

Executive Course

Summer School on Space Policy

2 - 4 September 2026

Sala Europa - Villa Schifanoia, Via Boccaccio 121 - Florence

Course Directors:

Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI

Leonardo Meeus | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

Executive Training Officers:

Marina Cascella | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

Gillian Chin | ESPI

Introduction

Space is no longer optional for societies. It is deeply embedded in the systems that run our economies, secure our nations, and shape our daily lives. What is new is the speed and scale of this integration. Space technologies are now woven into every sector at an unprecedented pace, creating impacts that ripple across infrastructure, governance, and commerce. The economic impact? It is no longer measured in billions, but trillions. And the transformation has only just begun.

To delve deeper into these impacts and interconnections, the Florence School of Regulation, in collaboration with the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), co-organised a Summer School on Space Policy, which aims to:

- Deliver in-depth, high-impact training on space policy and strategy
- Spark interest in the space sector among both emerging and established professionals
- Highlight the relevance of space in addressing broader societal challenges
- Create a networking bridge between professionals from the space and non-space sectors

Convened under the theme “Space Beyond Space: The Impact of Space Integration across Sectors”, this year’s programme will focus on the systemic integration of space across different segments of the economy and public policy, with particular emphasis on three key domains: space for energy and infrastructure, space for digital transformation and governmental services, and space for natural resource management. Participants will also be invited to draw connections with their own professional backgrounds and explore how space-based capabilities can support innovation and policy solutions across diverse sectors.

Programme

2 September **Day 1 – Introduction to Space Policy**

- 9:00 - 9:45 Session 1: Welcome greetings and introduction to the course
Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI
Leonardo Meeus | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
- 9:45 - 10:30 Participants' Introductions & Icebreakers
- 10:30 - 11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:00 - 12:00 Session 1: Introduction to Space
Samantha Cristoforetti | ESA
- 12:00 - 13:00 Session 2: Space Policy and Regulations
Heriberto Saldivar | ESA
- 13:00 - 14:00 *Lunch break*
- 14:00 - 15:00 Session 3: The Space Economy & its Impact
Giancarlo Granero | DGDEFIS
- 15:00 - 15:30 *Coffee break*
- 15:30 - 16:30 Session 4: Space Security
TBC
- 16:30 - 17:30 Session 5: Panel Discussion: Connecting the Dots
Moderator:
Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI
Panellists:
Giancarlo Granero | DGDEFIS
Sinéad O'Sullivan TBC | Harvard Business School
Samantha Cristoforetti | ESA
TBC
- 19:00 *Welcome Cocktail at B-Roof*

3 September **Day 2 – Impact of Space in Non-Space Domains**

- 9:00 - 9:15 Day 1 Recap & Day 2 Introductions
Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI
- 9:30 - 11:00 Session 1: Energy and Infrastructure
Leonardo Meeus | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
Manuel Gálvez | ENTSO-E; Elia
- 11:00 - 11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30 - 13:00 Session 2: Digital Transformation and Governmental Services

Ioana Petrescu | ESPI

Piotr Wesolowski | Deutsche Telekom

13:00 - 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 - 15:30 Session 3: Natural Resources Management

Gabriele Redigonda | ESPI

Usue Donezar | European Environmental Agency

15:30 - 16:00 *Coffee break*

16:00 - 17:30 Session 4: Group activity

Gabriele Redigonda | ESPI

Leonardo Meeus | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

Jara Villanueva | Centre for Sustainability and Resilience

Ioana Petrescu | ESPI

18:00 *Guided tour at the EUI*

4 September **Day 3 – Space for Future Societies**

9:00 - 9:15 Day 2 Recap & Day 3 Introduction

Leonardo Meeus | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

9:15 - 9:45 High Level Inspirational Talks: Space Beyond Space

- **Simonetta Cheli** | ESA
- **TBC** | DG DEFIS
- **TBC** | Italian Government

9:45 - 11:00 Space Debate: Space digital sovereignty, security and national power.

Moderator:

Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI

Panellists:

TBC | Italian Government

TBC | DG DEFIS

Simone Cheli | ESA

Johanna Mair | Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI

11:00 - 11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30 - 12:30 Capstone Group Activity

12:30 - 13:30 *Lunch break*

13:30 - 14:30 Key takeaways and wrap-up

Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI

Leonardo Meeus | Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

