

© Ecsite/Space Talks online series 2021

Space Talks online series 2021 REPORT

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1. About the Ecsite Space Group

The Ecsite Space Group offers a platform for science centres and museums to improve and extend communication about ESA and European space activities by sharing experiences, expertise, knowledge, tools, resources and best practices.

The group is chaired by Maria Menéndez, Head of Outreach Coordination office, European Space Agency (France), Christophe Chaffardon, Head of Education at Cité de l'espace (France) and Ana Noronha, Executive Director of Ciência Viva (Portugal).

Joining the Ecsite Space Group is an opportunity to get closer to space professionals and science centres willing to communicate about space. It also allows participants to be better informed about space news, programs, achievements and next launches.

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. Space Talks online series

Due to current circumstances linked to the Covid-19 pandemic all over the world the Ecsite Space Group repeated the format of online workshops implemented in December 2020 in order to stay connected and reach out to even greater audience of space enthusiasts.

The online format composed of a series of 3 online meetings happening on 3 days, which were held on the ZOOM platform, hosted by Ecsite. The full programme of the event is available in the Annex 1. Below are the short descriptions of each meeting:

1. Virtual coffee & chat (18 June at 14:30-16:00)

It was an informal drop-in exchange session, a great opportunity for the existing members and new participants to share information and challenges they faced in last months, to re-connect and to establish new connections.

2. Space News (22 June at 14:00-16:00)

ESA's experts presented the latest achievements of the agency and its activity for the 2021-2022. ESA presented resources and materials related to space that can be used to better meet the needs of science engagement organizations.

3. Share, inspire, connect (23 June at 14:00-16:00)

This meet-up was devoted to showcasing various space-related projects by the group members and discussing them in the virtual break-out rooms with other peers. It was an excellent opportunity to share experience, to inspire others and to get inspired.

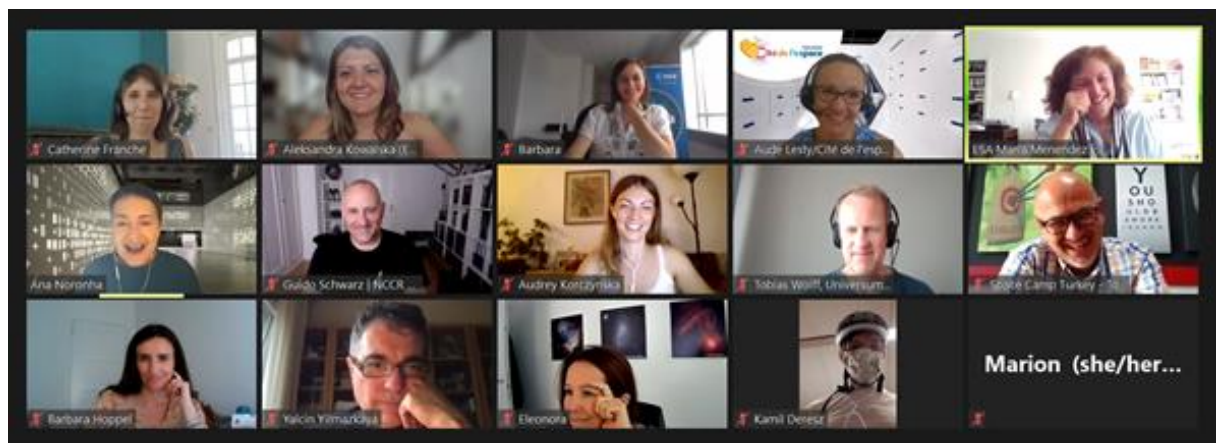
3. Day 1 Virtual coffee & chat - 18 June 2021

