



Horizon Europe,
a programme of the
European Union

#EUSpaceResearch

NEW SPACE AND EUROPEAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SPACE

ELEVATING
EUROPE'S SPACE
ENTREPRENEURS
TO NEW HEIGHTS





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Elevating Europe's space entrepreneurs to new heights

The emergence of New Space that gradually develops new commercial fields

Traditionally, the space industry catered mainly to governmental customers. However, in the past decade, a significant shift took place at a global level towards **greater involvement of the private sector**, both as client and supplier. New Space refers to the emergence of a privately owned, commercially motivated space industry. This impacts many layers of the space sector: innovative technologies, entrepreneurial activities, new models for R&D, commercialisation and financing new frontiers and explorations, as well as new industrial processes. It also spurs cross-fertilisation and synergies with other industries, such as automotive and digital.

The European New Space ecosystem, unfolding commercial opportunities in space

The **European New Space ecosystem is steadily growing**, even though New Space is still dominated by the US. It is gradually developing new commercial fields beyond the traditional space sector, with many European companies popping up in different segments. For instance, the development of new launch systems ("Micro-launchers" rockets) by European SMEs such as ISAR Aerospace, RFA and PLD Space aims at providing cheaper and more flexible access to space, while in-orbit services (e.g. D-Orbit) create complete new space activities.

Another important segment in the European New Space ecosystem is the satellites. Today, many companies such as Iceye, Kinéis and KLEO are deploying constellations of hundreds of small satellites (<=500 kg mass) to provide customers with advanced Earth Observation, IoT and communication services. The growth and importance of this ecosystem is recognised by the European Commission, which has **increased its funding and support for start-ups and SMEs**.

Teaming up across Europe

The Commission has put together all relevant public players to create the best conditions for New Space companies to scale up in Europe, with the support of:

- The **European Investment Fund** for the implementation of the CASSINI investment facility;
- The **European Investment Bank** for debt operations;
- The **European Space Agency** and the **EU Agency for the Space Programme**, including for matchmaking activities;
- The **European Innovation Council**, that provides a tangible financial support to New Space companies, complementing the CASSINI initiative.



Boosting entrepreneurship

€1+ billion investment to support the European space ecosystem



Reshaping space

Empowering new ideas for space



Supporting EU objectives

By promoting a globally innovative European New Space domain

Introducing the CASSINI Actions

To encourage and support the European New Space ecosystem, the European Commission has launched the CASSINI Space Entrepreneurship Initiative. Its objective is to cover the whole entrepreneurship cycle through a broad range of actions:

Cassini Facility deploys a €1 billion investment for Venture Capital funds interested in investing in EU-based companies in the space sector.

CASSINI Matchmaking supports start-ups, scale-ups and SMEs by connecting them with potential investors and/or corporate partners to expand their financing opportunities, secure new customers and access new markets.

The **In-Orbit Demonstration and Validation service** enables new technologies to be tested in orbit by providing aggregation on spacecraft, if needed, and launch services and operations.

CASSINI Business Accelerator seeds grant of €75k and six months of business acceleration for space-based start ups finalising their Minimum Viable Product.

CASSINI Prizes trigger entrepreneurs to develop close-to-market digital applications based on EU space data, including satellite images, positioning services and other sources.

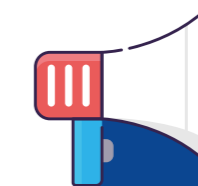
EU-wide **CASSINI Hackathons**: an opportunity to stimulate entrepreneurship and to develop ideas for digital applications building on space data, for students, graduates, researchers and teams/start-ups in the early stage of their journey.

Introducing the EIC activities with Europe's flagship innovation programme, the European Innovation Council (EIC)

Introduced by the European Commission to support the commercialisation of high-risk, high potential, high-impact technologies in the European Union, the European Innovation Council (EIC) was launched in March 2021 under the Horizon Europe programme. Intended to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and game-changing innovations, the EIC provides several funding opportunities.

Introducing the EIC activities

- The **EIC Pathfinder & Transition programmes** support research teams exploring bold ideas at low TRLs for radically new and emerging breakthrough technologies, with grants of up to €4 million.
- Providing grant funding and equity investments for individual start-ups and small companies with TRLs above 5 to develop and scale up innovations is the objective of the **EIC Accelerator**.



Be part of the EU-funded space R&I

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation, with a budget of around €95 billion over 2021-2027, of which close to €1.6 billion is dedicated to space research. The space R&I is managed by the **Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA)**, the **EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA)**, the **European Space Agency (ESA)** and the **European Commission** itself. Most calls are also published on the **EC Funding and Tenders participant portal**.

