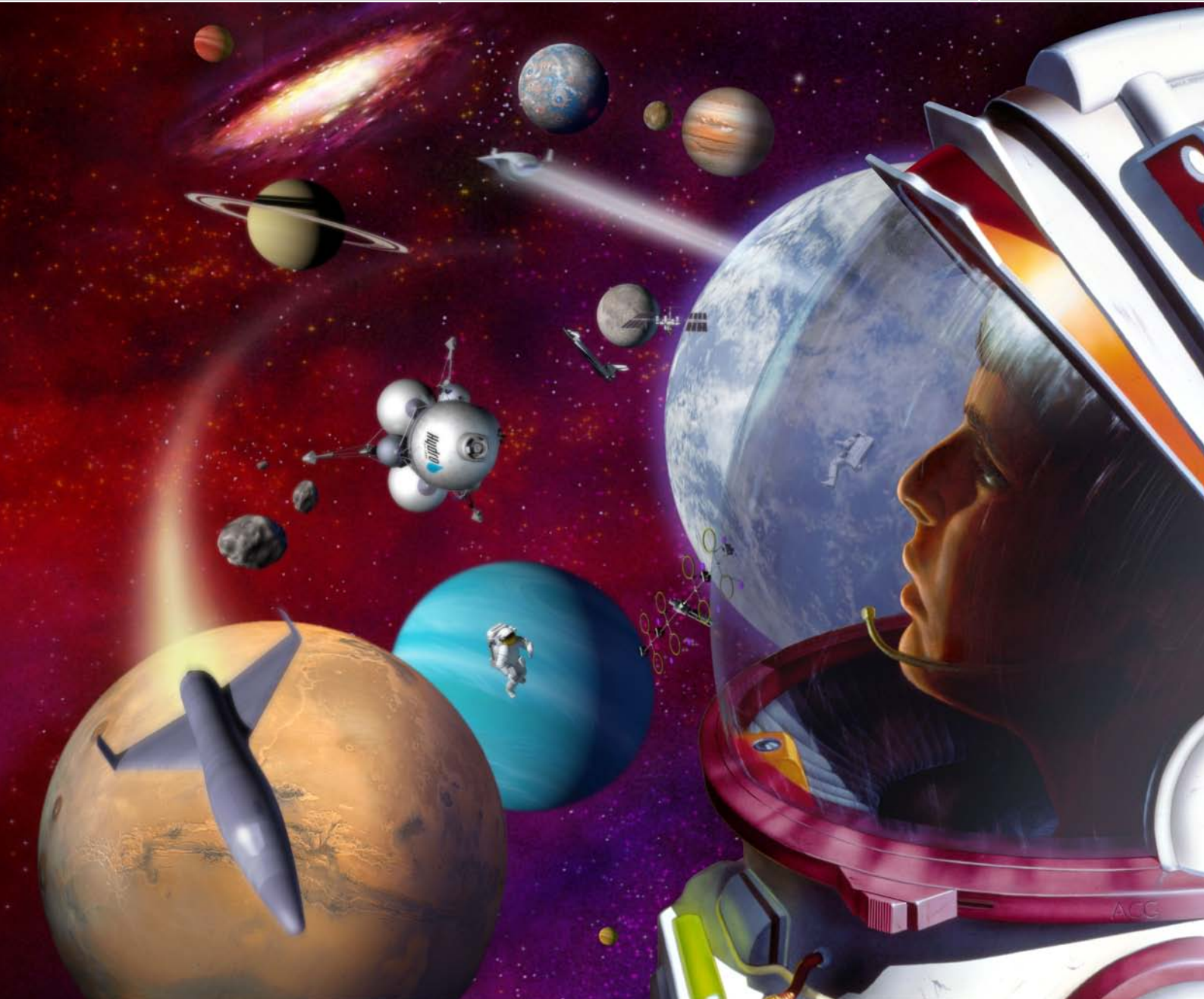


UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE FOR OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS

Report on World Space Week 2009

*Tenth Anniversary of the World Space Week Declaration*



UNITED NATIONS



ST/SPACE/48  
Office for Outer Space Affairs  
United Nations Office at Vienna

# **REPORT ON WORLD SPACE WEEK 2009**

Tenth Anniversary of the World Space Week Declaration

Prepared by World Space Week Association



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# 1 Summary

World Space Week, held annually from October 4 to 10, was declared in 1999 by the United Nations General Assembly in response to a recommendation from the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III). The goal of World Space Week (WSW) is to celebrate the contribution of space science and technology to the good of humankind. Its dates commemorate two key events:

- October 4, 1957: Launch of the first artificial Earth satellite, Sputnik 1, opening space for exploration
- October 10, 1967: Entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

There are many benefits which result from the synchronization of space outreach activities globally during World Space Week. These include:

- Building the workforce of tomorrow by inspiring students
- Visibly demonstrating public support for space programs
- Educating the public and government leaders about the benefits of space activities
- Promoting institutions which are involved in space
- Fostering international cooperation in space outreach and education

In 2009, World Space Week celebrated its 10th anniversary, with events in some 55 nations. The 2009 theme, "Space for Education," focused on the unique value of using space to inspire students to pursue studies in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

This report was prepared in cooperation with World Space Week Association, a non-government organization which supports the United Nations in the global coordination of World Space Week. For further information, please visit [www.worldspaceweek.org](http://www.worldspaceweek.org) or contact [admin@worldspaceweek.org](mailto:admin@worldspaceweek.org).