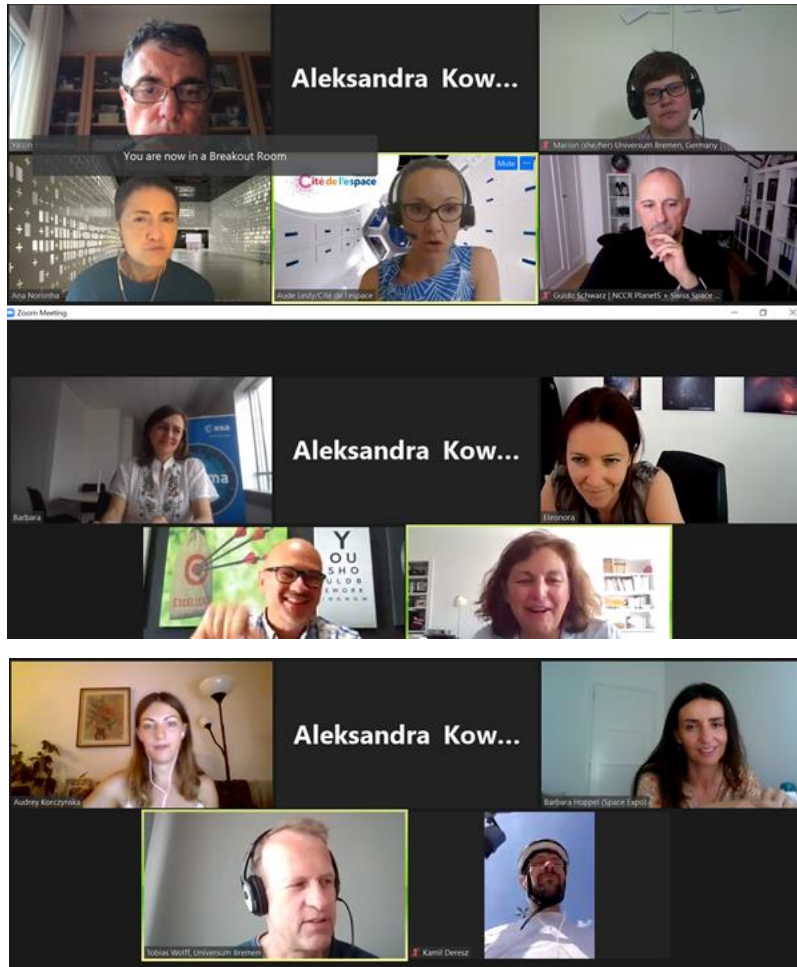
The first day of the Space Talks online series was an informal drop-in allowing people to reconnect and have a chat, which served as a replacement of the informal networking during the coffee breaks of the physical events, being an important element to keep the space community connected.

The meeting started with the welcome word from **Catherine Franche**, Executive Director of Ecsite, who announced that the Space Group will look for its forth co-chair after the summer and a short introduction by the Space Group co-chairs: **Maria Menéndez**, Head of Outreach Coordination office at ESA, **Ana Noronha**, Executive Director of Ciência Viva and **Aude Lesty** from Cité de l'espace (replacing **Christophe Chaffardon**, Head of Education). After that Aleksandra Kowalska (Ecsite) conducted the Space Quiz, which composed of 5 questions extracted from an interactive exhibit of Cite de l'espace travelling exhibition « Spaceship Earth ». The aim of the game was to recognize remarkable earth places or major events by examining carefully satellite images.

It was followed by 3 rounds of informal exchanges in the breakout rooms. The discussion was formed around getting to know each other and sharing updates about the way science centers and space-related organisations were coping with and are coming out from the situation related to Covid-19 pandemic.

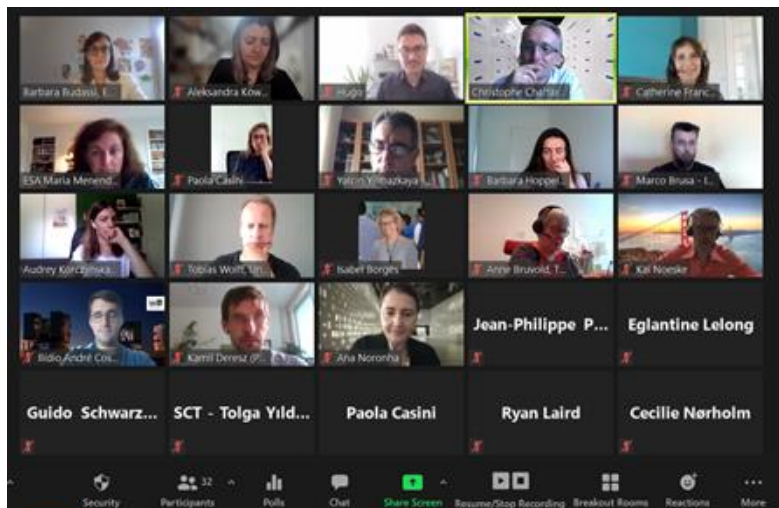
At the end of the meeting there was a poll launched asking the participants: *1. Would you like to keep some of the space group events in the digital form?* 71% of the participants said yes. They mentioned in the chat that these could be online meet-ups between physical meetings and that the biggest advantage is cost and time efficiency.





