



**World Space
Week** ASSOCIATION

World Space Week Association 2018

Annual Report



World Space Week

OCTOBER 4-10, 2018

www.worldspaceweek.org



الاسبوع العالمي للفضاء
10 أكتوبر - 4

Semana mundial del
espacio 4-10 de Octubre

世界空间周
10月4日 - 10日

Всемирная неделя
космоса 4-10 октября

Semaine mondiale de
l'espace Octobre 4-10

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World Space Week 2018 Theme: Space Unites the World

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United States of America
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WORLD SPACE WEEK AT A GLANCE

- **October 4-10 annually;**
- **First held in 2000, after the UNISPACE III UN General Assembly Resolution;**
- **5,422 reported events in 86 countries in 2018;**
- **Since 2012, annual growth of approximately 30% in number of events;**
- **Organized by World Space Week Association, coordinators in 106 countries, and over 4,000 organizations, schools, and individuals globally.**

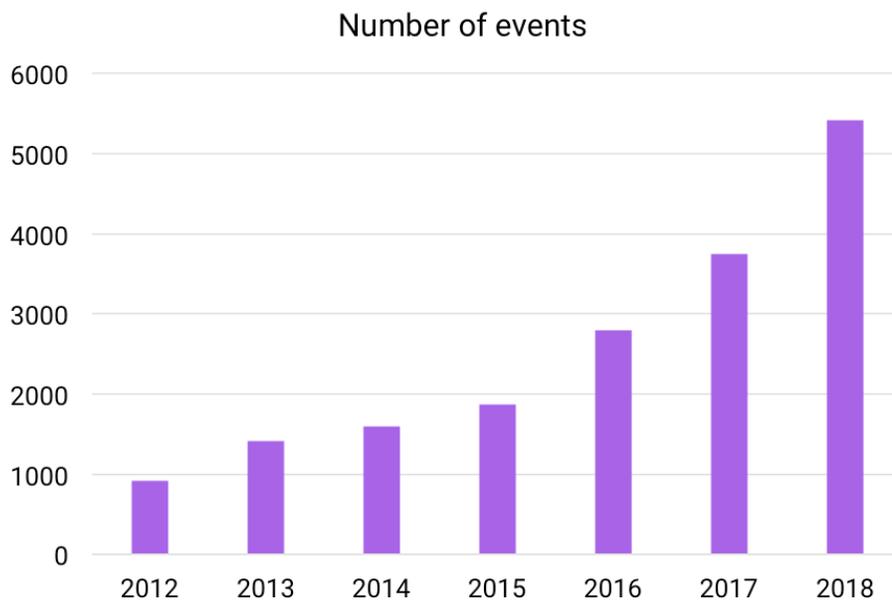


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FOREWORD

Dear supporters and colleagues,

I'm happy to share with you that once again WSW activities continue with a steady growth worldwide. These are the good news; in 2018, like every year thousands of volunteers got together and organized more than 5,400 events in 86 countries all around the globe.



You may wonder how come these happen? Why is that? I believe that the very nature of the UN declared activity per se is attractive, but it is in the hands and minds of the myriad of volunteers of all ages that each year the

WSW is recreated and refreshed with the integration of more people from children to grandparents and institutions that celebrate it in a festive atmosphere of peace where knowledge about the space is shared between the organizers and the participants.

Every year we get astonished by the creativity of the organizers who develop the most interesting ideas and innovations to celebrate what has become the world's greatest STEAM based celebration.

Perhaps the next thing we could do is look for the effect that this celebration has on the lives of the younger generations and on their participation in the space activities in their countries. Maybe this sounds ambitious, but in this way we can know the positive influence that the celebration of the WSW has in different parts of the world.

I am grateful for your support for the World Space Week Association and for your participation in World Space Week 2018 activities. With your continued support, World Space Week 2019 will be an even greater success.

Dr. Francisco Javier Mendieta
Director General, Mexican Space Agency
Chair, World Space Week Association

Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased to introduce this Annual Report of the World Space Week Association (WSWA) Annual Report. My personal orbit around World Space Week started nearly twenty years ago. In July 1999, I was fortunate to attend the UNISPACE III conference in Vienna at which the idea of a UN-mandated World Space was proposed by the participants of the Space Generation Forum organized there by the International Space University (ISU).

Shortly after that, I became the UK World Space Week coordinator in the UK where I spent a number of years trying to embed it the consciousness of the space community, the media and the general



public and promote WSW's 'think globally, act locally approach' – usually a significant challenge given the limited resources available for space education and outreach. Later, I was invited to join the WSWA Board and, in

2017, I was privileged to be elected Deputy Chair.

Throughout the last two decades, it has been inspiring to see how World Space Week has developed and grown globally. At the heart of this growth are the grassroots volunteers - the event organizers, the national coordinators, and all those who support them in the association. Without them, WSWA would not and could not have the impact that it does in its mission to raise awareness of the many benefits that space activities bring to all of us. Each one has made a contribution to the activities and events described in this report and each deserves our wholehearted thanks for their passion, their dedication and their commitment.