## 2 Highlights

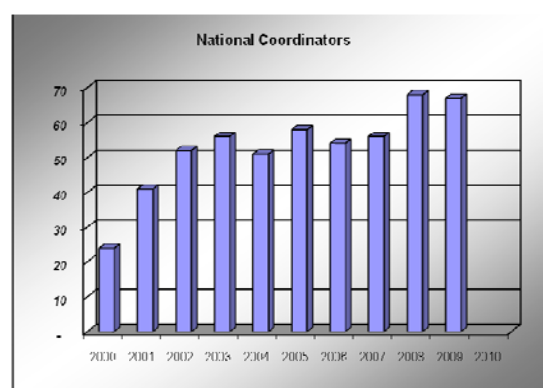
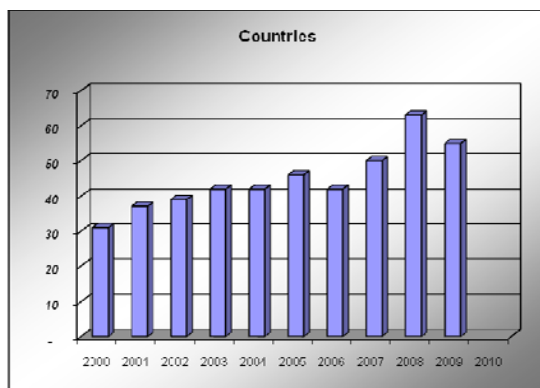
This section illustrates some highlights of the United Nations declared World Space Week 2009.

- Tenth anniversary of World Space Week, declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 1999
- U.S. President Obama hosted a star party at the White House
- Ukraine Prime Minister Tymoshenko congratulated space workers on occasion of World Space Week
- Astronauts on the International Space Station sent a World Space Week message
- Events celebrated the International Year of Astronomy
- 225 EADS Astrium employees gave programs for students in the UK, Spain, Germany, France and the Netherlands
- NASA Administrator Bolden sent a World Space Week message to all NASA employees
- Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberté broadcasted from space
- The Great World Wide Star Count began
- A Space Festival and International Astronautical Congress was held in the Republic of Korea
- Week-long space celebrations were held across the Hawaiian Islands in the U.S.
- Students and the general public sent messages into space via SentForever
- NASA's LCROSS mission impacted the Moon on October 9



## 3 Statistics

This section summarizes the global scope of the United Nations declared World Space Week. The following figures illustrate the growth of this event from 2000 to 2009.





The following provides data on the scope of World Space Week 2009. In total, 713 events were reported in 55 nations.

5 countries with the largest number of programs		5 countries with the largest reported attendance		5 countries with the largest reported media impressions	
Turkey	147	Turkey	111,640	Turkey	19,862,609
Romania	129	Austria	30,450	Pakistan	11,500,000
India	88	Slovakia	29,902	Vietnam	1,000,800
Slovakia	56	Romania	17,380	Bangladesh	1,000,000
Czech Republic	47	Czech Republic	9,439	Bolivia	500,000

Country	Events	Attendance	Impressions	Country	Events	Attendance	Impressions
Afghanistan	1	200	-	Israel	7	140	100
Algeria	1	200	10	Italy	1	12	-
Argentina	1	700	20,000	Japan	1	4,614	28
Australia	7	-	-	Malta	1	-	-
Austria	4	30,450	-	Mexico	6	1,410	800
Bangladesh	1	3,000	1,000,000	Nepal	2	-	-
Bolivia	1	1	500,000	Netherlands	3	86	30
Brazil	3	401	11	Nigeria	1	-	-
Bulgaria	5	170	75	Pakistan	14	7,250	11,500,000
Cameroon	1	1	-	Peru	2	350	500
Canada	7	825	550	Portugal	2	1,500	12,500
China	9	450	-	Romania	129	17,380	159,119
Colombia	10	6,987	3,228	Russian Federation	15	4,428	3,746
Cosia Rica	1	350	150	Serbia	1	-	-
Croatia	1	-	-	Slovakia	56	29,902	387,975
Cyprus	6	4,023	129,200	South Africa	2	-	-
Czech Republic	47	9,439	-	South Korea	23	3,458	1,718
Dominican Republic	2	75	-	Spain	2	1,020	-
Ecuador	1	18	1,000	Switzerland	4	3,610	121,001
France	6	3,500	-	Tunisia	1	-	-
Germany	8	3,291	200,000	Turkey	147	111,640	19,862,609
Ghana	1	-	-	Ukraine	6	190	7,300
Global	2	7,228	-	United Kingdom	9	2,108	100,000
Greece	1	160	-	United States	43	5,399	47,003
Hungary	4	380	40	Uruguay	1	150	-
India	88	8,191	61,320	Venezuela	2	5,300	-
Indonesia	5	85	50	Vietnam	4	1,600	1,000,800
Ireland	2	317	15,000	Zambia	2	294	11,000

## 4 Media Coverage

World Space Week 2009 was effective in attracting media coverage around the globe. Web searches showed a total of 3,440 instances of media coverage with the largest number per country in Turkey and Romania. According to reports from participants, the countries with the greatest number of impressions (audience reached) from media coverage were Turkey, Pakistan, Vietnam, Bangladesh, and Bolivia. World Space Week 2009 was covered by such media as China View, Global Times China, Kyiv Post, and The Hindu.

In addition to media interest that was generated by the sheer number of synchronized events across the globe, high-visibility functions such as U.S. President Obama's White House Star Party also drew significant media attention.

WSW 2009 was mentioned both on general and space-related media channels, including on Google searches.



Most searches were made in developed countries, which is likely due to the faster and more available Internet



access.

## 5 National Summaries

This section contains summaries of World Space Week 2009 from national coordinators. For details on WSW 2009 activities in all participating nations, please see the on-line calendar at [www.worldspaceweek.org/calendar\\_2009](http://www.worldspaceweek.org/calendar_2009).

### 5.1 Afghanistan

World Space Week was celebrated in Afghanistan for the second time in 2009. The National Coordinator organized an event at his school. The Afghanistan Astronomy Association held a celebration for the general public in Kabul on October 9. This event was attended by approximately 100 people.

