the
United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Vienna
February 16, 2022
14-15 hrs CEST

Development Financing for Space Research

Participation Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89532203427?pwd=ZINZUGItUhadFYybGE1Q2JWUzZiUT09&from=addon>

This side event is designed to inform stakeholders, raise awareness with policy makers and encourage innovative collaborations across the European Union and beyond.

The Space sector and the rapidly expanding field of AI are rightly recognised as being of key strategic importance to the EU and have been significantly advanced through €1.1BN H2020 investment in AI-related research and innovation, and the EU's €12BN contribution towards European Space activities since 2014.

These investments have placed Europe in a very strong global position, and on track to achieve its policy objectives relating to general AI, and more specifically the application of AI in the Space-related activities. Europe is already leading the drive towards the democratisation of Space by qualifying affordable state-of-the-art Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) AI technology for use in Space, opening the Space market to contemporary commercial European silicon technology.

Program:

Opening Remarks, **Dr. Milind Pimprikar**, Chairman, CANEUS

Moderator: **Declan Kirrane**, ISC, Chair, UNGA Science Summit

- Prof. **Mirjana Povic**, ESSTI, Ethiopia and IAA, Spain
- Prof Ms. **Barbara CAVALAZZI**, President of EANA --European Astrobiology Network and Association, Università di Bologna
- Dr. **Corrado Perna**, chief policy officer of the National Institute for Astrophysics (INAF)
- Dr **Erik Ruuth** Chief Scientific Officer. IMiBio. Argentina
- Dr **Niall Smith** , Munster Technological University, Ireland

This enables European SMEs to leverage the power of AI to make step advances in a wide range of possible applications, while reducing the cost of deployment relative to the more traditional radiation-hardened technology approaches. Democratising AI in Space inevitably leads to a growth in the use of satellites for a broader range of applications, whilst also enabling a Satellite-as-a-Service offering, thereby further increasing the potential of Space assets.

Enabling SMEs to benefit commercially from this New Space paradigm stimulates jobs growth at both the mission level and in the extensive and expanding downstream applications market (e.g., monitoring and management of forestry, pollution, agriculture, and construction). By processing directly on device, information can be extracted from satellite sensors and channelled downstream to end users with much lower latencies and cost than was previously possible, unlocking new approaches in, for instance, the European security and defence sector.

