

## Frequently Asked Questions

If you have a question that is not answered here, please contact [unoosa \[at\] un.org](mailto:unoosa@un.org)

**Q:** Can we announce this opportunity on our institutional web page?

**A:** Yes, and we would be very thankful if you could help us distribute the information about this opportunity. You are also welcome to share it on social media and we have habilitated links to do so on the webpage of the opportunity:

<https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/psa/hsti/orbitalmission/bartolomeo/index.html>

However, please keep in mind that you would need specific permission to use the logos of the United Nations and/or of Airbus.

**Q:** What is Bartolomeo?

**A:** Bartolomeo is a new external payload hosting facility attached to the European Columbus module of the International Space Station (ISS). It will be launched in 2020 and can host several payloads in Low-Earth Orbit.

The platform is embedded into the Columbus system and operated by Airbus in public-private partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS) through its Bartolomeo All-In-One Space Mission Service. Bartolomeo's development is motivated by the growing shortage of available ISS external payload sites suited to address the demand.

**Q:** What does the opportunity cover?

**A:** A free slot (a 3U-sized class payload) getting full Bartolomeo All-in-One Space Mission Service; and free reservation of a slot for a 3U-sized class single-payload to be launched 2021 or latest 2022.

The 3U-sized payload will be integrated, launched and installed as part of the Bartolomeo / ArgUS Multi-Payload Adapter system and 1-year mission operation is included free of charge.

Costs related to the preparation of the application or the payload, including, but not limited to development, assembly, integration, testing and transport, are not covered by the opportunity.

Please refer to the [Announcement of Opportunity](#) for more information.

**Q:** What kind of experiments are eligible?

**A:** Experiments should be linked to, at least, one of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are expected to contribute to broaden space activities and applications and to capacity-building in space science and technology.

Please refer to the [Announcement of Opportunity](#) and the [Bartolomeo User Guide](#) for more information.

**Q:** How many payloads will be selected in total as part of this opportunity?

**A:** Only one payload (a 3U-sized class) will be selected for the opportunity.

The volume of the payload should be 1U is 10cm x 10cm x 10cm, while there is some flexibility for its mass (1Kg per 1U can be used as guidance, but it is not a hard constraint).

**Q:** Is there a limit on the size of teams applying?

**A:** There is no limit on the number of members of a team, so teams can have as many members as are deemed necessary by the applicants. Inclusive and diverse teams are encouraged and diversity is part of the selection criteria.

**Q:** Should the participant take care of all the necessary regulatory clearances?

**A:** Applicants need to ensure compliance with all applicable domestic and/or international regulations. Please refer to the [Bartolomeo User Guide](#) (in particular section 8.1) and to the [Announcement of Opportunity](#).

**Q:** Would the specifications for the payload (such as the direction facing module) be pre - defined or could it be chosen by the applicant based?

**A:** Applicants shall define their requirements and constraints for the payload according to their mission objectives. Slots cannot be selected at the application stage and will be assigned taking into account the requirements of the applicant together with other operational requirements and constraints, seeking to maximize the use of Bartolomeo and the needs of all payloads hosted on the platform.