### 5.2 Algeria

As usual, World Space Week was celebrated this year with fervour in the Constantine area. The National Fair organizing committee chose "Astronomy and Public Enlightenment" given the celebration of the International Year of Astronomy 2009 (IYA 2009) and events focused on the educational and entertainment aspects of space sciences.

World Space Week celebrations were held on October 10 at the Ahmed Saadi Cultural Centre in the Constantine centre city and featured the following segments:

- Several lectures on space and astronomy at the main auditorium.
- Exposition of space related material and space art
- Piece Theatre on Mars from the Sirius theatre group
- Cirta FM radio station featured live coverage of the evening



World Space Week activities were also centered around the annual National Fair in Popular Astronomy. Since its inception in 2002, the Popular Astronomy fair has become one of the most sought after scientific "rendezvous" of the year for amateur astronomers all over Algeria. This fair consists of a large astronomy exhibition and a series of lectures and workshops for the benefit of the public and the astronomy community nationwide. This year's events benefited from increased international associations, including the AUASS (Arab Union for Astronomy and Space Sciences) from Jordan, the SAF (Societe Astronomique de France), the Societe Astronomique de Tunisie, and others from the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Egypt, and Syria. The following national agencies also participated: ASAL (L'Agence Spatiale Algérienne), CNTS (Centre National des Techniques Spatiales) from Arzew, CRAAG (Bouzaréah), ONM (L'Office National de la Météorologie), ENNA (Entreprise Nationale de la Navigation Aérienne). Furthermore, a growing number of astronomy clubs and associations from all over the country were represented via exposition stands. His Excellency the Mayor of Constantine and also the head of the Executive Office of the State were present at the opening ceremony. Further details are available at <http://siriusalgeria.net/salon09>.



Algerian World Space Week celebration and fair received an excellent coverage from the national media, and was featured in print, radio, and on television. A large number of national newspapers (both Arabic and French speaking) picked up our communiqué.

### 5.3 Austria

On October 7-11, ÖWF performed at "Adventure Cosmos," a special exhibition about the exploration of space which took place in Innsbruck, Tyrol. The exhibit covered over 600 square meters and featured numerous objects, posters, 3D animations, and fast motion videos of stars, planets, space crafts, and satellites. Numerous talks about space and astronomy completed the exhibition, which was attended by an estimated 90,000 visitors.

The event was sponsored by the European Space Agency, the University of Innsbruck, the European Southern Observatory, the RUAG Space GmbH, the FFG/ALR, the Global Communication & Services GmbH, the Wagnersche Universitätsbuchhandlung and the Planetarium Schwaz.



An event called "Watching the Sun" was organized by the Bundes-Oberstufenrealgymnasium Linz (BORG Linz) in Upper Austria. This was a project of a secondary school in Linz Hagenberg and involved 150 pupils who observed the sun October 4-9.

## **5.4 Bangladesh**

World Space Week was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Enayetpur, the Space Village of Bangladesh, from October 9-10. About 24 local schools, consisting of 3,000 students, teachers and space enthusiasts, participated in the annual event.

On October 9, there were contests that involved space arts, air rockets and balloon rockets on the Mohakash Bhaban (Space House) lawn and a water rocket contest was held on the Jamuna river. In the evening, a huge fire-works show was arranged on the rooftop of Mohakash Bhaban to welcome the 10th Anniversary of World Space Week. It was followed by a cultural show in which students and teachers sang a number of Bengali songs. On October 10, a space rally with thousands of students hoisting WSW 2009 placards in their hands set out from Balur Math and reached Mohakash Bhaban, the venue of the Celebration. About six children holding models of Saturn-V rockets strolled on the street in front of the rally. The main event included a space debate, a space dance, a space drama, comics, lectures by local teachers and students, and space quizzes. The most spectacular of all was the Kid Astronauts Parade, in which five children wearing space suits paraded on the stage showing their eagerness to become astronauts.

World Space Week-was celebrated at Kalihati College in Bangladesh on October 10. The Principal, Vice-principal and many teachers participated. A seminar about the formation and the current situation of space was held in the College-Hall-Room with all students participating.

## **5.5 Bolivia**

Bolivia has participated in World Space Week every year since 2002. National coordination is the responsibility of the National Astronomical Observatory, which organized activities in different cities including Tarija, La Paz, Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, Sucre and El Alto. Events included the following: the "XVI National Astronomy Meeting," a photographic exhibition entitled "From the Earth to the Universe" and "Travelling the Universe", and the presentation of a model scale 1/1 of Sputnik by the College Kindergarten Palazón Brother Felipe. Other activities included astronomical observations with telescopes, conferences, outreach activities, screenings of videos and DVDs alluding to space exploration, drawing competitions, photo exhibitions, presentations and demonstrations in the Planetarium.

All activities in the various cities were coordinated by the National Astronomical Observatory, with the participation and support of the Universidad Autonoma Juan Misael Saracho Tarija Department Tarija Prefecture, La Asociacion Boliviana Astronomy, Planetarium Max Schreier (La Paz), the Astronomical Association of Santa Cruz, Ronald Muzert Centre City High School, Charcas Astronomical Society of the City of Sucre and others.

## **5.6 Bulgaria**

The celebrations of World Space Week 2009 in Bulgaria occurred in three cities: Varna, Sliven, and Pleven. In Varna, the public astronomical observatory and planetarium were the centre of the celebrations. At the Observatory, there were interesting astronomical observations of the Sun (during the day) and Moon/planets/stars (at night) over the course of the entire week. The Mathematical school organized two interesting interdisciplinary lessons: one focused on space exploration, the other involved a study of the planets in our solar system. In the private IT high school, students from the space club organized an exhibition of drawings, posters, and presentations of space rockets. In the city of Sliven, many students and teachers got acquainted with space telescopes and presented their posters in various schools throughout the city. In Pleven, students prepared models of space rockets at the Center for extracurricular activities. Many of the children's' activities were publicized on local televisions and newspapers.

