

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

Marco Aliberti | ESPI

12:00 - 13:00 Session 2: Space Policy and Regulations

Giancarlo Granero | DGDEFIS

13:00 - 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 - 15:00 Session 3: The Space Economy & its Impact

TBC | Harvard Business School

15:00 - 15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30 - 16:30 Session 4: Space Security

TBC | Look Up Space

16:30 - 17:30 Session 5: Panel Discussion: Connecting the Dots

Moderator:

Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI

Panellists:

Giancarlo Granero | DGDEFIS

TBC | Harvard Business School

TBC | Look Up Space

17:30 - 18:30 *Guided tour at the EUI*

18:30 - 21:00 *Welcome Dinner*

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

TBC | ENTSOe

- 11:00 - 11:30 *Coffee break*
- 11:30 - 13:00 Session 2: Digital Transformation and Governmental Services
Ioana Petrescu | ESPI
TBC | 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

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
Simoetta Cheli | ESA
TBC | 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

Speakers

Marco Aliberti	Associate Director of International Engagement, ESPI
Siimonetta Cheli	Director Earth Observation Programmes & Head of ESRIN, ESA
Usue Donezar	Expert, Copernicus Project Lead, European Environmental Agency
Giancarlo Granero	Head of Unit, DG DEFIS
Leonardo Meeus	Director , FSR
Hermann Ludwig Moeller	Director, ESPI
Ioana Petrescu	Non resident fellow, ESPI
Gabriele Redigonda	Lead of Green and Sustainable Societies, ESPI
Jara Villanueva	Lead of the Centre for Sustainability and Resilience, CSR