Prof. Christopher Welch
Co - Chair
World Space Week Association



FOREWORD

Dear Colleagues,

World Space Week, the annual UN-declared international celebration of space, is growing at an amazing rate. Over the last six years, the number of WSW events increased about 30% per year. Last year was another record-breaker, with 5,422 events reported in 86 countries.

When we sing together, our voices are louder. By synchronizing education and outreach, participants get leverage. Like Earth Day does for environmental awareness, World Space Week does for space. It is the most efficient time to inspire students with space, educate the public about space, and promote space organizations because it captures world attention and amplifies our messages.



I congratulate the World Space Week community ... the many event holders, coordinators, volunteers, sponsors, partners, and other supporters ... for this colossal achievement. As we approach the 20th anniversary of

World Space Week, I want to especially thank the directors, volunteers, officers, staff, partners, and sponsors of World Space Week Association. It is a true honor for me to work with all of you on this great cause.

Dennis Stone
President

World Space Week Association

Dear All,

2018 was an exceptional year. We see the growing importance of the whole space sector all across the world.



Creation of several new space agencies, rising importance of space policies on national and international levels, growth of the space industry and more people becoming involved with space related activities are very significant and important steps in the future of space sector. I am especially happy to see young people, and especially young women, becoming more involved with the space sector. It is with great pride that I can say that World Space Week is contributing to that by showcasing the importance of space and providing an opportunity to have their voice heard to everyone, no matter the age, gender or nationality, through the participation in the biggest space related event in the world.

It is my great honor to be a part of World Space Week Association. More so because of the 20th Anniversary of the World Space Week and the UN General Assembly Resolution in 2019. We are at a point in history that will determine how we continue and where we, as humanity, will leave our mark when it comes to outer space. I am certain that World Space Week Association can positively contribute to these developments by encouraging stronger participation in events during the World Space Week that can lead to not only more understanding of space, but also can also bring more attention to specific needs of local communities with regard to the space sector.

Without the team behind the World Space Week Association, our sponsors, partners, volunteers and national coordinators, World Space Week could never grow so steadily and become so successful. I sincerely hope that you will join us in 2019 to celebrate with us the important milestone of 20 years of World Space Week and to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the landing on the Moon under the 2019 Theme „Moon: Gateway to the Stars“!

Maruška Strah
Executive Director
World Space Week Association



ABOUT US

World Space Week Association (WSWA) is an international non-government organization and a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation in the United States. It is led by an esteemed Board of Directors comprised of volunteer global space leaders and dignitaries. Implementing the Association's programs are a volunteer executive team, small staff, and supporting volunteers.

The mission of WSWA is to strengthen the link between space and society through public education, participation, and dialogue on the future of space activities, using UN-declared World Space Week, October 4-10 annually, as a focus.

Supported by a global coordination network, WSWA works year-round to encourage the space and education sectors to hold events during WSW. The result is the largest network of space-supporting organizations on Earth which participate in

this annual event. WSWA supports these coordinators and participants with services to help maximize the visibility and impact of World Space Week.

The Association works with educators, space industry, space agencies and other organizations to advocate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education by inspiring students through WSW. WSWA encourages use of WSW as a platform not only for STEM

education but to involve the public in space programs and to encourage people around the world to express their passions for space.

One of the oldest space advocacy organizations in the world, WSWA has permanent

observer status in the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), is a member of the International Astronautical Federation, and is supported by numerous global sponsors and partners.



World Space Week Association:

- Supports the UN in the global coordination of World Space Week;
- Expands World Space Week and its impacts on education and society;
- Is volunteer-managed and funded through voluntary contributions;
- Is a non-profit, non-government organization founded in 1981;
- Takes no positions on space policy to ensure that WSW is open to all.



WORLD SPACE WEEK ASSOCIATION ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

World Space Week Association expanded in 2018 to better support the biggest space event on Earth.

This past year, the Association:

- Hired a new Executive Director, Maruška Strah;
- Elected several officers with significant experience working with the space sector;
- Selected 13 new National Coordinators that were carefully chosen to lead the celebration of World Space Week in their territories;
- Communicated with leaders of the world's major space agencies;
- Expanded its global partners and renewed partnership commitments;
- Developed new WSW calendar features to be launched in 2019.

This was in addition to producing key products, such as the poster, theme, annual report, newsletters, media releases, and other communications to key stakeholders.

As a part of the mission to institutionalize World Space Week into a globally recognized event that grows by itself, the Association continues to expand its following of World Space Week participants and supporters via social media and other channels. ESA and DLR were among the many space organizations which promoted World Space Week in social media in 2018.



