



COSPAR

COMMITTEE ON
SPACE RESEARCH

PRESS RELEASE

14 October 2025

Global space leaders to convene in Nicosia for critical discussions on the future of space exploration

Register Now for the 6th COSPAR Symposium, 3-7 November 2025, in Nicosia, Cyprus

The Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) is pleased to invite media professionals to register for in-person and online options to attend the 6th COSPAR Symposium in Nicosia, Cyprus, 3-7 November 2025 under the theme *Space Exploration 2025: A Symposium on Humanity's Challenges and Celestial Solutions*. This event focuses on significant global challenges, including climate change, space weather, and international collaboration, and will host discussions on developing innovative solutions.

Symposium Highlights	When	Details
Space Leaders roundtable on collaboration, planetary defence and sustainability	Monday, 3 Nov. 16:00 - 17:30	representatives from ASI, CNES, DLR, ESA, ISRO, Hungary, JAXA/ISAS
COSPAR's "Heliophysics Guidelines" official roll-out	Tuesday, 4 Nov. 12:30 - 14:00	codifying definitions of Heliophysics and its associated branch of space weather
Industry-led Interdisciplinary Panel on specific technical challenges: Innovation, AI & Sustainable Solutions	Wed., 5 Nov. 14:00 - 15:30	innovative approaches will be awarded during this panel
Press Conference during the Bioinformatics workshop, examining how the study of space hazards informs terrestrial medicine.	Thursday, 6 Nov. 17:30 - 19:00	formal announcement of groundbreaking findings from a major study by C-SpaRC

Press conference in detail

This event will include the formal announcement of groundbreaking findings from a major study by C-SpaRC, COSPAR's International Space Innovation Centre, revealing for the first time a **significant correlation between space weather events and long-term public health trends on Earth, including cardiovascular disease and cancer**. This session will showcase new research from C-SpaRC, demonstrating how cutting-edge tools like advanced bio-informatics,



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AI, and Organs-on-Chip are leading to tangible solutions—including computational drug repurposing—to mitigate the risks of micro-gravity and space radiation. Featuring leading space health researchers, insights from Moon Mars Analogue (MMA) missions, and the invaluable experience of space-flown astronauts in a dynamic discussion on the future of human spaceflight.

Key figures present during the COSPAR Symposium

The space agency leaders' roundtable on international collaboration, planetary defence and sustainability includes **Marco Castronuovo**, Head of the Observation and Surveillance Office at the Italian Space Agency, ASI, **Athena Coustenis**, representing the Hellenic Space Center, **Ikkoh Funaki**, Director for International Strategy and Coordination at JAXA/ISAS, **Heinz-Wilhelm Hübers**, Director, Institut für Optische Sensorsysteme, DLR, **Miaora Manda**, Head of Science Coordination, Strategy Directorate at the Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES), **Duggirala Pallamraju**, Dean of the Physical Research Laboratory representing the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), and **Kai-Uwe Schrogl**, Special Adviser for Political Affairs at the European Space Agency (ESA). Co-moderated by **Pascale Ehrenfreund** (COSPAR President) and **George Danos** (President, Cyprus Space Exploration Organisation, CSEO).

Doris Daou, NASA, will give a keynote talk on the International Year of Asteroid Awareness and Planetary Defence. Also present will be **Orsolya Ferencz**, Ministerial Commissioner for Space Research, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, **Jean-Yves Le Gall**, former President of the French space agency CNES, and **Athena Michaelidou**, Member of Parliament, the Cyprus Minister of Education.

Leading voices of the event say:

"As we stand on the brink of a new era in space exploration, this symposium represents a crucial opportunity to address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. From lunar bases to Mars missions, the decisions we make today will shape humanity's future in space."
Pascale Ehrenfreund, COSPAR President.

"The return to the Moon and the creation of a permanent base on the Lunar surface are major goals for humanity; goals that can be achieved through international collaboration and a uniting effort." George Danos, President, Cyprus Space Exploration Organisation

"The intersection of space science and terrestrial challenges has never been more important. This event will showcase how space exploration can provide solutions to some of our most





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pressing global issues, from climate monitoring to resource management, as well as discussing such urgent matters as sustainability in space and how to manage activity on the Moon." Jean-Claude Worms, COSPAR Executive Director.

Registration Details

Media representatives may register for free to secure attendance—both online and in-person options are available for the Press Conference. Attendance at the Symposium as a whole is in-person only.

Register now by contacting colm@spaceexploration.org.cy

For any media inquiries concerning the COSPAR Symposium, please reach out to:

colm@spaceexploration.org.cy or leigh.fergus@cosparhq.cnes.fr

Details of Special and Plenary Events during the Symposium can be found [here](#).

For topics covered, please check [the Scientific Programme](#).

Note to Editors

COSPAR, the largest international scientific society dedicated to promoting global cooperation in space research, was established in 1958. It serves as a neutral platform for scientific dialogue among scientists from around the world. Today, COSPAR comprises 46 national scientific institutions and 13 international scientific unions, with 13,000 space scientists actively participating in its activities, including attending assemblies, contributing to panels and roadmaps, and publishing in its journals. COSPAR's core mission is to facilitate dialogue and encourage international collaboration among space stakeholders across the globe. It operates through scientific commissions, panels and task groups that encompass all disciplines of space science, from Earth and atmospheric sciences to planetary science, astrophysics, solar and space plasma physics, and life and microgravity sciences. A recent focus has been on strengthening ties between science and industry. This was achieved by forming the Committee on Industry Relations, which includes 15 leading aerospace companies worldwide. The Committee advises COSPAR on integrating industry capabilities into its activities, ensuring mutual benefits for both science and industry.

Website: <https://cospar.world>

