

# ESA Academy

---

Enhancing skills, boosting ambitions

*Joost Vanreusel*  
*Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality*  
*European Space Agency*

*Slovenian Space Days*  
*Univerza v Ljubljani - Univerza v Mariboru -*  
*Univerza v Novi Gorici*  
*3-5 Mar 2026*



# We are the European Space Agency



**WHO** 23 Member States, 2900+ staff members, total workforce of 6000+

**WHY** For the peaceful use of space, benefiting all

**WHERE** HQ in Paris, 7 sites across Europe & Spaceport in Kourou

**BUDGET** €7.79 billion = €15 per European a year



# Overview



ESA ACADEMY

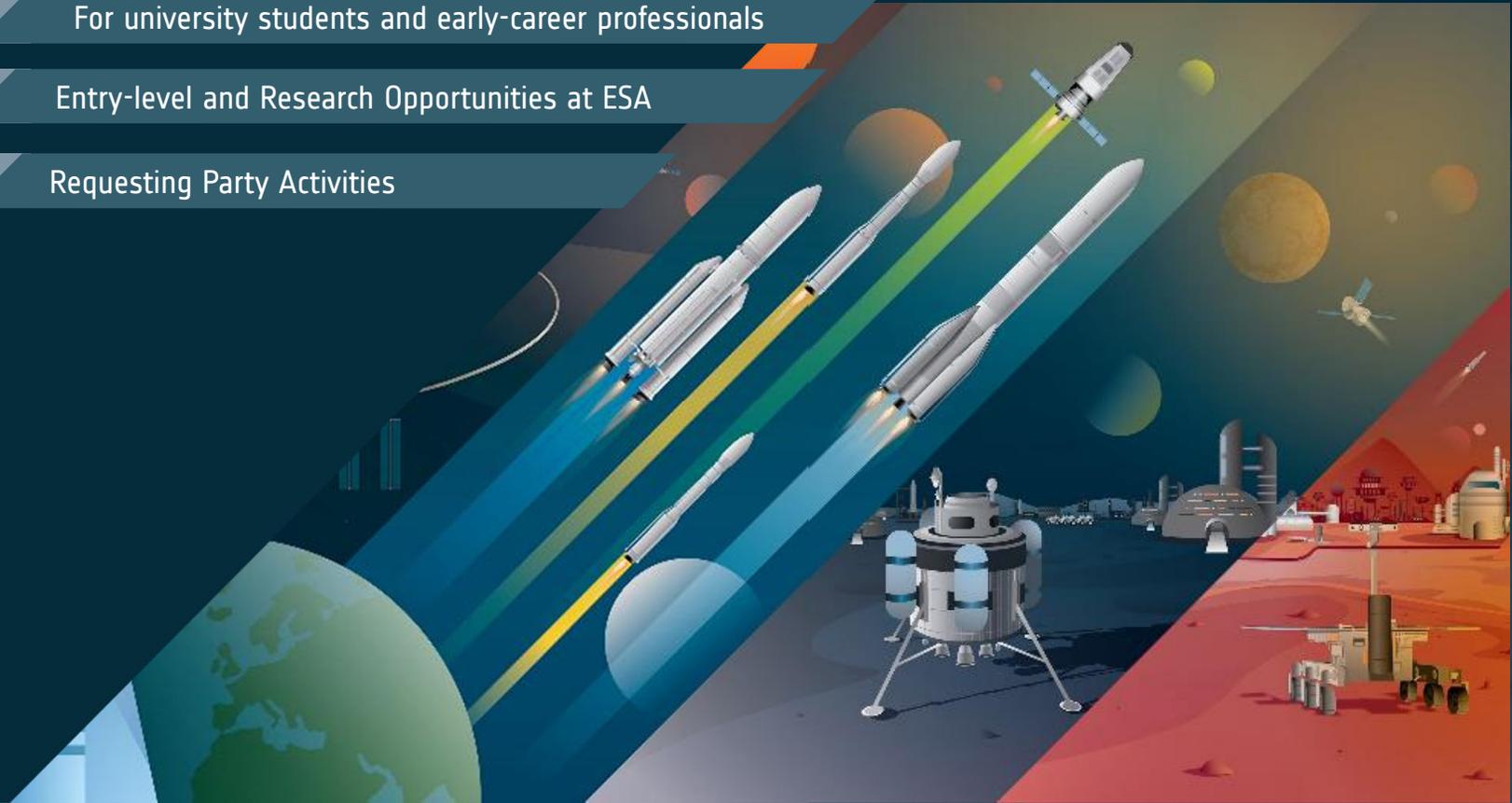
For university students and early-career professionals