The Association in 2018 began efforts to use the platform of World Space Week for special projects and programs. It worked with Planet to schedule images of large WSW events from space, and developed a “Happy World Space Week” video from around the globe. We will be working with stakeholders in 2019 to foster greater use of the WSW platform.



With great pride, WSWA renewed its partnership with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and with the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) as well as entered in partnerships with Moon Village Association, Space4Humanity, Astronomical Society of the Pacific, and International Observe the Moon Night.



WSWA has a long-standing commitment to education, with a special focus on the fields of STEM. To fulfill the goal of involving more educational institutions in participation in World Space Week, the Association worked with several educational stakeholders and contacted teachers working with NASA, ESA ESERO, DLR and the regional ministry of education of Catalonia. For example, NASA sent a World Space Week message to over 35,000 teachers who subscribe to its NASA EXPRESS newsletter and reached more via social media.

WSWA is grateful for the support of its distinguished Board of Directors. Two Board meetings were held in 2018



- In Vienna, Austria on February 2 during the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS. The Board choose the 2019 theme, “The Moon: Gateway to the Stars.”.

- In Bremen, Germany, on October 3 during the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) with record attendance of 17 directors. The meeting included a signing ceremony of the new WSWA agreement with IAF. The Board also launched an assessment of Association governance.

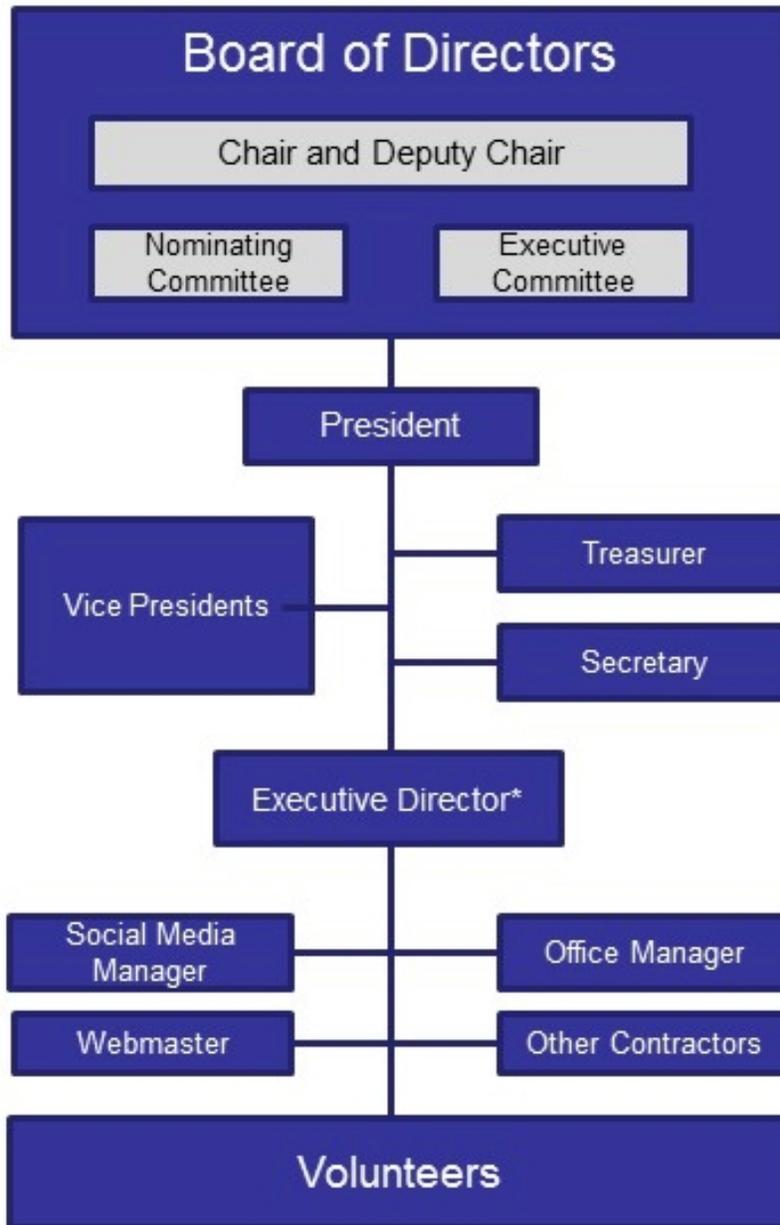
Detailed information and minutes of Board meetings as well as financial reports can be found at: <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/organization/meetings/>

In order to encourage participation in World Space Week, representatives of WSWA attended numerous events to give presentations, distribute annual reports and posters, and meet with space organization leaders. Events supported in 2018 included UN COPUOS Subcommittees, UNISPACE+50, UN/Argentina Workshop on the Applications of GNSS, UN/Germany High Level Forum, and HSTI Expert meeting in Vienna, the IAC in Bremen, and II Conferencia Espacial del Paraguay. To encourage greater use of WSW in STEM education, WSWA also participated in SpaceUp Unconference, ESA ACT in Space, and II Jornada STEM a l’Espai, all in Barcelona; and the 3rd Scientix Conference organized by European Schoolnet in Brussels.