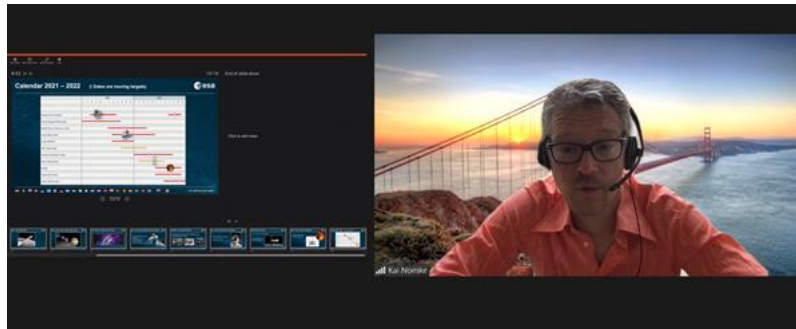
4. Day 2 Space news – 22 June 2021

On the second day of the series, ESA's experts presented the latest achievements of the agency and its activity for the 2021 and 2022. The session was introduced by **Maria Menéndez**, Head of Outreach Coordination Office, ESA & co-chair of the Space Group and facilitated by **Barbara Budassi**, coordinator of the Ecsite Space Group for ESA. Aleksandra was responsible for the gathering questions from the chat and bringing them to the attention of the speakers.



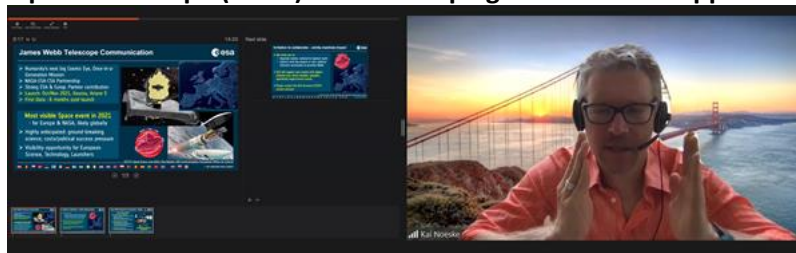
All the presentations are saved [here](#). Below are the summaries of the presentations and discussions.

1. Next launches and main ESA milestones for 2021-2022



Kai Noeske, Communication Programme Officer at ESA gave an update about the #SpaceCare campaign, which addresses environment, society and economy and opportunities from its different programmes in 2021 and 2022 (Space4Climate, SpaceSafety, ExploreFarther, Space4Economy). Other upcoming ESA’s milestones include new launcher Vega-C Maiden flight (2022), Ariane 6 Maiden flight (2022) and launch of Juice to explore Jupiter’s moons (2022). Still this year, in October/November 2021 there will be a launch of James Webb from Kourou. It is also exciting time for ESA’s astronauts, which started with mission of Thomas Pesquet this year and will be followed by Matthias Maurer in Autumn and Samantha Cristoforetti in Spring 2022. Kai mentioned also that ESA is recruiting new astronauts this year.