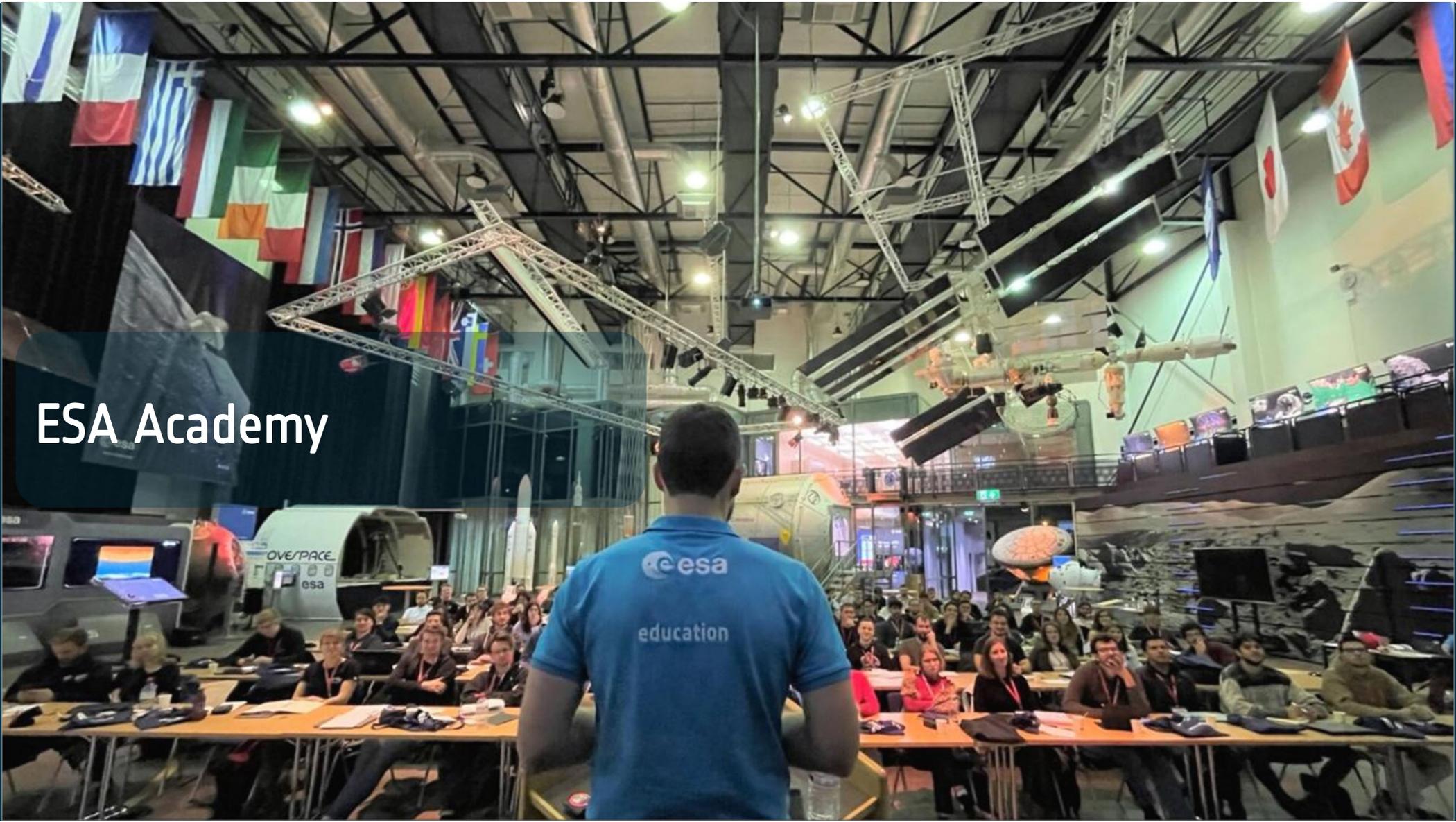
TALENT ACQUISITION

Entry-level and Research Opportunities at ESA

SPACE EDUCATION IN SI

Requesting Party Activities





# ESA Academy

# The Space Sector: a universe of opportunities



## Engineering & Technical Roles

## Creative, Outreach & Public Engagement

## Scientific & Research Roles

## Operations & Logistics

## Business, Finance & Administration

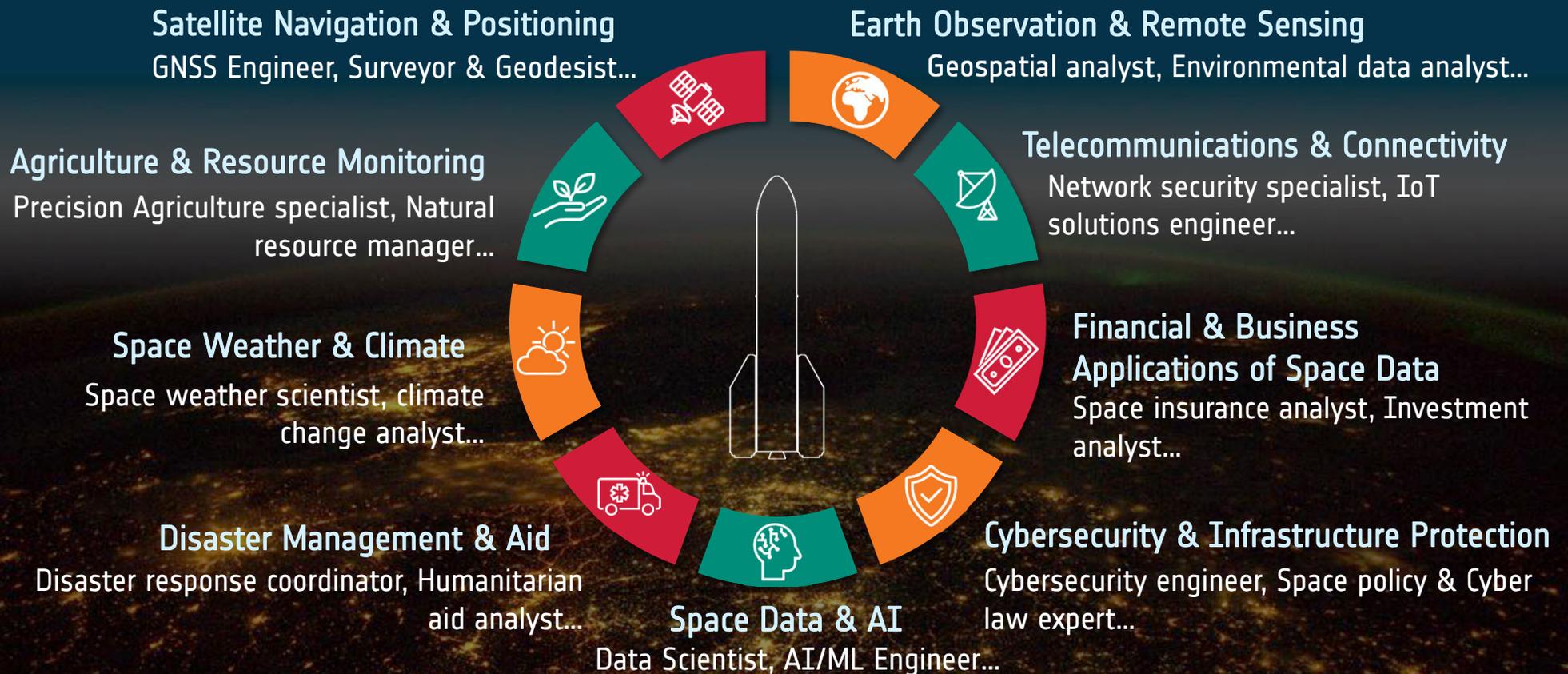
## IT & Data Science



# The Space Sector: a universe of opportunities



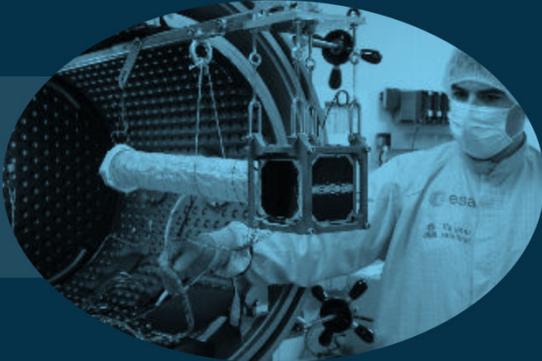