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

World Space Week Association is led by a volunteer Board of Directors. The Board has two committees: the Executive Committee which supervises the Executive Director and develops the operational plans of the Association, and the Nominating Committee which proposes directors and officers. The officers of the Association, elected by the Board, include a President, several Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer. All serve as volunteers. The Executive Director serves as the chief operating officer of the Association.



* The Executive Director reports to the Executive Committee or the President in its stead.



WORLD SPACE WEEK INTRODUCTION

What is World Space Week?

- Largest annual space event on Earth, with over 5,000 events in 86 countries in 2018
- Growing rapidly in size and impact
- Synchronized space education and outreach events organized by companies, space agencies, schools, planetaria and museums, astronomy, space, and other clubs and societies, and individuals

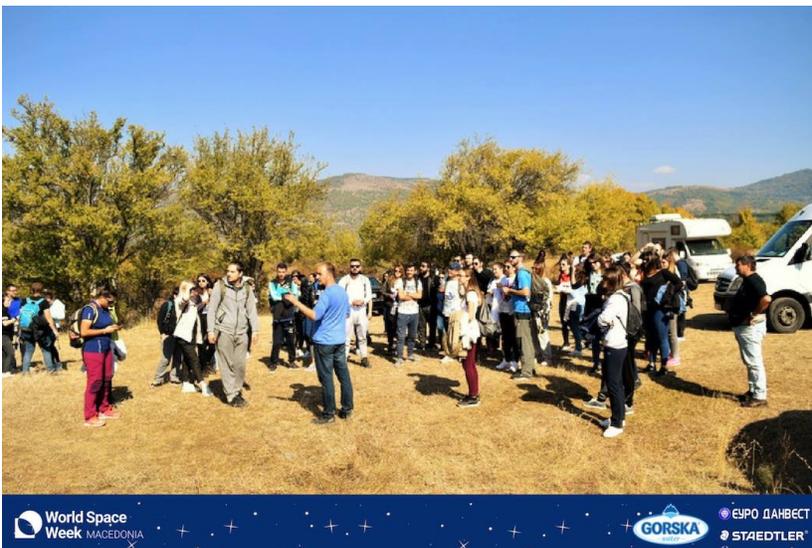


When is World Space Week?

- World Space Week is October 4-10 annually
- It was declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 1999

What are the benefits of World Space Week?

Synchronization of events provides leverage in space education and outreach in order to:



Build the workforce of tomorrow by inspiring students;

Educate the public about the benefits of space;

Promote organizations which are involved in space;

Visibly demonstrate public support for space activities.



How to become involved?

- As a **donor**. We are always looking for organizations and individuals willing to support our cause. Please visit <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/donors/become-donor/>
- As a **partner**. We are looking for organizations, which share our vision and goals. See <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/partners/partner-us/>
- As a **global volunteer**. We are always looking for individuals with specific skills, willing to devote some of their valuable time to World Space Week. See <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/working-with-us/vacancies/>
- As a **national coordinator**. We are present in about half of the world's countries, but not in all of them yet. We also seek local coordinators to promote World Space Week in your region or city. See <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/working-with-us/coordinator-duties/>
- As an **event organizer**. We seek event organizers. To get involved and if you need further information or help, get in touch with your Local or National Coordinator. See <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/events/how-to/>

How to organize an event?

There are no limits to what can be done to celebrate space or use space to inspire education during WSW. Audiences can be the public, students, employees, or other targeted communities. Participating organizations get leverage by being part of the largest space event in the world. On the World Space Week website there are many examples of what can be done and has been done in the past. More ideas are available here: <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/events/event-ideas/>

The main criteria for a World Space Week event:

1. It must be space related;
2. It must begin or end during World Space Week October 4-10;
3. One audience counts as one event. For example, a school doing activities on five days counts as one event.



See all criteria and guidelines here: <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/guidelines-on-wswa-events-policy/>



Event Calendar

The main way for World Space Week Association to coordinate the global celebration of WSW is via an online calendar. Event holders are responsible for entering their event(s) on the calendar. This calendar also credits participants and provides global transparency to the biggest space celebration on Earth. The WSWA team keeps track of the recorded events by maintaining the calendar and making sure the events adhere to the guidelines for event organization.

In order to achieve the highest accuracy of events and the highest level of visibility for event organizers, entering events details into the calendar before the start of World Space Week is highly recommended. By doing so, event organizers obtain significantly more reach among the public, and the event itself will have more impact.



In 2019, the calendar will provide new features. Each person who enters events first establishes a user account. They can then sign in to create or modify their events. Other new features will include:

- Date checking (events must start or end the first half of October);
- Duplicate location checking;
- Improved event browsing.