2. James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) launch campaign & outreach support material



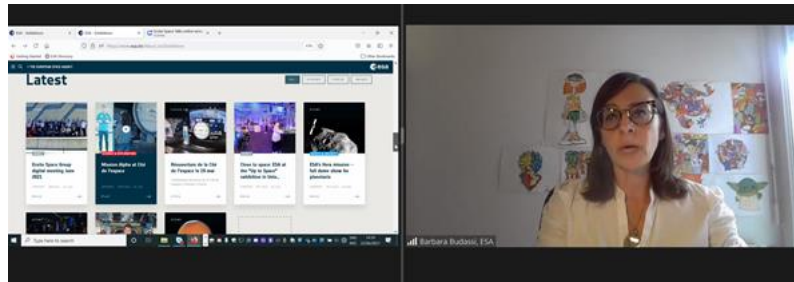
Kai Noeske, Communication Programme Officer at ESA explained in more details the significance of the launch of James Webb telescope, which is a joint NASA–ESA–CSA space telescope that will complement and extend the discoveries of the Hubble Space Telescope. It is highly anticipated and ground-breaking science event, hence Kai called all the Space Group members for action to promote Webb. ESA can support various events with digital material and, where feasible, speakers, specifically for larger/central events. All information & material : www.esa.int/webb .

3. Moon narrative and Artemis



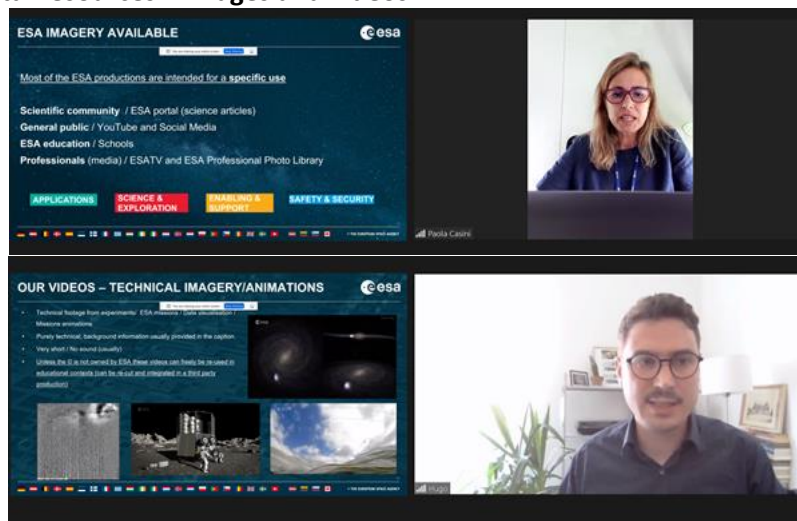
Rosita Suenson, Communication Programme Officer at ESA elaborated on the #ForwardToTheMoon programme and launch of the Exomars, planned for September 2022, which will be the first European rover on Mars.

4. From ESA Exhibition webpage: resources for museums



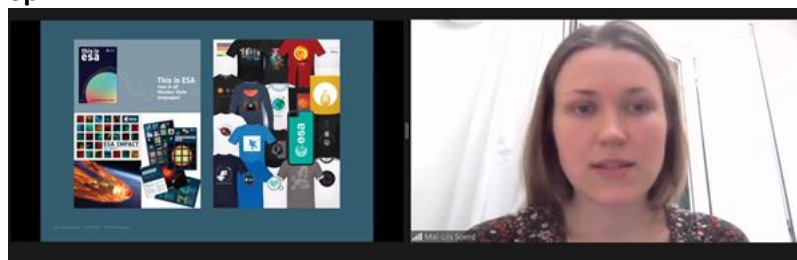
Barbara Budassi, Communication coordinator at ESA showed the participants where are all downloadable exhibition resources for science centers and museums on the ESA website. The Space Group members highly appreciated the efforts of ESA to produce and make available the resources.

5. ESA digital resources – images and videos



Paola Casini, Graphics and Images coordinator at ESA and Hugo Auffret, Video distribution at ESA presented the available imagery from ESA, explained where to find them, in what formats they are available and which permissions are needed to use them. There are four main categories of the images and video, intended for a specific use by scientific community (ESA portal/science articles), general public (YouTube and Social Media), ESA education (schools) and professionals/media (ESA TV and ESA Professional Photo Library). They also shared some impressive and beautiful images with the participants. On ESA Exhibition pages there are special sets of videos and pictures for museums.

