

SPACE PLATFORM NEWSLETTER

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The **global economic recovery is strong** and **GDP has now risen above its pre-pandemic level** (5,7% forecasted growth for 2021. Recovery remains however uneven, commodity prices are increasing and new challenges are ahead of us.
- **130 countries** (including the USA and the UK, and certain - but not all - EU Member States) have joined an OECD sponsored **agreement to reform international taxation rules**, including an agreement for implementation in 2023 to impose a **minimum corporate income tax of 15%**.
- A spacecraft carrying four nonprofessional astronauts successfully carried out the **first private crewed orbital mission**.

UNITED NATIONS / GLOBAL



- 31 country **reports** to the UN Secretary General **on threats and security risks to space systems and safe space operations** where submitted, including by the EU, Russia, USA and China. The US and the EU highlighted their preference for voluntary, non-legally binding norms of responsible behavior with respect to outer space, without excluding the possibility of binding measures.
- The UN Development Program (UNDP) issued its 2022-2025 **strategic plan** describing **how UNDP intends to work with partners to push towards the UNSDGs** (without action, up to 1 billion person could be leaving in extreme poverty by 2030).

EUROPE AND EU



- The European Commission (EC) is developing an **EU strategy to ensure a safe and sustainable use of space** while preserving the EU space industry's competitiveness (to be completed by Q1/2022).
- The EC Commission replied to the **petition** to the European Parliament (EP) by an Iranian national on the **commercial exploitation of space resources** in

the absence of an international agreement (since the Maastricht Treaty, EP petitions are open not only to EU citizens but also to any legal or natural person established on the territory of an EU Member State).

- A **study** shows a **sharp increase in the number of patent filings** (x3 in the period 2007 to 2017) and a correlation between the increase of private capital investments and patent filing activity.
- Registrations for the **2nd CASSINI Hackathon on November 5-7, 2021 are open**, focusing on connecting the Arctic with European satellite technologies.
- The EU Council is drafting **conclusions on Space for everyone**.
- As a follow-up to the signature of the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement (FFPA) between EC, EUSPA and ESA, **leaders met to discuss the implementation of the governance and exchange views with staff**.
- The European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA) launched the **#myEUspace competition, a prize contest**, with over 50 awards from a prize pool of €1 million. Applications can be filed until November 15, 2021.
- **EUSPA Space Downstream Innovation Days** will take place on **November 8-9, 2021**. It will offer participants the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the latest funding opportunities.

HORIZON EUROPE/EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL (EIC)

- **Norway and Iceland are the first countries to formally associate to Horizon Europe.** Another 16 countries are on the association list. UK agreed terms of association still needs final confirmation.
- The **EIC Women Leadership Programme** will be officially launched on October 7, 2021.
- The **EIC Summit will be held in Brussels on November 24-25, 2021**, including a two-day EIC Investor Day, to allow innovators to pitch their innovations. Applications are open until October 16, 2021.

EUROPEAN INVESTMENT FUND (EIF)

The EIF has signed a MOU with the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) to collaborate more closely and boost European innovation for the green and digital transitions. The MOU enables to share information on financing and innovation opportunities.

EUROPEAN DEFENSE AGENCY (EDA)

EDA Annual Conference 2021: Innovation in European Defence will take place on December 7, 2021.



ESA

- An agreement has been reached on **Europe's new launch vehicles** to provide guaranteed access to space for Europe in the coming years, including on pricing conditions.
- The **top 12 companies in Global Space Markets Challenge** have been selected and will present. The winners of the Challenge will be offered a range of prizes and opportunities, including mentorship sessions by certain VCs.
- ESA is organizing on October 7, 2021 with Eureka a webinar to learn about ESA's **opportunities for start-ups and SMEs**.



USA

U.S. CONGRESS

- Following US President proposal to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50%-52% relative to 2005 levels by 2030, the **outcome of the ongoing Congressional discussions relating to the \$3.5 trillion budget bill will determine whether the US will deliver on that promise.** Whilst the pressure is mounting after a series of climate disasters, concerns have been expressed on the implications for certain fossil-fuel producing states.
- The House Science Committee allocated **\$45.51 billion to NASA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Science Foundation.** This would provide **NASA with nearly \$4.4 billion in additional funding**, with:
 - \$4 billion for NASA infrastructure improvements
 - \$388 million for climate change projects, including to understand, observe and mitigate the global climate change and improve wildfire fighting operations
 - \$7 million for cybersecurity
 - But no funding for NASA's Artemis lunar exploration program, notably lunar lander development.
- The proposal as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to **add \$23.9 billion to the Pentagon's \$715 billion budget request for fiscal year 2022** was approved by the House Armed Services Committee. The NDAA has provisions on:
 - **national security space policy**
 - **DoD procurement of space technologies** and
 - **the establishment of a Space National Guard as a reserve component of the U.S. Space Force**The NDAA now heads to the House floor.
- **A bill was introduced to advance human spaceflight** and direct NASA to establish an outpost in orbit around the Moon and declare that it is US policy to maintain the capability for a continuous human presence in LEO.
- Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) announced plans to introduce legislation that would **tax space tourism flights.**



NASA

- The **Perseverance Rover** retrieved its **first rock sample on Mars**.
- The **James Webb Space Telescope** will hopefully be **launched on December 18, 2021**.
- **NASA is evaluating proposals for initial studies of commercial LEO stations**. The intention is to ensure that commercial space stations are ready before the ISS is retired.
 - **NASA' mission directorate responsible for human spaceflight will be split into two organizations** (one for exploration systems development and the other for space operations)

U.S. SPACE FORCE/DOD

- The **U.S. Space Force is seeking to coordinate acquisition activities** from different bodies via the creation of a “program integration council” .
- The **DOD hopes**, within the decade, to have a **meshed network of LEO satellites** providing real-time global awareness of missile threats and the ability to respond.



The U.S. Space Force and the Republic of Korea (ROK) Air Force reached an **agreement on capabilities in outer space and consultations on space policy**.



Hungarian's space strategy was adopted, including the plan to spend up to €100 million in the next five years and double the number of Hungarian space companies by 2025.



Experts joined to discuss **cooperation for international lunar research stations**.



Mars rover Zhurong continues scientific mission.