WORLD SPACE WEEK 2018 STATISTICS



During World Space Week 2018, a total of 5,422 events in 86 countries were reported by over 4,000 organizers. The top list of countries with the most reported events in 2018 was dominated by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which reported record 2,926 events. Events in Saudi Arabia are strongly supported by the Ministry of Education, proving the value of World Space Week in schools, especially with support by national institutions.

Ireland, Mexico, and Romania significantly increased their number of reported events in comparison with 2017.



A significant number of events was held in Pakistan with a very strong support from SUPARCO. While there have been over 700 events according to their reports, only 47

events from Pakistan were entered in the official calendar. Similarly, there were indications of WSW events in China that were not reported in the calendar. WSWA is maintaining strict guidelines for event recognition in order to maintain transparency and credibility of the overall WSW celebration for all event organizers,

National Coordinators and the Association. Consequently, we cannot count events that do not meet the official guidelines. We note that underreporting of events still presents a

RANK	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF EVENTS IN 2018
1	Saudi Arabia	2,926
2	Ireland	356
3	Mexico	345
4	India	319
5	USA	211
6	Romania	202
7	Croatia	157
8	Spain	81
9	France	79
10	UK	77

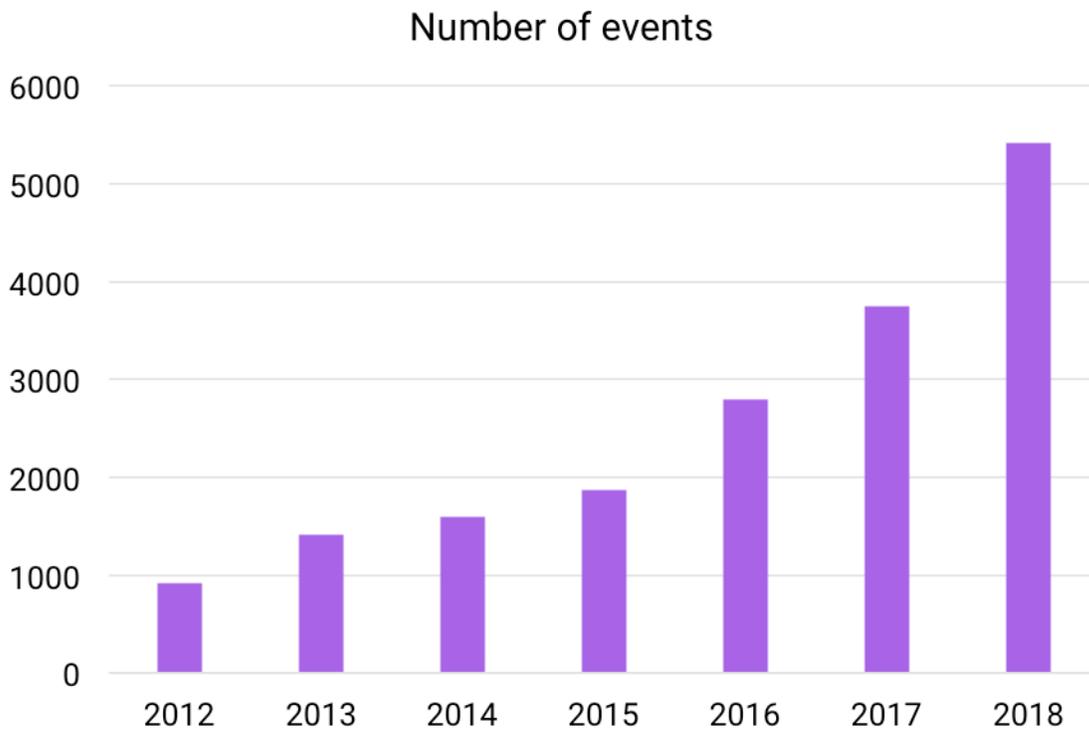
challenge for the future work of the Association and are preparing new tools with which we can further improve data collection.

There are no countries from the African Region on the top ten list for 2018, showing the need for improvement in this region and further stresses the importance of sufficient reporting of events held during World Space Week. Based on the official calendar, the majority of events in the African region were



held in Nigeria, where only 20 events were reported.

Global trends show continuous and growing support for World Space Week, with more countries participating every year. Growing number of events in countries where National Coordinators report strong support by their governments and national institutions show the importance of official support.



WORLD SPACE WEEK 2018 GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

World Space Week witnessed a record number of events across the world from October 4–10 2018. WSW coordinators, volunteers, supporters, sponsors and participants organized over 5,000 events in 86 countries. It encompassed an incredible diversity of events celebrating the theme of “Space Unites the World”, from panel discussions in the United States to a World Space Week song released in Japan to star-gazing in Syria and space webinars in Europe.



The Highlights section showcases some of the creative, innovative and popular events that brought people together to celebrate space.

