# The Future of European Space Exploration

# Towards a European Long-Term Strategy

Vision

Europe shall implement a visible, affordable and robust space exploration programme driven by the long-term goal of in-situ exploration of Mars by humans, which creates benefits for the society, engages other space-faring nations through collaborative activities and, thereby, contributes significantly to the development of society.

## Structure

#### FOUR CORNERSTONES

Key Driver Cornerstones	European Project	Knowledge	Innovation and Development	Inspiration and Education	Global Societal Security	Cultural Development
Europeans in Space	e					
Habitability and Life Beyond Earth		P				
Sustainable Human Life in Space		5, 165			(a)	
Sharing the Space Adventure and Benefits			all and	œ	(¢	Ç.

#### **TWO COMPONENTS**

- Strategic independent sustained core programme
- European contributions to the global/ international space exploration programme

**THREE KEY ACTIVITY FIELDS** 

• Enabling research and capability development

Robotic and human exploration of Moon

Robotic and human exploration of Mars

## **Motivation**

**Develop long-term strategy for** 

- Securing programme sustainability through alignment of stakeholder interest
  - Optimising societal return of investments through prioritisation of long-term investments
- Supporting European project through focus and visibility of European role

# Approach

**Democratizing space** through stakeholder consultation and engagement in planning stage

Achieving sustained societal relevance through

- ✓ Increasing broader public interest and engagement
- ✓ Maximising innovation potential and exploitation
- ✓ Incorporating ethical considerations
- Fostering open public and political debate
- ✓ Prioritising scientific objectives
- Engaging non-traditional space players





## CORNERSTONE: Europeans **in Space**

# Content

#### Support the European Project and position Europe as a visible and strategic Partner

**Major Objectives** 

*Political Community* 

- Ensure European participation to international space exploration endeavor
  Assure European access to space exploration enabling capabilities
- Assure European access to space exploration enabling capabilities
  Ensure presence of Europeans, their culture and values, in future space settlements
- Support European project through visible role in global space exploration undertaking
- ✓ Support the implementation of European policies
- ✓ Protect interests and security of European citizens
- ✓ Strengthen strategic partnership with emerging space powers

#### **Recommended Actions**

- ✓ Foster organised debate at political level
- Develop approach for securing long-term access to strategic space exploration capabilities
- ✓ Review relevant European policy framework





*Scientific Community* 

# CORNERSTONE: Content Habitability and Life beyond Earth

Increase the knowledge of life, its environment and evolution

#### **Major Objectives**

- Study the origin and evolution of life on Earth
- Understand relationship between life and its environment
- Study how terrestrial life can adapt and survive beyond Earth
- Search for extraterrestrial life on Mars
  - Strengthen the European scientific and industrial competitiveness
  - Define planetary protection guidelines
- Promote scientific progress for natural and social sciences by providing a single goal in the field of exobiology

#### **Recommended Actions**

- Set-up ad-hoc survey committee to review synergies with Cosmic Vision 2025
- Implement full consultation of scientific user community





## CORNERSTONE: Sustainable Human Life in Space

#### Create innovation to support and improve human living conditions

**Major Objectives** 

Industrial Community

- Promote research and technology development and foster integrated innovation processes engaging the space and non-space industrial sector
- Promote sustainable development
  - Strengthen European industrial capabilities and competitiveness
- Enhance economic security of European and world citizens through social and technological innovation
- Increase Europe's strategic independence
- Raise standard of living and quality of life

#### **Recommended Actions**

- Identify European research priorities
- Develop research plans

Content

## Content



## CORNERSTONES: Sharing the Space Adventure and Benefits

Foster broad societal engagement and share the benefits widely

European citizen

#### **Major Objectives**

- ✓ Share the space experience
- Create new perspectives for cultural and educational development
- Promote global participation for the addressing of global challenges
- Establish an adequate legal and ethical framework for space exploration and utilisation

#### **Recommended Actions**

- Implement citizen juries in ESA Member States
- ✓ Create European Space Exploration network
- ✓ Develop Media partnerships
- ✓ Set-up space exploration contest

## **Destination Moon**



# Europeans in Space

- European presence in an international human missions to Moon
- European access to lunar resources
- European-led robotic missions to the Moon



Habitability and Life beyond Earth



Sustainable Human Life in Space

- Main scientific interest on Mars, but possible demonstration of enabling technologies on Moon
- Robotic precursor missions to prepare for human missions
- Demonstration of capabilities supporting sustainable human settlement in space



Sharing the Space Adventure and Benefits

- Commercialization of lunar activities (space tourism, lunar based power generation etc.)
- Public awareness & involvement in lunar missions

Broader scientific utilisation of Moon (e.g. far side telescope, lunar geology) to be driven by ESA science programme, exploration programme could provide new capabilities

### **Activities**

#### **Internationally Planned Missions to Moon**



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### **Components**

Follow balanced approach of Europeanled missions and contributions to international space exploration architecture to create robust cooperation scenario





## Implementation

## Managing Affordability Develop flexible and robust plan which can cope with large funding variations



## Implementation

## **Fostering Innovation** Maximise innovation potential for space sector, other industrial sectors/ markets, European citizens and society



### Implementation

**Considering Ethics** Incorporate Ethical considerations (human values, principles, concepts, purposes) in decision making process

Coordinating Science Integrate scientific elements of space exploration within broader space science agenda

Addressing Legal Issues Take proactive role in adapting current legal regimes for safeguarding European interest

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#### **Co-authors**

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#### **ESA HME Scenario Team**

ESA Space Exploration Policy Assessment Group (SEPAG)

Participants of Stakeholder Workshops

- □ New Ways of Public Engagement, London, 26 April 2005
- Political Motivation for Space Exploration, Paris, 19 May 2005
- Space Exploration Strategy Workshop, Brussels, 12 13 July 2005
- Scientific Elements of Space Exploration, Paris, 16 September 2005