

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

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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: It's more than just astronauts

Samantha Cristoforetti | ESA

12:00 - 13:00 Session 2: Space policy, strategy and regulations

Heriberto Saldivar | ESA

13:00 - 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 - 15:00 Session 3: The space economy & its impact

Giancarlo Granero | DG DEFIS

15:00 - 15:30 *Coffee break*

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

Anna Sophie Fellner | Austrian Armed Forces

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

Moderator:

Hermann Ludwig Moeller | ESPI

Panellists:

- **Samantha Cristoforetti** | ESA
- **Heriberto Saldivar** | ESA
- **Giancarlo Granero** | DGDEFIS
- **Anna Sophia Fellner** | Austrian Armed Forces

19:30 - 21:00 *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	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 - 13:00	Session 2: Digital transformation Ioana Petrescu ESPI Piotr Wesolowski Deutsche Telekom
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00 - 15:30	Session 3: Natural resources management Gabriele Redigonda ESPI Usue Donezar European Environmental Agency
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 - 17:30	Session 4: Group activity Jara Villanueva Centre for Sustainability and Resilience Gabriele Redigonda ESPI Ioana Petrescu ESPI Leonardo Meeus Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
17:30 - 18:30	<i>Guided tour at the EUI</i>
4 September	Day 3 – Space Debate
9:00 - 9:15	Day 2 Recap & Day 3 Introduction Leonardo Meeus Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI
9:15 - 9:30	High level inspirational talks: space beyond space • Simonetta Cheli ESA
9:30 - 10:30	Space Debate: Space digital sovereignty, security and national power Moderator: Hermann Ludwig Moeller ESPI Panellists: Johanna Mair Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI Simoetta Cheli ESA
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 - 12:30	Capstone Group Activity (building on the outcomes of the Space Debate)
12:30 - 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 - 14:30	Key takeaways and wrap-up Hermann Ludwig Moeller ESPI Leonardo Meeus Florence School of Regulation, RSCAS, EUI