The downstream segment is and will be dominant in the space sector – increasing demand for space-based services and applications across industries



# ESA Academy



TRAINING



PROJECTS



ENGAGEMENT



# TRAINING





## Training Courses

- Access to Space
- Clean Space
- Space Cybersecurity
- Earth Observation
- Satellite System Design
- Human Space Physiology
- Space for Earth Series
- Introduction to Space Law
- Spacecraft Communications
- Spacecraft Operations
- Navigation
- Product Assurance Awareness

- Satellite Communication Systems
- Space Debris
- Space Standards
- Space Systems Engineering
- Space Weather
- CubeSat Hands-On Design
- Concurrent Engineering Challenge

## Summer Schools

- CubeSat Summer School
- ESA/ELGRA Gravity Related Research Summer School
- Post-Alpach Summer School

## Workshops

- Concurrent Engineering Workshop
- CubeSat Concurrent Engineering
- Earth Observation Remote Sensing
- ESA Academy Experiments
- Robotics
- Spacecraft Testing
- Technology Transfer, Application & Innovation

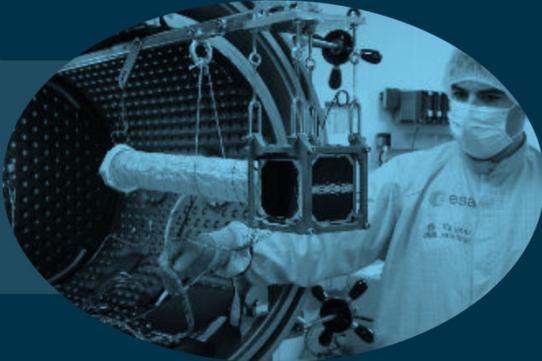


# Example: CubeSat Summer School





TRAINING



PROJECTS



ENGAGEMENT

# PROJECTS



Fly Your Satellite!