- Over 7600 visitors attended the European Space Agency [Open Day](#) on October 7 at the ESTEC technical centre in Noordwijk, the Netherlands.
- Cruise liner Cunard conducted its [second annual Transatlantic World Space Week](#) aboard Queen Mary 2 from New York to Southampton.
- Space Selfies were taken by Planet satellites during World Space Week.

Week. (Following a global call for ideas, six activities were selected, ranging from a 70x50m space rocket using recycled materials in Mexico to a 80 x 50m symbol in Abu Dhabi.)

- Special advance screenings of National Geographic’s Mars2 played in the United States.
- Institute of Space Technology in collaboration with Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission celebrated ‘World Space Week 2018’ in Pakistan with a number of activities and competitions.
- Airbus employees talked about space at hundreds of schools across Western Europe.
- Saudi Arabia’s Ministry of Education used World Space Week to inspire students across the country.
- Over 28,000 students attended a [World Space Week exhibition](#) in India.
- World Space Week Association, in partnership with Planetary Society and SGAC, recorded a video wishing “Happy World Space Week” in different languages from around the world:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldSpaceWeek/videos/2311019322260918/>.





- Ladies Do Launch, a series of panel interviews in front of live audiences, with women in the space industry were held in various cities in the United States.

- [Leicester's National Space Centre](#), United Kingdom, hosted a World Space Week Family Sleepover, giving families the opportunity to spend the night under giant rockets, next to spacesuits and beneath the stars.

- Hundreds of amateur astronomy clubs held "star parties" for public viewing of the skies in the US and around the world.

- IMAX released a series of mini space documentaries and short interviews with astronauts during every day of World Space Week 2018 on their social media channels.
- Space for Humanity and Yuri's Night organized a [Space Unites The World](#) event on October 5 in Hawthorne, California.
- [Iranian Space Agency](#), together with over 60 state and private organizations, held programs in Iran during World Space Week, including competitions and workshops for students and teachers.
- Hundreds of Astrium employees spoke to classrooms that week in Germany, UK, France, and Spain.
- Postcards printed for World Space Week were sent between space enthusiasts in Europe and China, as a gesture that space truly unites the world.



SPOTLIGHT: CROATIA

What is our goal and our responsibility, if not bringing space to as many people as we can? Children and young people will be future scientists, mathematicians, physicists, but also artists, painters, poets, musicians, people of all kinds of careers, to whom the universe will be the same starting point. This will mark their aspirations to the brighter future of all of us Earth. It is our great responsibility to encourage everyone, especially children and young people, to engage in space activities.

In Croatia we have great examples of launching this big space flywheel that will bring us a step closer to the universe. We have increased participation to people of all ages, especially the young, gifted children. In 2018 we had an increasing number of educational institutions and an even greater number of children and young people involved in the world's marking of the theme "Space Unites the World". They all united this year, from large national organizations to government offices and ministries, to advocate for future activities on an even larger scale and with even greater support. We have shown that the interest in the universe is enormous and that activities can also be carried out by people who at first cannot be imagined in fields that are not directly related to technical sciences. We discovered new talents and built special relationships among all of us.

With 157 activities, we covered the entire territory of our state, including the parts that have not been able to participate in the World Space Week so far. We shared forces and managed to reach a new record by including people, who in the past might not have the necessary lecturers, knowledge and tools to implement activities. High schools, institutes and national government institutions supported WSW and held a series of lectures on the topics on how space affects our daily lives.

Together we are now working on WSW 2019 to introduce WSW as a part of the national school curriculum. This opens up a whole new area of activity, evaluation, competition, promotion and reward for participants. Croatia signed the first Cooperation Agreement with ESA in 2018, and we are hopeful that formation of new national organizations, such as the Croatian Astronomical Union and Adriatic Aerospace, will lead to the approach and accession of Croatia to COPOUS.

In Croatia, the WSW 2018 Theme "Space Unites the World" was truly emphasized. We can only conclude that in 2018 Croatia truly united with the world's space organizations, bringing us closer to the stars.

May your sky always be clear!

Danko Kocis, WSW National Coordinator for Republic of Croatia



A LOOK BACK: HISTORY OF WORLD SPACE WEEK

The 20th anniversary of World Space Week will be held in 2019. To help prepare for this special occasion, WSW Association President Dennis Stone shares the history of the biggest space event on Earth:

World Space Week (WSW) was created in 1999 by the United Nations. That year, the UN held UNISPACE III, a meeting of all space-faring nations, resulting in the "Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development." Article II of the Declaration stated:

Recalling that 4 October 1957 was the date of the launch into outer space of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik I, thus opening the way for space exploration,

Recalling also that 10 October 1967 was the date of the entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,

Decide, in order to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of UNISPACE III, in particular that of increasing awareness among decision makers and civil society of the benefits of the peaceful uses of space science and technology for sustainable development, to invite the General Assembly to declare, according to its procedures, "World Space Week" between 4 and 10 October for the yearly celebration at the international level of the contribution that space science and technology can make to the betterment of the human condition.

