

About the speakers and participants

Representing ESPI and Moderator:



Mr. Jean-Jacques Tortora, Director of the European Space Policy Institute, Vienna, Austria

Since June 1, 2016 Jean-Jacques Tortora serves as the Director of the European Space Policy Institute. From 2007 to mid 2016 he was the Secretary General of ASD-Eurospace, which is the trade association of the European Space Industry. From 2004 to mid 2007, he was head of the French Space Agency (CNES) office in North America and the Attaché for Space and Aeronautics at the Embassy of France in Washington, D.C.

Previously he was Deputy Director for Strategy and Programs, responsible for the Industrial Strategy of CNES. From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Tortora was adviser to the French Ministry of Research for Industrial Policy Funds management. From 1996 to 1998, he was appointed by Arianespace in Evry, France. From 1990 to 1996, Mr. Tortora was based in Kourou, French Guiana, as Head of Arianespace Operations Quality Department. Mr. Tortora started his career in 1984 at the French military procurement agency, DGA, as a naval weapons integration and test engineer.

Participants from APRSAF countries:



Ms Sreerekha U, Associate Director, International Cooperation & Policies, ISRO HQ

Sreerekha U has recently moved to the Office of International Cooperation, Legal Affairs & Policy, ISRO Headquarters and is working as Associate Director of International Cooperation & Policies. She is handling aspects related to international cooperation and pursuance of space activities of ISRO and also works on legal and policy matters of space activities in national and international contexts and space related strategic security aspects. She joined ISRO in 1998 and has more than 21 years of experience in ISRO. Before moving to ISRO HQ she was working in Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) of ISRO and heading the Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property Rights and Industry Coordination activities of the Centre. She is a graduate in Industrial Engineering and post graduate in Technology Management.



Mr. Hiromichi Suzuki, Director of National Space Policy Secretariat, Cabinet Office (since June 2019)

Before appointed to this position, he was the Professor and Special Advisor to the President of Osaka City University since 2017. He has experienced a long carrier in the field of science and technology policy since 1989, including working as the Director of Science and Technology Bureau and of Headquarter Office for Ocean Policy.

He was the First Secretary of Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna from 2001 to 2003. He holds a master's degree of Science and Technology in Tokyo Institute of Technology.

Mr. Anond Snidvongs, The Executive Director, Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA) Thailand

Mr. Anond Snidvongs is the one of key persons devoting himself to boost interest in and awareness of space technology among multilevel people in Thailand, from high policy level in government to young generations. Since his appointment as top executive of GISTDA in 2010, he has worked on demonstrating how the whole development chain of space technology contributes to the economy and society of the country. He plays an important role in promoting the Earth Observation satellite project THEOS-2 to evolve far beyond a mere project towards an infrastructure enabling decision-making on area-based management.

Currently, he is putting his efforts towards the 20-year-Masterplan of Space Affairs for Thailand as well as the establishment of the national space agency to direct all space policies and activities in Thailand. All these activities work towards the bright future for space affairs of the country.

Participants from European countries:

Ms. Nunzia Paradiso



Nunzia Paradiso currently works within the Italian Space Agency's International Relations Unit, in Rome. She previously worked at the European Union Satellite Centre, in Madrid, within the space Situational Awareness Unit; at the European Space Policy Institute, in Vienna; and at the European Centre for Space Law of the European Space Agency, in Paris.

She graduated at the Sapienza University of Rome with a Bachelor's Degree in Contemporary History and a Master Degree in international Relations, with a final thesis on the 1979 Moon Agreement. She then attended the Master in Space Institutions and Policies at the Italian Society for the International Organization.

She is Italian and speaks Chinese, English, French, Spanish and a little of German.

Mr. Stephan Mayer



Stephan Mayer completed his Master's Degree and PhD in Technical Physics at the University of Technology in Vienna. As part of his education, he participated in a Summer Session at the International Space University and worked as a Research Assistant at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). He worked as an Associate Expert at the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and continued with providing Technical risk analyses of complex industrial systems at ENCONET Consulting in Vienna.

Since 2002, he has been working for the Aeronautics and Space Agency of FFG (The Austria Research Promotion Agency). He works as a Delegate to ESA's Industrial Policy Committee (IPC), ESA's Programme Board Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and COPUOS.

Organizers of the event:



Marco Aliberti, Senior Research Fellow at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI)

Marco Aliberti works as Senior Research Fellow at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) in Vienna, Austria, where he has carried out and published a number of research projects in the areas of access to space and human spaceflight, governance and International Relations of space, and Asia's space programmes, particularly those of China, Japan and India. Prior to joining ESPI in October 2012, he held positions consistent with his academic background in East Asian Studies. Mr Aliberti graduated in Oriental Languages and Cultures at the University of Rome "La Sapienza", and obtained a MA in International Relations from the Italian Diplomatic Academy (SIOI) in Rome. He also completed a Master of Advanced Studies in Space Policy and Institutions with the Italian Space Agency, SIOI and the National Research Council; Security Studies at the Institute of Global Studies – School of Government in Rome; as well as International Asian Studies at the University of Naples "L'Orientale", with a specialisation in East Asian Relations.



Ikuko KURIYAMA (Ph.D.), Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Ikuko KURIYAMA is a senior administrator and an advisor to the Director at International Relations and Research Department of JAXA where she promotes international cooperation on global issues such as climate change and SDGs, space policy community building in Asia-pacific region, and collaboration with space agencies in Europe, and domestic and overseas research institutions.

She has experience and expertise in international cooperation, especially in the area of Earth observation. Recently she was a member of the expert team established by the National Space Policy Secretariat of Japanese government's Cabinet Office and worked for the national strategy review on remote sensing. From 2005 to 2007, she was in a Japanese ministry serving as an official liaison to the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and an official delegate to the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC.

She holds Ph.D. in Public Policy from National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Japan, and LL.M., LL.B. from Keio University, and Master of Space Studies from International Space University.