**Fly Your Satellite!**

# Projects - Fly Your Satellite!

## Fly Your Satellite!

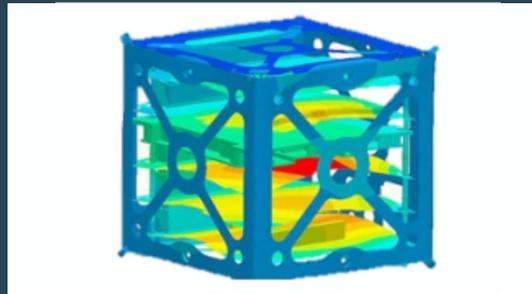


Support in the full lifecycle (design, build, test, launch) of CubeSats

-  
For teams with subsystems built & tested, ready to integrate soon

-  
Call for proposals every 2-3 years

## Fly Your Satellite! Design Booster

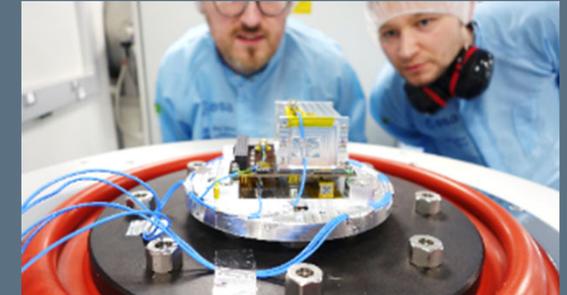


Support in the design of CubeSats

-  
For teams with a preliminary design

-  
Call for proposals every 1.5 years

## Fly Your Satellite! Test Opportunities



Support in the testing of CubeSats

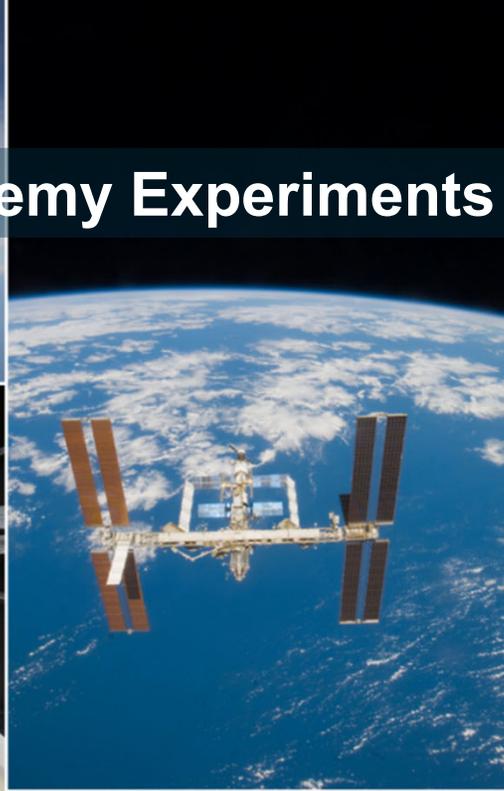
-  
For teams who would like to learn from an environmental test campaign

-  
Call for proposals is open continuously



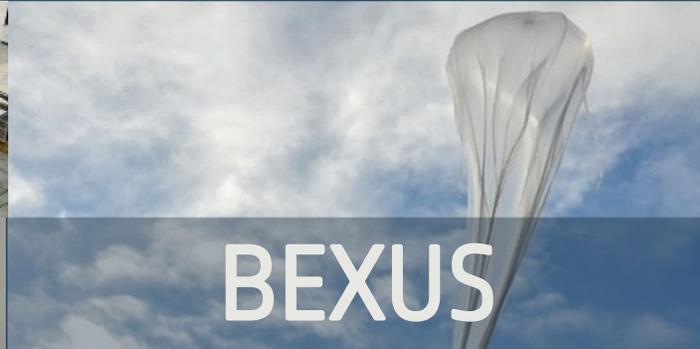


# ESA Academy Experiments Programme





# REXUS



# BEXUS



# Rocketry Training Programme

## Rocketry Training Programme

- Introductory programme for **university students early in their studies**. Participants learn about basic rocket principles and related topics.
- Combines **theoretical online training** with an **in-person workshop** at Machrihanish Airbase (UK), where students build and launch their own rockets.
- First edition currently running:  
 Online training: 7 Jan to 13 May 2026  
 In-person workshop: 27-31 July 2026



Image: Exotopic

# European Rocketry Challenge (EuRoC)



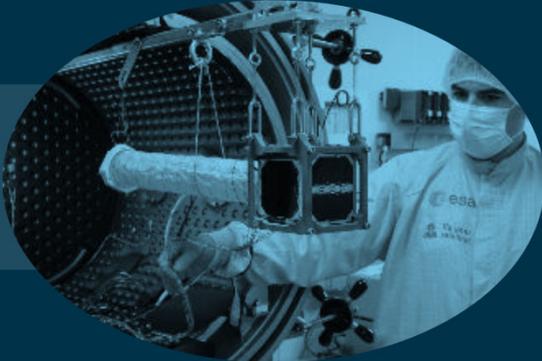
- ◆ Rocket launch competition for European university teams
- ◆ Created by the Portuguese Space Agency in 2020
- ◆ ESA supports since 2022