## **5.7 Cameroon**

World Space Week programme activities in Cameroon started on October 7 with the distribution of application letters and posters to schools and colleges in the Limbe municipality. Lectures on the topic of the solar system, satellites, and their application to climate change were held at the Kofele Luma Memorial Academy, the Government Bilingual High School Limbe, and the National Comprehensive High School. Interactive questioning and answer sessions were also carried out after the lectures. Attendance for the World Space Week celebration was considerable in the schools, thanks to the World Space Week fliers provided by the National Coordinator for Cameroon. These were distributed to staff and students and some were also posted in classroom buildings.

## **5.8 Canada**

World Space Week was celebrated with events across the country and at all levels in 2009. Many of the events held in Canada focused either on Canada's first-expedition astronaut Dr. Robert Thirsk or on celebrating the International Year of Astronomy 2009. In total, seven events were reported via the World Space Week website, with an additional eight events being reported directly to the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). The events ranged from amateur radio contacts with Dr. Thirsk on the International Space Station (ISS) to CSA representatives hosting workshops and presentations for students from primary school to university on topics such as astronomy and planetary exploration. One primary school in British Columbia developed a song and accompanying video for Dr. Thirsk which was posted on his personal page on the CSA website. In total, 3,000 students participated in World Space Week 2009 events in Canada. An estimated 1,000,500 media impressions were reported.

## **5.9 Colombia**

During 2009, World Space Week was a great experience in Colombia. Many organizations held activities that taught both children and adults more about the related topics. The participating organizations were:

- Planetario de Medellín (Medellín – Antioquia)
- Colegio Distrital Pablo Neruda (Barranquilla – Atlántico)
- Fundación Grupo de Astronomía Apolo (Barranquilla - Atlántico)
- Fundación Voz Infantil - Hola Juventud (Barranquilla - Atlántico)
- Emisora La Voz de la Costa
- Foro Intercolegial Astronómico - Andrea Vega (Atlántico)
- Fundación Astronomía ORION (Barranquilla - Atlántico)
- Colegios Arquidiocesanos (Atlántico)
- Oficina de Prensa Secretaría de Cultura, Recreación y Deportes (Atlántico)
- Unidad Porteña de Aprendizaje – UPA (Puerto Colombia - Atlántico)
- Colegio Esclavas del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús (Bogotá – Cundinamarca)
- Planetario de Bogotá (Bogotá – Cundinamarca)
- Red de Astronomía de Colombia-RAC (Bogotá – Cundinamarca)
- Universidad Sergio Arboleda (Bogotá – Cundinamarca)
- CAFAM (Bogotá – Cundinamarca)

Conferences, video conferences, workshops, sky observations, water rocket launchings, photographic and art exhibitions, radio programs, and special classroom activities were dedicated to astronomy and space technology. In all, thousands of youngsters and adults gathered to celebrate the International Year of Astronomy 2009 and the 10th anniversary of World Space Week.

## **5.10 Cuba**

The VIII National Workshop entitled "The Outer Space and its Pacific Use" was held at the National Capitol on October 8 and included 23 presentations by several scientific institutions across the country. A meeting with the Group of Fond COSMOS of the Technical Juvenile Brigades of UJC took place with directors and investigators of the Institute of Geophysics and Astronomy to discuss the activities that are developing on the Bulletin "Zenith".

The media covered numerous programs regarding the World Space Week, with an emphasis on the International Year of the Astronomy 2009. The television program Fotogramas presented a documentary, "Journey to the End of the Universe," as part of World Space Week celebrations.

An event called "Postal Cuban: Rocket, Patrimony and Astronomy" was held to promote knowledge about and the study of the Postal Cuban Rocket, and to relate astronomy in the postal and philatelic topics.

World Space Week culminated with the installation and construction of the Cultural Planetarium-Centre for the Science and the Technology in the heart of Old Havana. The purpose of this project, which was developed by the City Historian with the support of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, is to engage common citizens in the study and appreciation of astronomy, physics, and mathematics.

### 5.11 Cyprus

World Space Week 2009 was coordinated and celebrated in Cyprus by the Kition Planetarium and Observatory with enthusiasm. The celebrations included various events and activities that aimed to bring astronomy and space science to the public. Several lectures about astronomy, space exploration and science were held and were supplemented by numerous other events which included planetarium shows, an astronomy camp, star parties with astronomical observations, solar observations, workshops, and astrophotography exhibitions.



2009 marked the first World Space Week celebrations in Cyprus and public interest was very satisfying. Our aim is to increase it in the coming years. World Space Week received coverage in a broad range of media outlets, including websites, radio stations and print. Cyprus and the Kition Planetarium and Observatory are looking forward to World Space Week 2010 with more events and greater promotion of space education through increased participation.

### 5.12 Czech Republic

The Czech Republic participated in the World Space Week 2009 celebrations by hosting space-related events with a particular emphasis on educational institutions. The Czech Space Office (CSO) and its Centre of Student Activities served as WSW National Coordinators. Forty-one activities were held for students and the general public. These consisted of lectures, exhibitions, observations of satellites and ISS overflies, observatory and planetarium programs, a space day program in schools, and discussions of space articles in school magazines. A number of school competitions were awarded by the Czech Space Office.

The traditional activities held at observatories were the most popular of all WSW activities in the Czech Republic. The observatories prepared a number of lectures, discussions, and exhibitions for the general public by professionals, semi-professionals, and also amateur organizations. Most of them cooperated actively with local schools. There was also a focus on other projects, such as the Mars 2009 Expedition, for students who showed interest in cosmonautics and modern sciences.