The UN General Assembly agreed later that year, officially declaring 4 to 10 October annually as World Space Week.

Before WSW, "Spaceweek" was celebrated in a number of nations starting in the early 1980s as a celebration of the Apollo 11 anniversary in July. Later, the event was moved into the school year. It was coordinated by a non-profit I led called Spaceweek International Association. After

the UN declaration, we met with UN Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) Director Sergio Camacho in Vienna. We agreed that the Association would embrace the UN's dates and be the UN's non-government organization (NGO) partner in the global coordination of WSW, a decision warmly ratified by our Board. The Association later changed its name to World Space Week Association (WSWA).

The first WSW was celebrated 4-10 October 2000 with about 100 events in 29 countries. Working closely with UNOOSA, space agencies, and other space-supporting organizations globally, the Association recruited National Coordinators and event holders to expand the annual celebration. It built the WSW website, produced annual WSW posters, encouraged events, and collected reports. The expansion was slow during the first decade, but accelerated in the second decade thanks to social media and the excitement of the space community.



The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development*

The States participating in the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held in Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,

I

Recognizing the aims and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Having in mind that humans have always gazed at the sky with wonder and that from such was born the curiosity that drove early astronomers to study the movements of celestial bodies, from which the foundations of modern space science and technology were laid,

Recognizing the importance of space science and space applications for the fundamental knowledge of the universe, education, health, environmental monitoring, management of natural resources, disaster management, meteorological forecasting and climate modelling, satellite navigation and communications, and the major contribution that space science and technology make to the well-being of humanity and specifically to economic, social and cultural development,

Considering that space transcends national boundaries and interests, permitting the development of global solutions to address common challenges and providing a vantage point from which to view planet Earth,

Noting the positive developments in international relations since the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held in Vienna from 9 to 21 August 1982,¹

Recognizing the common interest of all humanity in the progress of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and convinced of the need to prevent an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in this regard,

Recognizing that outer space should be the province of all humankind, to be utilized for peaceful purposes and in the interests of maintaining international peace and security, in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations and as proclaimed in the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,

Recognizing General Assembly resolution 51/122 of 13 December 1996, entitled "Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries",

Recognizing that the orderly conduct of space activities is beneficial to all countries, whether or not they have already become active in space research or have started to utilize space applications, and that active support for space activities is expressed in the observance by States and by international organizations of the provisions of the outer space treaties,

Noting with satisfaction that the United Nations conferences on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space were held in Vienna in 1968 and in 1982, leading to many new initiatives, including the creation of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and the establishment of regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, which are contributing to a better understanding of space technology and to capacity-building in the utilization of space technology at the local level for social and economic development,

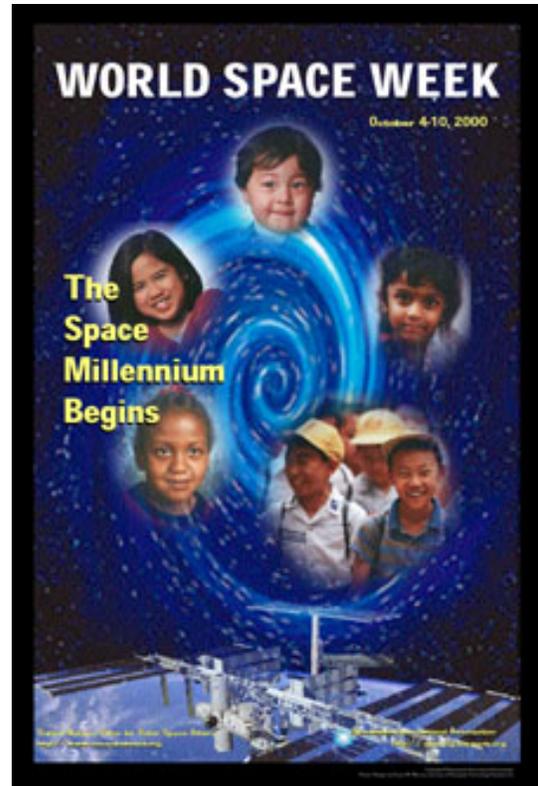
Noting the benefits and applications of space technologies in addressing the unprecedented challenges to

* Adopted by the Conference at its 10th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1999.