# ESA Academy



TRAINING



PROJECTS



ENGAGEMENT



# Engagement

## Book a Space Pro (pilot)



Facilitate access to ESA experts for space-related educational activities targeting tertiary-level students

## Careers for You



Attend targeted events to connect with tertiary-level students, inspire them and attract them to the space sector

## Collaborations



Tailored collaboration within ESA and with external entities to contribute together to the preparation of future talent through educational activities (challenges, hackathons, joint student program...)

# Engagement - Funding Opportunities

## Conference Student Sponsorship Programme



Make European space-related conferences more accessible for tertiary-level students



Registration fee

Economy travel & accommodation costs up to a ceiling amount

## Short Course Scholarship Programme



Make European space-related short courses more accessible for tertiary-level students



Registration fee

Economy travel & accommodation costs up to a ceiling amount

## Academic Scholarship Programme



Make European space-related higher education programmes more accessible for future talents



Tuition fee

# Overview



ESA ACADEMY

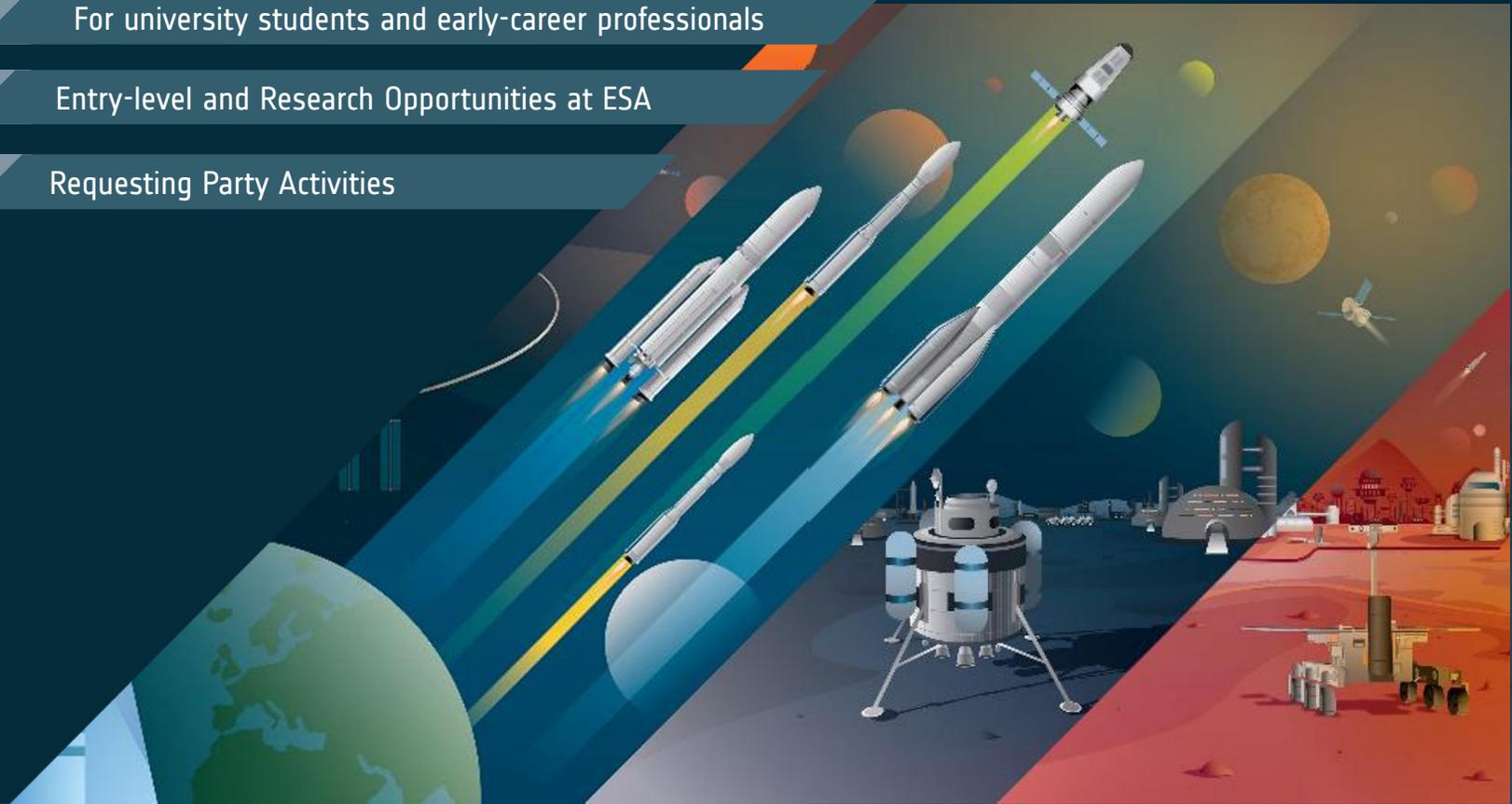
For university students and early-career professionals

