

June 2024

ESPI Vienna Space Diplomats

4th ESPI VSD Newsletter



It is with great pleasure that I share with you the 4th edition of the VSD newsletter. As we near the midpoint of 2024, we have successfully hosted a number of events for our VSD community. This period of intense activity included our first Inter-Regional Dialogue between Europe and the Latin America and Caribbean region. Additionally, ESPI organised a VSD's side event on the outcome of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23), focusing on its implications for the space domain. Through these events, we continue to promote a **"strong Europe, as a partner to the world."**

1st Inter Regional Dialogues with GRULAC

On April 20th, ESPI organised the first Inter Regional Space Policy Dialogue between Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean in partnership with the Permanent Mission of Argentina and CONAE. Government and space agency representatives from 18 countries and international organisations gathered together to discuss space for sustainability. The dialogue highlighted the need for collaboration and cooperation, while continuing to emphasise the important role diplomats, as main policy actors, play in space policy debates. The second edition of the dialogue is scheduled for April 2025 in partnership with the Permanent Mission of Brazil and the Brazilian Space Agency (AEB).

WRC-23's Outcomes

On April 16th, ESPI hosted a successful VSD side event facilitating an open exchange on the outcome of the World Radiotelecommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23). This discussion took place as a side event to the 63rd United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

The event highlighted the implications of WRC-23 for the space domain, addressing several issues shaping the future of spectrum management across terrestrial, maritime, and space services. Along with fellow researchers from our institute and guest panellists, our event fostered a discussion on the potential impacts of the concerns raised by WRC-23 on the space sector.



ESPI

European Space
Policy Institute

Newsletter Highlights

Interregional
Dialogue with
GRULAC

Joint Side Event:
"Preserving Dark and
Quiet Skies"

JUNE 20th 2024

4th VSD
Interregional
Dialogue with
Asia-Pacific:
"New Funding
Pathways for the
Global Space
Economy"

JUNE 22nd 2024





NEXT VSD ENGAGEMENTS

We are thrilled to announce two further events just before the summer break. We warmly welcome all VSD members to join us, for a side event co-organised with Chile and Spain along with VSD's Inter-Regional Dialogue.

COPUOS's 67th session

On **June 20th**, ESPI, Spain and Chile, as co-chair of APEP-Space through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will put forward a panel discussion on the challenges and potential solutions to preserve **"Dark and Quiet Skies"**, for astronomical observation while allowing other endeavours, such as the deployment of satellites in Low Earth Orbit (LEO). Through this, we aim to raise awareness on how to foster responsible behaviour and solutions that reconcile science with business development. In response to the growing interest and support for this topic, this panel will foster constructive dialogue among government representatives, the private sector, and the scientific community.

4th Interregional Dialogue with Asia-Pacific

After three successful interregional dialogues between Europe and the Asian Pacific region, ESPI will co-host its 4th edition on the **22nd of June 2024**. With JAXA as the Secretariat of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAP), the interregional session will provide a platform for dialogue and exchange between European countries and Asia-Pacific. This coming session will explore **new funding pathways for the Global Space Economy** through expert technical presentations and roundtable discussions, featuring government and space agency officials from both regions. The event is open to all COPUOS delegates with mandatory registration at this [link](#).

VSD Summer Reception

As previously announced in our newsletter, the 2nd VSD Summer Reception is just a few days away. Scheduled for June 13th and co-hosted with the Permanent Mission of Switzerland, this event will feature esteemed guest speakers Daniel Neuenschwander, Director of Human and Robotic Exploration at ESA, and Carmen Possnig, a distinguished member of the ESA Astronaut Reserve. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Switzerland for their hospitality in facilitating this event.

Save-the-date for the next Autumn Conference



It is with great excitement we invite you to join us at **ESPI's 18th Autumn Conference**, scheduled for the **1st and 2nd of October 2024**. This year's conference will address the rising importance of Security and Defence in our geopolitical context, by examining both ambitions and ways of implementation. The conference will provide a forum for discussion, where experts will share their knowledge on how to better leverage Europe's space capabilities. Distributed across two days, our panel discussions will gather insights of our guest speakers, to provide expertise onto the continent's approach to space for security and defence.

The Autumn Conference is one of ESPI's annual highlights, where a platform is provided for European and International stakeholders to hold stimulating and well-informed space-related discussions, that go beyond news headlines.

Yours sincerely,

Hermann Ludwig Moeller
Director of ESPI



Events organised by ESPI · 2024

JANUARY

» 30 JAN: ESPI/ Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee Side Event.

FEBRUARY

» 5 FEB: ESPI/ International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Side Event.

MARCH

» 6 MAR: 1st VSD Forum, Dialogues on Space Weather.

APRIL

» 16 APR: VSD Side Event: "From WRC-23 to the Next Cycle."
» 20 APR: VSD Interregional Dialogue with Latin America and the Caribbean: "Space for Earth's Sustainability."

MAY

JUNE

» 13 JUN: 2nd VSD Summer Reception. Coorganised with the Swiss Permanent Mission.
» 20 JUN: Joint Side Event: "Preserving Dark and Quiet Skies."
» 22 JUN: 4th Interregional Dialogue with Asia Pacific.

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

» TBC: 2nd VSD Forum.

OCTOBER

» 1-2 OCT: ESPI Autumn Conference: "Scaling European Space Capabilities for Security & Defence: from Ambition to Implementation." Vienna, Austria.

NOVEMBER

» TBC: 3rd VSD Forum.

DECEMBER