6. ESA e-shop



Mai-Liis Soerd, Merchandising & licensing support at ESA, explained three formats of ESA shops: ESA Space Shop, Vintage ESA and Real Space Images. Mai-Liis also pointed out some new collections related to the latest activities of ESA (e.g. Alpha Mission). More info on www.esaspaceshop.com.

The participants were impressed by presented achievements from ESA and plans for the upcoming year. At the end of the meeting **Christophe Chaffardon (Cit  de l'espace)**, the co-chair of the Space group announced the **Space Group Annual meeting 2021**, which is planned to be happening in Toulouse in December.

5. Day 3 Share, inspire, connect – 23 June 2021

The last day of the Space Talks online series was devoted to project showcase. Five Space Group members were presenting their space-related projects and discussing them in the virtual breakout rooms with other peers.

The meeting started with the welcome words and overview of the programme by **Barbara Budassi**, Ecsite Space Group coordinator for ESA and **Aleksandra Kowalska** from Ecsite.

Five project promoters presented their 12-minutes pitch in the plenary and then the participants had a chance to discuss two projects in a small group of 4-5 participants in 4 breakout rooms (one project didn't have a breakout room due to last minute replacement of its speaker).

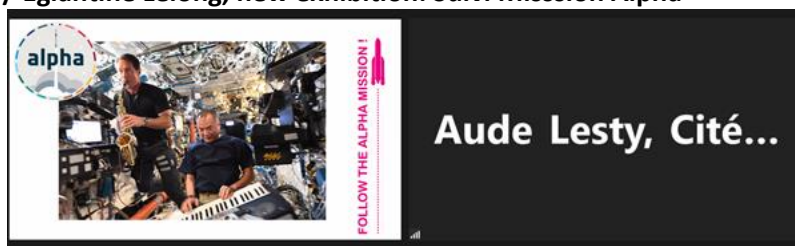
All the presentations are saved [here](#). Below are the project summaries:

1. Clara Cruz Niggebrugge, ESA Education updates



Clara presented the vision for "space for school education", based on three principles: respecting the curricular needs (space themes mostly as context, sometimes as subject), being inclusive and helping curricula to evolve. In the recent year there was a big focus in online delivery and e-learning offer, including online teacher training, which raised high interest. Clara presented also various other ESA educational projects like ESA kids app, Teach with Jupiter mini website, Videos Paxi, Climate Detectives, inflight call with Thomas Pesquet and presented upcoming 3-day ESA teacher conference (online, 6-8 July 2021).

2. Aude Lesty / Eglantine Lelong, new exhibition: Suivi Mission Alpha



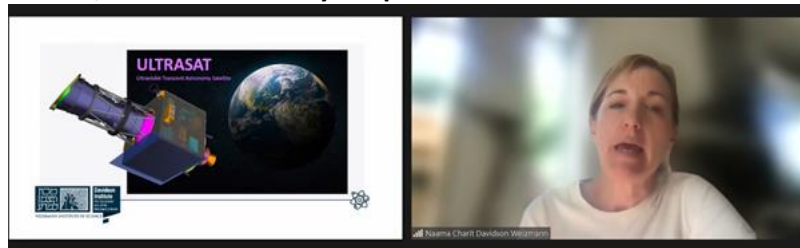
Aude presented the exhibition dedicated to ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet « Mission Alpha », produced in strong collaboration with ESA. It is a very impressive and interactive exhibition (full of immersive videos and touchscreens), explaining what is a space mission, highlighting key moments of this mission and giving opportunity to meet the Alpha team.

3. Jorge Rivero Gonzalez, Big Ideas for Space Exploration: Contributions to STEAM education



Jorge gave an overview of the frameworks, methodologies and projects in Space Education developed by the Leiden University's Astronomy & Society group. These projects involved: Universe Awareness, spaceEU, Big Ideas of Astronomy and Traveling to a Black Holes.