In summary, WSW celebrations were hosted by 23 organizations and attracted an audience of over 9,500 people. The WSW program and its targets were made known to the public via five nationwide broadcasts and on two television programs. For more details, see [www.czechspace.cz/en/education/world-space-week](http://www.czechspace.cz/en/education/world-space-week).

### 5.13 Ecuador

In order to participate in World Space Week 2009, primary school students downloaded live NOAA satellite images through the HERMES ground station in Guayaquil, Ecuador. The result was posted on the newly created Project Agora website, which included participants from six continents (<http://sites.google.com/site/projagora/>). It was also posted on the University of Michigan website at <http://raxlab.blogspot.com/>. As an international American school, the information was also published on Academia Cotopaxi website to share with the community (<http://www.cotopaxi.k12.ec>). Progress with Project Agora will also be shared with educators at the Association of American Schools in South America (AASSA). Through ongoing communication with the students, parents, teachers, and community members, we hope that this creative use of space in the classroom will inspire many. As an extension, one student became so thrilled with the ongoing space activities that he submitted a video to a NASA webpage describing his personal view on the relevance of space exploration. The video is available at: <https://sites.google.com/site/projagora/announcements/projectagorastudentsforspaceexploration>.

### 5.14 India

World Space Week 2009 celebrations in India took off to a great start, as the astronomy community was already involved in the IYA activities and the WSW theme "Space for Education" struck the right cord in the spirits of students across the nation. Twelve states in India were extensively involved with astronomy educators and the public during WSW 2009. More than 80 events were planned throughout India, covering almost every major city as well as towns where astronomy is being religiously followed by students. Activities included painting competitions, quizzes, slogan writing, water rocketry, lectures, film shows on space travel and astronomy, Eratosthenes experiments, and finding local noon by various methods were organized for students and the general public.

It is the first time that so many space events have occurred simultaneously at various places across India. Involvement of the general public was at its maximum at most of the events involving the observations of heavenly bodies as well as the talks. India as a whole saw the WSW 2009 celebrations as a great opportunity to promote astronomy outreach activities. Events were covered by national TV channels as well as the local electronic and print media. WSW 2009 figured prominently in all the major newspapers as well as online. The lives of more than 100,000 people were touched by the 80 astronomy events across the country.

"Space for education" was the key theme for the observations of Iridium flares and ISS passes to promote astronomy through actual observation of these simple events. SPACE (Science Popularisation Association of Communicators and Educators) and its school coordinators utilized these events to help people understand the concepts of orbits and space station basics. Activities that were coordinated under Sachin Bahmba and implemented in school curricula across Delhi, Hyderabad and Kolkata were extensively covered by national television and print media. Schools working with SPACE enthusiastically celebrated WSW events for the whole week. WSW 2009 was a good catalyst for further outreach in astronomy education activities which will be planned for WSW 2010.

### ***5.15 Indonesia***

Indonesia held two major activities to celebrate WSW 2009, which included a seminar and talk show on astronomy and space science. It took place on October 10 at the Multimedia Laboratory of "Assalaam," a modern boarding school, and attracted 54 participants (mostly high school seniors). Special presentations on space science and astronomy, the application of these technologies, open source astronomy and also Starrynight planetarium software, were presented. Students of Students Astronomy Club of Assalaam (CASA) were given free airplane simulation software. There were two model simulations: Flying Model Simulator and Flying Simulator by Google Earth. The latter included interactive question and answer sessions and was also carried out after lectures by students and teachers. Attendance for the World Space Week celebration was massive, particularly among students. World Space Week 2009 was organized by the CASA, Pabelan Surakarta, Central Java Indonesia. For more information about our 2009 WSW activities, please visit <http://blogcasa.wordpress.com/2009/10/11/pekan-antariksa-dunia-2009-di-solo/>.

### ***5.16 Kazakhstan***

World Space Week 2009 was marked by major contracts signed between Kazakhstan and the space company Astrium during French President Sarkozy's visit to Astana on October 5 - 6. This followed the commencement of a strategic partnership between the Republic of Kazakhstan, France, and Astrium for the development of Kazakhstan's space activities.

This year World Space Week coincided with the opening of the Samara Aerospace University (Russia) branch in Uralsk, Kazakhstan. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives of SAU (the National Space Agency of Kazakhstan) and the University assisted students who showed interest in space education.

Another traditional event was the International Competition of Water Rocket Models which took place at the Baikonur International Space School. Young students showed their best rocket models and presented technical and scientific reports on different topics of space exploration.

### ***5.17 Libya***

The Libyan Centre for Remote Sensing and Space included arrangements to commemorate World Space Week 2009 in its programmes. The Centre and other participants celebrated this international event starting on October 5. The Centre organized "The International Conference on the Application of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems" with the theme of "Partners in Development and Space." On this special occasion, it opened the Direct Reception Station of multiple distinct capacity of satellites' images. This station is the cornerstone of the Libyan space program and was established to serve the requirements of Great Jamahiriya and African space. It aims to provide data from earth imaging satellites which have different space capabilities. Conference delegates also visited the Murzuq region to officially open the direct receiving station for earth images. Explanations and data were given regarding the station work by engineers, researchers, specialists from the Centre.

Also during the WSW celebration, engineers and space specialists from the Centre visited schools and institutes to talk about WSW and to provide information about space and its peaceful applications. All schools and institutes visited the Center to learn more about the techniques of space science. Publications, periodicals about the Centre,

and WSW posters were distributed during the celebration. An exhibition of the Centre's research projects, activities, and achievements was held in commemoration of WSW and was very popular among guests. Many researchers from other centres have learned about WSW through the annual celebration that takes place at the Libyan Centre for Remote Sensing and Space.

### **5.18 Malaysia**

World Space Week 2009 was celebrated with a distribution of posters and stickers to space-related organizations, universities, and throughout public places in Malaysia. This instilled the awareness among Malaysian citizens. In addition, all the schools in Malaysia were provided with information about WSW and were encouraged to organize their own space- or earth-related activities during the month of October. With the support of the Ministry of Education, the "National Space Challenge" was organized. This was a competition which involved 10-year-old students who represented 16 states.

