



Ecsite Space Group Annual Meeting
ESA Astronaut Centre,
Cologne (Germany)
8 & 9 December 2016

1. The Ecsite Space Group

The Ecsite Space Group offers a platform for science centres and museums to improve and extend communication about European space activities by helping science centres and space professionals to work together with non-specialists to develop collaborative projects and events.

The group is chaired by Marc Moutin, Director of Exhibitions at Cité de l'Espace, France, Ana Noronha, Executive Director of Ciência Viva, Portugal, and Maria Menendez, Head of ESA Corporate Exhibitions and Events, France.

Joining the Ecsite Space Group is an opportunity to getting closer to space professionals and science centres willing to communicate about space. It also allows to be better informed about space news, programs, and discoveries. The Space Group offers opportunities to share experiences, expertise, knowledge, tools, resources and best practices.

For European Space Agency (ESA), national space agencies, industries, research institutions, and academia, the Space Group offers the possibility to build close collaborations with science communication professionals. The group benefits from the already established European networks of Ecsite and the European Space network of ESA and its member states.

2. Programme

The Ecsite Space Group met at the European Astronaut Centre in Cologne for their Annual Meeting in 2016. The group decided about the dates of the meeting at the Space group pre-conference workshop in June in Graz, Austria. They also decided on the main ideas to be discussed during this two-day meeting.

Below you will find an overview on the [programme](#) of the meeting as well as links to the presentations of the speakers.

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Dr. Andreas Diekmann was the first speaker of the day. He gave the group an introduction to the European Astronaut Centre and the European Space Agency.

Following this introduction, **María Menéndez** presented the co-chairs and the work of the Space Group. She then introduced Ecsite representative, Carmen Fenollosa, and Fiorella Coliolo, coordinator for ESA of the Ecsite Space Group.

The co-chairs **Ana Noronha and Marc Moutin** gave further information about the Ecsite Space Group and its objectives as well as the objectives of this Annual Meeting.

María Menéndez presented the 3 pilot projects:

- “The International Space Station: Living and Working in Space” co-led by Cité de l’Espace (Toulouse, France) and Tycho Brahe Planetarium (Copenhagen, Denmark) that is about to be launched;
- “Is there Life out There?”, led by Ciudad de las Artes y de las Ciencias (Valencia, Spain), to be developed in 2017;
- “Climate change: monitoring the Oceans from Space”, to be launched in 2018.

Franco Bonacina, Head of Communication of the European Space Agency presented ESA’s Director’s General vision for ESA as well as the general results of the ESA Council at Ministerial level. More information on this presentation clicking [here](#).

After this first part of the programme, the group visited the European Astronaut Centre and the DLR facilities. The visits were guided by **Jules Grandsire** (PR & Communications, EAC) and **Michael Winand** (Corporate Communication, DLR). This was followed by a lunch on the EAC premises.

Frank de Wine, Head of the European Astronaut Centre, presented ESA's exploration programme following the ESA Ministerial Council. You can have more information concerning this by [downloading his presentation](#).

Marco Trovatiello, Strategy Advisor & Cross-Media Coordinator at European Space Agency. He gave an overview of the possibilities that ESA social media gives and offered his help to disseminate the Space Group's kits. Read more about his presentation [here](#).

Pilot Project 1: The International Space Station: Living and Working in Space

This session was presented by **Aude Lesty** from Cité de l'Espace, **Fiorella Coliolo** from ESA and **Carmen Fenollosa** from Ecsite.

- Aude Lesty presented the exhibition that Cité de l'Espace has developed for the kit. This exhibition is being finalized but some changes are still needed. For more information on the exhibition you can [click here](#).
- Carmen Fenollosa presented the activities that Tycho Brahe Planetarium has developed on behalf of Tina Ibsen. She then explained how the toolkit will be accessed and downloaded. [More information here](#).
- Fiorella Coliolo on her side gave an overview of some of the [resources that ESA has on the topic](#).

Pilot Project 3: Climate change: Monitoring the Oceans from Space.

- Ana Noronha, from Ciencia Viva and leader of the pilot project that will be developed in 2018, presented an updated version of the project they are preparing. Their idea, which will probably evolve in the next months, is to prepare a modular exhibition together with educational activities. More information on the [project here](#).

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Massimo Sabatini and **Mandeka Papini** presented “Discovering the Moon - ESA's Interactive Guide”: lunarexploration.esa.int and The Moon Kiosk, a building block of a future. You can have more information [clicking here](#) and [here](#).

Pilot Project 2: Is there life out there?