TALENT ACQUISITION

Entry-level and Research Opportunities at ESA

SPACE EDUCATION IN SI

Requesting Party Activities



# Entry-level and research programmes



**STUDENT INTERNSHIPS PROGRAMME**

**ESA GRADUATE TRAINEE PROGRAMME**



**NATIONAL GRADUATE TRAINEE PROGRAMME**

**RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME (post-docs)**



**ESA CO-FUNDED RESEARCH (for PhDs and post-docs)**

**JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME**



→ THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

# Overview



ESA ACADEMY

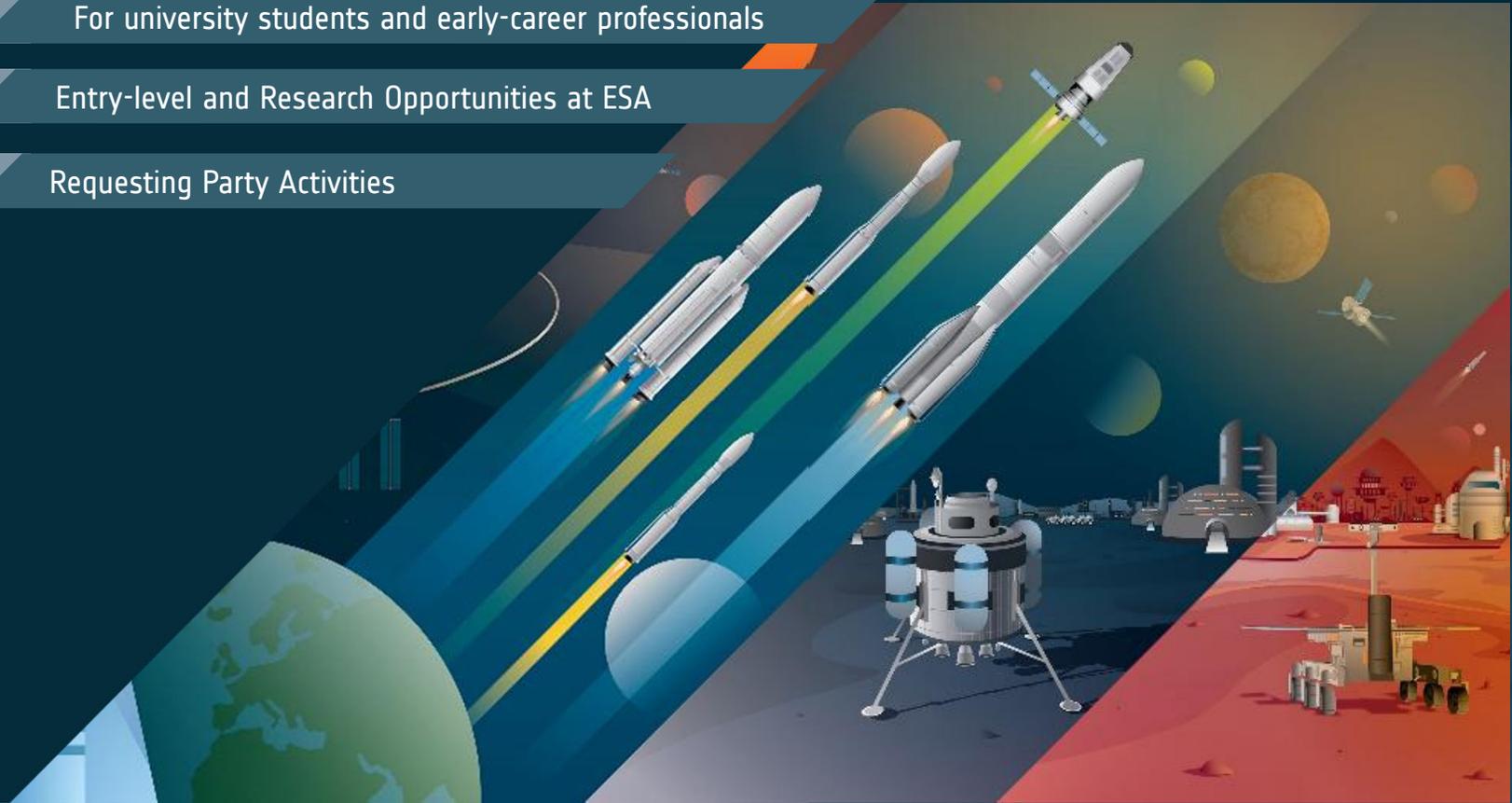
For university students and early-career professionals