During World Space Week, the general public was also invited to take part in an online quiz which aimed to increase public awareness about space and science. On October 10, a space carnival was held at a remote area. It included exhibitions on meteorology, remote sensing and space science, and activities such as a space colouring competition and Jupiter observations. As many as 5,000 visitors took part in the activities.



### **5.19 Pakistan**

The Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) of Pakistan organized a number of events and activities to celebrate World Space Week 2009 in Pakistan's two largest cities, Karachi and Lahore, as well as some rural areas in the south of the country.

The salient activities which took place included:

- Inauguration ceremony
- Panel discussion on the theme of WSW 2009
- Sky Simulation show at a planetarium
- Space awareness lectures for school teachers
- Space awareness program for school students
- Quiz competition amongst students
- Declamation contest amongst students
- Model making competition among students
- Poster making competition amongst students
- Sky observation through telescope
- Space family fair

The Inaugural ceremony of World Space Week 2009, organized by SUPARCO, was held on October 5 at the National Centre for Remote Sensing & Geo Informatics (NCRG), SUPARCO, Karachi and at Gulshan-e-Iqbal Park, Lahore simultaneously. Dr Peerzada Qasim, Vice Chancellor of the University of Karachi, was the chief guest at the Inaugural ceremony in Karachi and Dr Riaz Suddle, Member of Space Electronics (SE), presided over the ceremony in Lahore. Dr. Qasim lauded the efforts made by SUPARCO, saying that the national space agency is doing an admirable job particularly in the applications of satellite technology for the social and economic development of the country.

The WSW 2009 celebrations in Pakistan culminated in a Space Family Fair on October 10 at the National Centre for Remote Sensing & Geo Informatics (NCRG) and on October 5-6 at Gulshan-e-Iqbal Park in Lahore. Apart from the colourful fun activities at the fair, SUPARCO organized stalls providing information about different applications of space technologies. Model-making competition and finals of the declamation and quiz competitions were also held at the fair. Highlights of the event were the space-related documentaries, Telemedicine Unit and its working and demonstration of water rockets.

Overall, World Space Week 2009 in Pakistan was very successful with a wide variety of events, and excellent attendance and media coverage.



## ***5.20 Romania***

The Romanian Space Agency has participated in World Space Week celebrations since the year 2000. This event has grown into one of the chief vehicles for space education and outreach in Romania. More than 100 World Space Week events took place in Romania in 2009, making it one of the hot spots for the WSW celebrations. Given the theme of this year – Space for Education – most of the events took place in schools and kindergartens, where the diminutive size of the participants was counterbalanced by their enthusiasm.

Events took place in half of all Romanian counties, including many in rural areas. The most active participants, in terms of number of events organized, included teachers from the Cluj, Hunedoara, and Constanta counties. As in the previous years, most of the event organizers were women. Both national and local media once again promoted many of the events to the public, and it was also publicized via the national online report, available at <http://wswwomania.blogspot.com>. The beauty of space and the enthusiasm of the teachers are a guarantee that a new generation of Romanian space scientists and engineers is being inspired and informed.

## ***5.21 Russian Federation***

World Space Week was widely celebrated across Russia on October 4-10, 2009. Several thousands of high school students, university students and space enthusiasts took part in celebrating this event. This year, high schools demonstrated a great interest in celebrating WSW. Many schools conducted Space Festivals. Celebrations included interactive games, space drawing contests, and presentations about space. A number of high school students visited the Memorial Museum of Cosmonautics, the Valley of Cosmonauts, and the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre during World Space Week.

Several high schools conducted special presentations about the development of our solar system. Students from one Moscow school had a meeting with Valentin Esipov, a scientist from Sternberg State Astronomy Institute. Writing a space-related essay is also a tradition for many schools during the World Space Week celebrations and several educational centres conducted space logo contests. More than 500 high school students and cadets took part in the Space Festival, which featured a rocket and space model exhibition and activities such as a drawing contest on "Children's View on Space" organized by "Buran" Youth Aerospace Centre in Ulyanovsk. High school students from Troitsk received signals from several microsatellites currently in operation (Tatyana-2 and OSCAR-51) through their amateur radio station. Students from Moscow designed spacecraft models using the origami technique. Many schools had space related book exhibitions at their school libraries.

Technical Universities also took part in celebrating World Space Week. For example, on October 7 a round table on "Problems and the Future of the Space Industry" was conducted at Bauman Moscow State Technical University. Asteroid hazards and future-technology microsatellite projects were also discussed by Bauman University graduates and cosmonaut Oleg Skripochkas. More than 160 Bauman University students and high school students participated in this event. On October 10, more than 500 high school students had a chance to visit the scientific laboratories of the Moscow Aviation Institute, which was opened for the public for one day. High school students met with key people of the Russian Aviation and Space Industry, including Chief Designer of Kamov Design Bureau Sergey Mikheev and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin. Students also visited a number of scientific laboratories and demonstrated a great interest towards spacecrafts and robots, power plants and engines.

It has also become a popular tradition to celebrate World Space Week in Kaliningrad Museum of World Oceans. During World Space Week 2009, the Museum organized meetings with aerospace specialists, various presentations and exhibitions. Operational Space Communication Vessel "Cosmonaut Victor Patsaev" was open for public for the whole week. Space-related movies were screened and an "Earth from Space" photo exhibition was displayed.