4. Naama Charit Yaari, UltraSat: Gateway to space



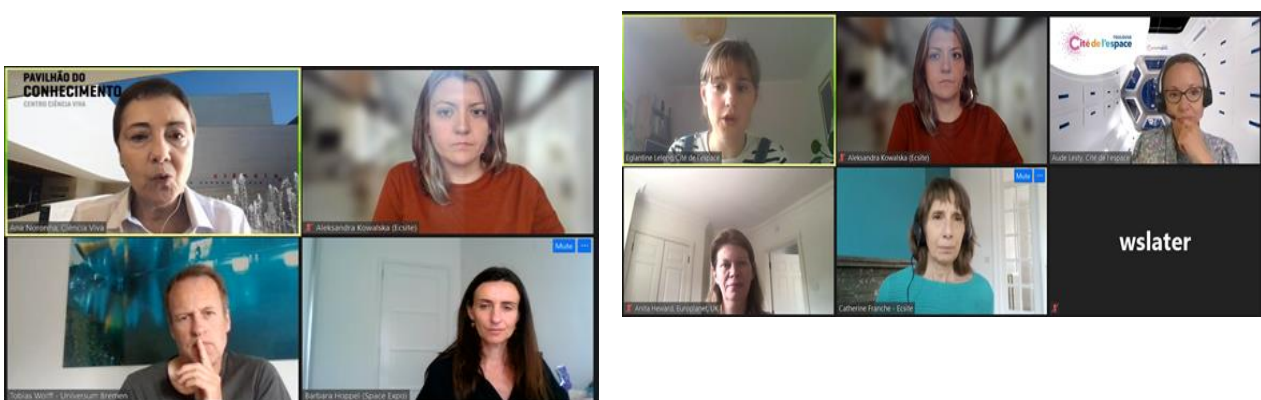
Naama presented the role of the Davidson Institute of Science Education in Israel and its latest highlight, the ULTRASAT, which is a scientific mini-satellite carrying a telescope with an unprecedentedly large field of view. Accompanying the unique scientific mission is a unique innovative educational mission. More information to be found on the website: <https://www.weizmann.ac.il/ultrasat/home-0>

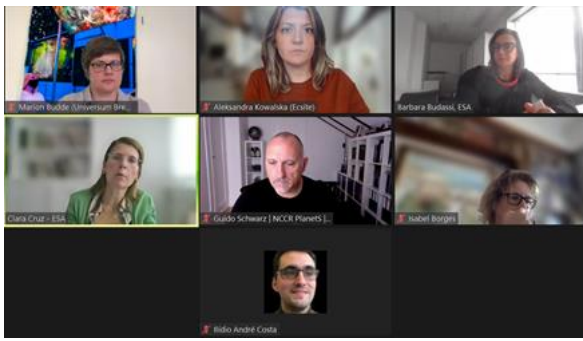
5. Ana Noronha, new exhibition: Water seen from space



Anna presented Water: unfiltered exhibition, which gives voice to the basic right to clean water. In an appealing and positive tone, the exhibition looks towards the future and explores how science and technology, knowledge and imagination are key to tackle current water-related challenges. And satellites are a crucial tool to understand how water resources need to be managed.

The plenary part was followed by the in-depth discussions in little groups.





Breakout rooms on Day 3 of the Space Talks

At the end of the Space Talk online series the co-chairs thanked the participants and the speakers and reminded about the call for the new Space Group co-chair to be launched in September 2021 and the next Annual meeting (hopefully physical) to be happening in December in Toulouse, hosted by Cite de l'espace.



Final goodbyes, Day 3, Space Talks online series 2021

ANNEX 1: PROGRAMME

Space Talks online series

Ecsite Space Group

(18-22-23 June 2021)

About the Space Group

The Space Group aims at improving and extending communication about space by helping specialized science centres and space professionals to work together with non-specialists and develop collaborative projects and events.

It also allows to be better informed about space news, programs, and discoveries. The Space Group offers opportunities to share experience, expertise, knowledge, and tools.

For Europe's main space actors like the 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.