Jose Gordillo from Ciudad de las Artes y de las Ciencias, **Carmen Fenollosa** and **Fiorella Coliolo** presented the updates on the pilot project that will be developed in 2017.

- Jose Gordillo presented his updated version of the project. He gave more insight into the board game and the activities he foresees as part of the kit on exobiology. All the information can be [found here](#).
- Carmen Fenollosa presented the dissemination possibilities that Ecsite could use and pointed out that the Game Lab (gaming community that is part of the Ecsite network). You can see [more about it here](#).
- Finally, Fiorella Coliolo gave an overview on the resources that ESA has on its website and that relate to the topic of this Pilot Project 2. [More information here](#).

Showcase space projects

- Bart Buelens presented a citizen science project on search for extraterrestrial intelligence. You can [download it here](#).
- The ISS" Prototype - An immersive virtual reality experience to explore the interior of the International Space Station. Wearing the VR glasses the user will be able to see in every direction and move freely thanks to a joystick, visiting the ISS independently.
- "ISS 3D movie" - Explore the ISS as you were watching a movie in a theatre. A voice during the projection of 3D tour will guide you inside the International Space Station explaining the different compartments and their functions and lead you to a space walk outside. This movie is available in multiple languages
- The Moon Kiosk: A prototype of the kiosk that had been presented in the morning.

- **Marc Moutin:** Presented the exhibition that Cité de l' Espace had just opened called "Exhibitions". [Download here the presentation.](#)
- **Niamh Shaw** presented the Ireland Space Week of 2016. You can [download it here.](#)
- **Toma Patrascu** presented the Bucharest Science festival and the Science Calendar they have developed.
- **Wolfgang Weicht** presented the first results of Datanauts. [Click here for more.](#)
- **Anita Heward** presented the video A Journey to Venus - HAWAII 360° and was produced by EuroVenus. You can watch it [here](#). If you would like a version of the film for download, they should contact Colin Wilson: colin.wilson@physics.ox.ac.uk
- **Jean Marcel Thomas** presented the Euro Space Center and its programme for schools. You can watch the videos [here](#) and [here](#)
- **Guido Schwarz** presented the New permanent exhibition "Space" at the Swiss Museum of Transport" in Lucerne and the New planetarium show "Dort draussen" (Out there) about exoplanets (Premiere End of November 2016). It can be downloaded [here](#).

3. Participants list

	Name	Organisation	Nationality
1	Marc Moutin	Cite de l'Espace	France
2	Aude Lesty	Cite de l'Espace	France
3	Ana Noronha	Ciencia Viva	Portugal
4	Christian Klösch	Technisches museum Wien	Austria
5	Bart buelens	Astrostatistics.org & Cosmodrome-Kattevennen	Belgium
6	Anita Heward	Europlanet 2020 Research Infrastructure	British
7	Sylviane Blum	Universität Bern (Center for Space and Habitability (CSH))	Switzerland
8	Jose Gordillo	Ciudad de las Artes y de las Ciencias	Spain
9	Carmen Fenollosa	Ecsite	Spain
10	Guido Schwarz	University of Bern NCCR PlanetS	Switzerland
11	Milene Wendling	Planetarium Universit'e de Strasbourg	France
12	Dr. Jochen Büchel	STS for Systems Medicine	Germany
13	Elton Micallef	Esplora Interactive Science Centre	Malta
14	Gonzalo Abellán	MUDIC	Spain
15	Jesús Carnicer	MUDIC	Spain
16	Sebastian D. Marcu	DESIGN & DATA GmbH Digital visual communication solutions	Germany
17	Niamh Shaw	Castlerock Observatory	Ireland
18	Jean Marcel Thomas	Euro Space Center	Belgium
19	Rob Van de Berg	Space Expo	The Netherlands
20	Karolien Senica	the Education department	Belgium
21	Catia Cardoso	Ciencia Viva	Portugal
22	Alexandru Toma Patrascu	Bucharest Science Festival	Romanian
23	Wolfgan Weicht	kzwei.org	Germany
24	Berna Esselar	Hal 3 Projects	The Netherlands
25	Gerhard Daum	Technik Museum Speyer	Germany
26	Maria Menendez	European Space Agency	
27	Fiorella Coliolo	European Space Agency	
28	Mandeka Papini	European Space Agency	
29	Frank de Winne	European Space Agency	
30	Jules Grandsire	European Space Agency	
31	Franco Bonacina	European Space Agency	
32	Marco Trovatello	European Space Agency	
33	Sander Verkek	European Space Agency	