## ***5.22 Slovakia***

The celebration of World Space Week 2009 was coordinated by the Slovak Space Club, and was especially successful because it coincided with the 10th anniversary of Ivan Bella's space flight. During World Space Week 2009 at least 56 public and school events were organized by 31 institutions in 18 Slovak towns and villages. Observatories and planetariums as well as regional centres for education, centres for leisure activities, libraries and museums held activities during World Space Week. Many events were organized at nursery, primary and secondary schools all over the Slovak Republic. The activities included lectures, exhibitions, astronomical observations, observations of satellites and ISS flyby, creative workshops, and activities for children. The biggest event was an exhibition entitled "Our Universe: The Adventure of Discoveries," located in the beautiful historical

centre of Kosice. This exhibition was visited by more than 25,000 people. Information about the ideas, goals and event details of World Space Week were released through three of the most read daily newspapers in the Slovak Republic, SME, Pravda and Novy Cas, as well as two popular journals for science, technology and astronomy, Quark and Kozmos. Radio Regina Banska Bystrica and Radio Lumen broadcasting also informed people about WSW programmes. This first WSW celebration in Slovakia was highly successful and we believe that the enthusiasm will continue to grow over the years.

### **5.23 South Africa**

Below is a summary of the events that took place during World Space Week 2009 in South Africa:

- Launch of the South African Space Association. This is an association of space professionals in academia, industry and research institutions. Further information about the Association may be found at <http://www.spacesa.org/>.
- Launch of the South African Foundation for Space Development. This is an entity whose aim is to promote and support the development of the South African space arena. The Foundation is a non-profit entity that focuses on education in space, math and science, development and support of research, and public space awareness. More information on the Foundation is available at <http://www.developspacesa.com/>.

The National Youth Development Trust officially launched their World Space Week program on October 2. The high point was the virtual, reciprocal interactive lecture that consisted of a presentation on satellites by Mr. Francois Visser and a presentation on robotics by Prof Abdelouahab Zaatri of LATA, Algeria. The lectures were broadcast via broadband-based Internet to various countries, including South Africa, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Kuwait. They also had interactive broadband-based lectures on various space related topics between schools in the USA, France and Romania.

### **5.24 Turkey**

Under the coordination of Turksat, several activities to promote the peaceful uses of outer space were held in schools in various cities in the country. Activities were also carried out in some other places such as Cebit International Eurasia, which is a prestigious international fair. Turksat A.S. made industrious work in order to spread the awareness of peaceful uses of outer space. Many WSW events were organized at primary and secondary schools all over the country. They were in the form of lectures, exhibitions, competitions, observations, and planetarium-based programs for children and adults.

Events which occurred can be summarized as follows:

- During the WSW 2009 celebration, a total of 2,966 spacecraft models were made by students and were exhibited publicly in the school halls and cultural centers in 23 cities.
- 2,023 Cacabey Spacecrafts Painting Contests and Fairs took place in 27 cities. There were seminars in 11 cities on "From Cacabey to 2023."
- Composition contests about space were held in 5 cities.
- Observation festivals took place in 9 cities.
- Large conferences were held in academic areas.
- WSW events were announced in newspapers and on Turksat's web page (<http://www.turksat.com.tr>) in addition to other media outlets. There were a total of 102 local media links during WSW celebrations.
- Planetarium shows took place in 5 major cities.
- A number of school competition winners were awarded with small promotion presents provided by Turksat.
- One of the most popular activities was held in CEBIT-Istanbul at the WSW Social Responsibility Stand, which was visited by approximately 16,000 people, mostly students.

### **5.25 Ukraine**

On October 5 there was a meeting of the officials of the National Space Agency of Ukraine with engineers, scientists, young people and veterans of aerospace industry devoted to launching the first satellite. About 30 participants took part in this event.

On October 5-6, the Ukrainian Youth Aerospace Association "Suzirya" organized two meetings of Kiev school students with veterans of Baikonur and Plesetsk space centers to share their knowledge and experience in the aerospace field. The main lecturer was Sergey Dyachkov, Director of Suzirya. About 40 young people participated in the events.

On October 7-8, three lectures devoted to the launching of the first Ukrainian satellite were provided by veterans of Ukrainian aerospace industry for students of Kiev Polytechnic Institute and other schools. The main lecturer was Alexander Boltenko, Head of the Airspace Section of the State Polytechnic Museum, the veteran of Baikonur space centre. There were approximately 50 attendees.

The presentation of a recent book *"Ukraine and Space"* was held on October 8 at Ukrinform, the Ukrainian information agency. About 30 young people, students, university teachers and professors, scientists, engineers and workers of the Ukrainian space industry, and veterans of aerospace industry were present. The first Ukrainian cosmonaut Leonyd Kadenyuk was an honourable guest at this event.

On October 8-9, two round tables were devoted to the history of space exploration and a meeting with veterans of the State Design Bureau Yuzhnoye were organized by The National Aerospace Educational Centre of Ukrainian Youth for students from Dnepropetrovsk and local universities. About 40 young people participated in the events. The main lecturer was Viktor Hutornoi, Director General of the National Aerospace Educational Centre of Ukrainian Youth.

## **5.26 Vietnam**

Many activities were held in Vietnam in celebration of WSW 2009. On October 4, the Hanoi Amateur Astronomy Society and Space Satellite Manufacturing project group coordinated a festival called "Astronomy for education," which was attended by nearly 100 students and high school pupils. This event introduced the history and achievements of space research and some basic information about astronomy. Information about this event was also mentioned in several newspapers in Vietnam.

On October 11, hundreds of youths from Ho Chi Minh City and nearby region such as Phan Thiet, Vung Tau, Tay Ninh participated an exciting and memorable astronomy festival organized by the Ho Chi Minh Amateur Astronomy Club and District 5 Children's House. The theme of this festival was "Space for education" and "International Year of Astronomy 2009". Visitors enjoyed displays of spacecraft models, pictures, and posters that portrayed the history of mankind and the universe. Copies of 400-year-old telescopes were especially popular. Youths were also guided to make a simple refractor telescope and water rocket. They also had an opportunity to take part in an astronomy conversation with Professor Dr. Nguyễn Mộng Giao, a prestigious physicist in Vietnam. In the afternoon, the special event was a water rocket contest between five teams from Ho Chi Minh city, Vung Tau and Phan Thiet. The Astronomy festival was published in many major newspapers in Vietnam such as Tuoi tre and Thanh nien newspapers. Moreover, Vietnam national television channel VTV9 recorded and broadcasted information about this festival.