Follow the European Space Agency @esa and #ecsitespace

The group is chaired by Maria Menéndez, Head of Outreach Coordination office, European Space Agency – ESA, France, Christophe Chaffardon, Head of Education at Cité de l'espace, France and Ana Noronha, Executive Director of Ciência Viva, Portugal.

The programme and practical information can be consulted below. Additionally:

- For any **questions regarding the programme**, please contact **Barbara Budassi**, barbara.budassi@esa.int, Space Group Coordinator for ESA and **Aleksandra Kowalska**, akowalska@ecsitem.eu, Space Group Coordinator at Ecsite.
- If you are interested in attending the meeting, please **register [here](#)***

Programme

Friday, 18 June 2021 Virtual coffee & chat

It will be an informal drop-in exchange session, a great opportunity for the existing members and new participants to share information and challenges they faced in last months, to re-connect and to establish new connections.

Time (CEST)	Session title	Speaker
14:30-14:40	Welcome words from Ecsite	Catherine Franche , Executive Director, Ecsite
14:40-14:50	Welcome address from Ecsite Space Group co-chairs	Co-chairs of the Space Group Maria Menéndez , Head of Outreach Coordination office, ESA Ana Noronha , Executive Director of Ciência Viva Christophe Chaffardon , Head of Education at Cité de l'espace
14:50-14:55	Space quiz	
14:55-15:10	Round 1 - Networking in break-out rooms	
15:10-15:25	Round 2 - Networking in break-out rooms	
15:25-15:40	Round 3 - Networking in break-out rooms	
15:40-16:00	Final reflections in the plenary Goodbyes	Co-chairs of the Space Group

Tuesday, 22 June 2021 Space News

ESA's experts will present the latest achievements of the agency and its activity for the next years. The workshop will be moderated by Maria Menéndez, co-chair of the Space Group and Head of Coordination Office, ESA.

Time (CEST)	Session title	Speaker
14:00-14:10	Welcome to the second day and an overview of the programme	Barbara Budassi , Ecsite Space Group coordinator for ESA
14:10-14:35	Next launches and main ESA milestones for 2021-2022	Kai Noeske , Communication Programme Officer, ESA Rosita Suenson , Communication Programme Officer, ESA
14:35-15:00	James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) launch campaign & outreach support material	Kai Noeske , Communication Programme Officer, ESA
15:00-15:20	Moon narrative and Artemis	Rosita Suenson , Communication Programme Officer, ESA
15:20-15:40	From ESA Exhibition webpage: resources for museums ESA digital resources – images and videos	Barbara Budassi , Communication coordinator, ESA Paola Casini , Graphics and Images coordinator, ESA Hugo Auffret , Video distribution, ESA
15:40-15:50	ESA e-shop	Mai-Liis Soerd , Merchandising & licensing support, ESA
15:50-16:00	Upcoming activity of the Group	Co-chairs of the Space Group

Wednesday, 23 June 2021 Share, inspire, connect

Discover the new projects from your colleagues or present your project and get constructive feedback! It is an excellent opportunity to share your experience, to inspire others and to get inspired.

Format: showcasing various space-related projects by the Space Group members and discussing them in the virtual break-out rooms with other peers.

Time (CET)	Session title	Speaker
14:00-14:10	Welcome to the meeting and overview of the programme	Barbara Budassi , Ecsite Space Group coordinator for ESA Aleksandra Kowalska , Ecsite Space Group coordinator for Ecsite
14:10-15:10	Overview of the projects*	Projects presenters
15:10-15:30	5 break-out rooms with detailed project presentation and discussion	Projects presenters
15:30-15:45	5 break-out rooms with detailed project presentation and discussion	Projects presenters
15:45-16:00	Space Group newsletter Next steps...	Audrey Korczynska , Ecsite Space Group Newsletter Coordinator Co-chairs of the Space Group