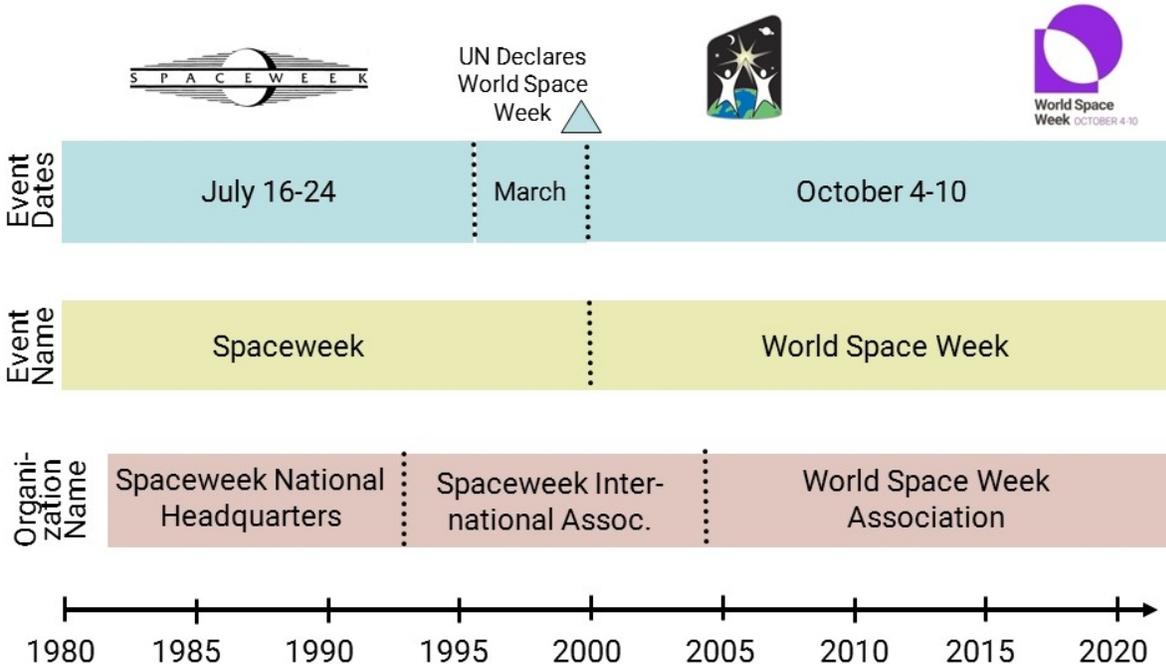


In 2007, the first year of tracking events in our online calendar, 407 events were reported by 50 nations. Ten years later in 2017, this grew to 3,746 events in 80 nations. Last year, WSW 2018 broke this record by far, and we expect 2019, the 20th anniversary of World Space Week, will do so again. Indeed, World Space Week has become a unique, global platform capable of efficiently promoting space and the vibrant space community while stimulating education.

In parallel with the growth of WSW, World Space Week Association (WSWA) has evolved as well over these 20 years to lead the biggest space event on Earth. It expanded its Board of Directors to include global space leaders, recruited top officers, built a team of staff and volunteers, upgraded its information technology to support the largest network of space organizations on Earth, and strengthened its brand to power its growth. The Association is fueled by the dedication and support of its donors, partners, board, officers, staff, and volunteers. As WSWA begins the third



decade of leading the growing World Space Week celebration, it too will grow and we are thus grateful for the increasing support shown by the global space sector.



2019 THEME: "THE MOON: GATEWAY TO THE STARS"

In 2019, humankind celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first human moon landing of July 20, 1969. This historic event kept people glued to their black-and-white TV-screens all over the world, and marked the start of a new era for humanity. For the first time in our 200,000-year existence, we were not solely bound to Earth anymore.

国連世界宇宙週間 JAPAN EVENT
World Space Week Association

GOMA Liveart & Exhibition
MOON
宇宙と繋がるアート

2018.10.1 (Mon) ~ 10.5 (Fri)
10:00 ~ 18:00

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The last person to set foot on our faithful satellite did so in 1972. But instead of sending humans to other heavenly bodies, space agencies then favored robotic missions across our solar system, deep space research with space telescopes, and crewed missions in low Earth orbit (LEO) with projects such as the Space Shuttle program, Mir, the Chinese Space Station and the International Space Station.

Interest in crewed exploration outside LEO has gained tremendous momentum during the past decade. Driven by the enthusiasm of ambitious entrepreneurs, some private companies are heading into a race to build the first human settlement outside Earth. Economic and social benefits promised by space exploration are obvious incentives to understand how the space race is back, and at the same time show why it is crucial to understand the need to protect our environment.

While Mars presents the ultimate goal, many acknowledge that the Moon will play a vital role in our efforts to discover the rest of our solar system. Whether it

be as a source of material for necessary equipment and fuel, a place with a unique scientific vantage point, a commercial base, or a stop on the way to Mars is to be discussed and decided by the relevant stakeholders and decision makers.

World Space Week Association's excitement for the lunar theme is strongly inspired by the presence of Apollo 11 crew member Buzz Aldrin on the Board of Directors and by the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Moon Village Association (MVA) at IAC 2018 in Bremen. In cooperation with MVA, we will seek global public input on the Moon in 2019.

World Space Week Association's Board of Directors decided to devote the WSW 2019 theme to our nearest space neighbor to celebrate the incredible achievement of landing on the Moon and to spark consideration of the value of the Moon in humankind's future space endeavors.



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