TALENT ACQUISITION

Entry-level and Research Opportunities at ESA

SPACE EDUCATION IN SI

Requesting Party Activities



# Call for Requesting Party Activities Type G

## Space education in Slovenia

Through ESA Capability & Country Support Division - Directorate of Commercialisation, Industry and Competitiveness

on behalf of [Karol.Brzostowski@esa.int](mailto:Karol.Brzostowski@esa.int)



# Space Education Proposals under RPA Call



- ✓ Development of key space competences in Slovenia
- ✓ Development of a qualified Slovenian workforce
- ✓ Improving cooperation of academia and industry

## Requesting Party Activities Type G - Education

### G1 – University courses / modules

- Leading to a qualification (BSc or MSc) in space-related topics that **correspond to the needs of the Slovenian space industry**.
- Expected duration: **maximum 36 months**
- Price not higher than **70,000 EUR**
- Prime contractorship **MUST be led by academia** and **industry MUST be involved** as a partner in the definition of the courses, practical lessons and/or topics.
- The provision of industrial internships as part of the course is encouraged

### G2 – PhD Theses

- Corresponding to a **clear need from the Slovenian space industry** and would lead to a **new product or service** being able to be developed.
- Expected duration: **maximum 36 months**
- **MUST be submitted in a co-funded** basis.
- Price for ESA not higher than **70,000 EUR**, the **industrial partner MUST co-fund a minimum of 10,000 EUR**
- Prime contractorship **MUST be led by academia** and **industry MUST be involved** as a partner in the definition of the research topic.



# Thank you

Learn more about ESA Academy

[esa.int/ESAAcademy](https://esa.int/ESAAcademy)  
[esa.academy@esa.int](mailto:esa.academy@esa.int)

Stay informed on new ESA  
Academy opportunities



Stay connected



Apply to ESA

[Jobs.esa.int](https://Jobs.esa.int)

Requesting Party Activities

[Karol.Brzostowski@esa.int](mailto:Karol.Brzostowski@esa.int)