Other major events were held in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, where space related activities were organized by various local groups and astronomy clubs throughout the country such as Da Nang, Pleiku, and Vung Tau.

## **5.27 Zambia**

World Space Week in Zambia was organized by the Copperbelt University in partnership with the University of Zambia and the Lechwe Trust School. Funding was provided by the Copperbelt University through the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Two school-based events were organized:

- An International Year of Astronomy talk at Lechwe Trust School took place on October 2 and was attended by an audience of about 200 pupils and teachers.
- A one-day seminar on space science and astronomy attracted participation from 91 people, including 16 Kitwe-based high school JETS, JETS coordinators, and Copperbelt University students and faculty members. Motivating presentations were conducted by university lecturers on astronomy, space science and technology. Interactive activities were also included in this seminar, thanks to collaboration from the Physics Department of the University of Zambia, which allowed the use of their planetarium dome and telescope.

# **6 The United Nations**

The United Nations declared World Space Week is coordinated via a three-level structure. At the global level, it is coordinated by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs with support from the World Space Week Association, described in section 7. At the national level, it is coordinated by World Space Week National

Coordinators listed in the same section. The actual events and other programmes of World Space Week are held by a myriad of participants, details of which can be seen accessed through the on-line calendar at [www.worldspaceweek.org/calendar](http://www.worldspaceweek.org/calendar).



On October 4, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), in cooperation with the Austrian Space Forum (ÖWF), organized an event called "Adventure Space." This event was located at the Planetarium in Vienna. About 300 guests enjoyed a five-hour show.

Many talks were given, and a guided tour with the ISS simulator illustrated the typical workday of astronauts on the International Space Station (ISS). As a special guest, the first Malaysian astronaut Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor

talked about his first flight into outer space in October 2007. The event was sponsored by UNOOSA, the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) and the Federal Ministry for Transport Innovation and Technology (BMVIT).

Prior to the main events, UNOOSA in cooperation with the Austrian Space Forum (ÖWF) organized an event with astronauts Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor and Takao Doi in the in the Vienna International Centre, where children and employees of the United Nations and other international organizations enjoyed an astronaut demonstration in zero gravity. The second theme focused on the working and living conditions of astronauts during a journey to Mars.



From 5 to 7 October 2009, UNOOSA and the United Nations Information Service (UNIS) Vienna organized a world premiere of a live music/video performance entitled "Space and Time" in the Vienna International Centre. The performance, which was also co-sponsored by the Austrian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Vienna, was created and performed by Ciudadania, an experimental troupe from Darmstadt in Germany.

The "Space and Time" performance, which combined live music with video projections, took the audience of diplomats, astronauts, staff members, students and general public on a "mind boggling" 60-minute journey through the world of astronomy, space and time. Questions projected on the screens during the performance reflected on issues of human existence, climate change, environmental degradation, space debris, asteroids and the future of our planet and life as we know it.

## 7 World Space Week Association

World Space Week Association is a non-government organization devoted completely to the promotion and coordination of World Space Week. The Association's services include the development and support of the global network of national coordinators, preparation and distribution of educational and promotional materials, maintenance of the World Space Week website and publication of this annual report. World Space Week Association is a nongovernmental, non-profit, non-membership organization governed by a distinguished Board of Directors from more than 20 nations, as listed below. Volunteer leaders are depicted on the next page.

After World Space Week 2009, the Association was pleased to announce the selection of Talia Page as Executive Director. Ms. Page is working closely with the volunteers so that this international celebration will continue to grow in support of the United Nations, Association sponsors, and participants world-wide.

*You are invited to participate in UN-declared World Space Week, October 4-10 annually, the largest annual space event on Earth. For information and assistance, please contact:*

**World Space Week Association**

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*www.worldspaceweek.org*



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***National Coordinators***

World Space Week National Coordinators serve a crucial role, promoting and coordinating World Space Week in their respective states. This function is performed by committees, organizations, or individuals who volunteer and are approved by World Space Week Association. The National Coordinators who served during 2009 are listed in the table below.

Country	First Name	Last Name	Organization
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Brazil	Tania Maria	Sausen	INPE
Bulgaria	Veselka	Radeva	Observatory and Planetarium
Cameroon	Hubert Foy	Kum	Space General Advisory Council
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China	Yang	Junhua	Chinese Society of Astronautics
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Cuba	Loudres Palacio	Suarez	Instituto de Geofísica y Astronomía
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Macedonia	Aleksandar	Stefanovski	Association for Technical and Technological Education
Malaysia	Azreena	Ahmad	National Planetarium
Nepal	Dambaru Ballab	Kattel	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
Netherland	Erik	Laan	TNO Science & Industry
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Poland	Adam	Ustynowicz	Spaceweek Poland, Committee on Space Research
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Romania	Marius-Ioan	Piso	Romanian Space Agency
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Slovenia	Orest	Jarh	Technical museum of Slovenia
South Africa	Peter	Martinez	SAAO
Spain	Alider	Cragolini	Instituto Nacional de Técnica Aeroespacial
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Organizations are invited to sponsor World Space Week Association by completing the form at [www.worldspaceweek.org/affiliate](http://www.worldspaceweek.org/affiliate) application or by contacting [admin@worldspaceweek.org](mailto:admin@worldspaceweek.org).

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*The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs  
is responsible for promoting international cooperation  
in the peaceful uses of outer space and assisting  
developing countries in using space science and technology.*



**World Space Week**

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