*Showcase session

- **Clara Cruz Niggebrugge, ESA Education updates**
Presentation of various ESA educational projects.
- **Aude Lesty / Eglantine Lelong, new exhibition: Suivi Mission Alpha**
This exhibition is dedicated to ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet « Mission Alpha », produced in strong collaboration with ESA, with some elements to be used through ESA network.
- **Pedro Russo, Big Ideas for Space Exploration: Contributions to STEAM education**
Overview of frameworks, methodologies and projects in Space Education developed by the Leiden University's Astronomy&Society group. These projects involve: Universe Awareness, spaceEU, Big Ideas of Astronomy and Traveling to a Black Holes.
- **Naama Charit Yaari, UltraSat: Gateway to space**
ULTRASAT is a scientific mini-satellite carrying a telescope with an unprecedentedly large field of view. accompanying the unique scientific mission is a unique innovative educational mission. Website: <https://www.weizmann.ac.il/ultrasat/home-0>
- **Ana Noronha, new exhibition: Water seen from space**
Water: unfiltered exhibition, gives voice to the basic right to clean water. In an appealing and positive tone, the exhibition looks towards the future and explores how science and technology, knowledge and imagination are key to tackle current water-related challenges. And satellites are a crucial tool to understand how water resources need to be managed.

ANNEX 2: LIST OF REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

	Name	Surname	organisation
1	Isabel	Almeida Borges	UIDEF - IE University of Lisboa
2	Miriam	Atienza	Ciutat de les Arts i les Ciències
3	Hugo	Auffret	ESA
4	Sylviane	Blum	Center for Space and Habitability of the University of Bern (CH)
5	Marco	Brusa	Infini.to - Turin Planetarium
6	Anne	Bruvold	Nordnorsk vitensenter
7	Barbara	Budassi	ESA
8	Marion	Budde	Universum Managementges. mbH
9	Paola	Casini	ESA
10	Christophe	Chaffardon	Cité de l'espace
11	Naama	Charit Yaari	Weizmann Inst of Science
12	Ilídio André	Costa	Santa Bárbara School / Porto Planetarium - Ciência Viva Center / Institute of Astrophysics and Space Sciences
13	Kamil	Deresz	Copernicus Science Centre
14	Catherine	Franche	ECSITE
15	Dorit	Granot	The Davidson Institute at the Weizmann Institute of Science
16	Agnieszka	Grygoruk	Experyment Science Centre
17	Anita	Heward	Europlanet
18	Barbara	Hoppel	Stichting Noordwijk Space Expo
19	Christian	Klösch	Technisches Museum Wien
20	Audrey	Korczynska	La Casemate
21	Heidi	Kouki	The Finnish Science Centre Heureka
22	Aleksandra	Kowalska	ECSITE
23	Mads	Kring	Tycho Brahe Planetarium
24	Ryan	Laird	Freelance
25	Eglantine	Lelong	Cité de l'espace - Semecel
26	Aude	Lesty	Cité de l'espace
27	Shaaron	Leverment	UK Association for Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC)
28	Ioana	Lung	ESA
29	Arnaud	Marsollier	ESA
30	Rosa	Martí	The City of Arts and Sciences
31	Robert	Meisner	ESA
32	Maria	Menendez	ESA
33	Eleonora	Monge	Associazione Apriticielo
34	Clara	Niggebrugge	ESA
35	Kai	Noeske	ESA
36	Cecilie	Nørholm	Planetarium Copenhagen
37	Ana	Noronha	Ciência Viva
38	Ruth	Perkins	science made simple
39	Jean Philippe	Pouil	Cité de l'espace
40	Ines	Prieto	Cité de l'espace
41	Livia	Ranieri	remedia italia srl
42	Pedro	Russo	Leiden Observatory / Leiden University
43	Maria	Samara	PRAXI
44	Guido	Schwarz	NCCR PlanetS - University of Bern

45	Wendy	Slater	ESA
46	Mai-Liis	Soerd	ESA
47	Rosita	Suenson	ESA
48	Eleftheria	Tsourlidaki	ELLINOGERMANIKI AGOGI
49	Lisbeth Kristine	Walakira	Planetarium
50	Tobias	Wolff	Universum Managementges. mbH
51	Riza Tolga	Yildrim	Space Camp Turkey
52	Yalcin	Yilmazkaya	Aerospace Cluster Association - (Havacılık ve Uzay Kümelenmesi Derneği)