

Joint Statement of Eurospace – ESRE

regarding **Space Research, Space Technology Development (Space RTD) and a space-related Joint Technology Initiative (JTI)**

in Framework Programme 9,

EUROSPACE and ESRE represent the interests of key players in space RTD, respectively from the private and the public sector. They bring together a workforce of 45000 in Europe, and manage space research, development and technology activities worth 900 Million € a year.

Both associations have recently published their views to support future developments of Space research in the next Framework Programme¹.

EUROSPACE and ESRE share a common vision for Space Research and Space Technology Development in the next Framework programme. These common views are summarised below.

¹ <http://www.eurospace.org/position-papers.aspx>
<http://esre-space.org/>

Space Research, Space Technology Development and Competition in the Global Space Market

The strategic and commercial importance of “space” in a globalised world is being recognised by more and more players.

One of the key reasons for this lies in the fact that “space technologies” provide global capabilities and services in response to global challenges, be those primarily of a political (e.g. security, climate change) or commercial nature (e.g. global communication).

Therefore, not only established institutional players like the US and Russia are increasing their public investments in space systems/space-related RTD, but also China and India as well as many other nations (Russia and China by ~ 10%/year over recent years, US public space investments ~ 4-5 times larger than Europe’s).

Furthermore, also private investments are sharply increasing, especially in the US, both due to the increasing role of space systems in the global digital information distribution networks and due to the prospects opened up by 'New Space', which pursues disruptive approaches to space missions and services with high potentials for cost reductions.

These new approaches are supported by new business models, disruptive technologies and the rigorous spinning-in of terrestrial technologies, mass production components and mass production methods from other mature terrestrial industries.

As a consequence, the intensity of competition and the rate of innovation in space markets have increased tremendously over the last years.

An increase of European public investments in space research and space RTD is therefore mandatory in order to ensure the timely availability of next generation space technologies in support of Europe’s capability to independently address global challenges and in support of the competitiveness of European industry.

Space Research, Space Technology Development and Joint Technology Initiative in Framework Programme 9

The need for a dedicated space budget in FP 9

- *In view of the latest developments on the global commercial space market, EUROSPACE and ESRE agree on the need to further strengthen the competitiveness of the European space sector, in particular by enhancing measures in support of innovation.*
- *In this regard, EUROSPACE and ESRE have high expectations with a view to FP 9, both as to space dedicated funding lines and innovative space dedicated funding schemes, enhancing the impact and leverage of the FP 9 on the space sector.*
- *In the view of EUROSPACE and ESRE, “space technologies”, as in H 2020, should be properly addressed in FP 9 with a dedicated funding line. This dedicated budget should cover appropriately the readiness and maturity of space systems, technologies and applications, in the short/medium and long term, to improve the general competitiveness of the sector.*

- *In addition to fostering generic space technologies, EUROSPACE and ESRE believe that some application driven developments, such as observation instruments, communication payloads and space localisation technologies should also be addressed in the FP 9 context.*
- *In view of the increasing public investments of the other international space powers and current challenges and expectations identified in EU policies, Eurospace and ESRE recommend that FP 9 over its seven years of duration allocates in total an amount of 2,5 bn €² to space RTD.*

Towards a Space JTI:

- *In line with the above, EUROSPACE and ESRE also fully support the idea of the European Parliament to establish in FP 9 a Joint Technology Initiative (JTI) related to “Space” and declare their principal interest in joining such a new Public-Private-Partnership scheme.*
- *EUROSPACE and ESRE propose to dedicate this JTI to “Technological Innovation for a competitive and sustainable Space Industry” and intend to cooperate closely for providing detailed proposals and continued assistance to the European Institutions, and in particular the European Commission, in the process of establishing this new Initiative.*
- *EUROSPACE and ESRE recommend that for those topics assigned to the JTI, the JTI should aim to cover the full technology maturity scale (up to TRL 7) with an appropriate balance of activities addressing low to high TRL in order to pave the way for innovation throughout the short, medium and long term.*
- *EUROSPACE and ESRE agree on the need for a significant increase in the dedicated space technology budget of FP 9 (compared to H 2020), to cover at least the budget for the new JTI.*

² 2,5 bn € ~ 1,4 bn € (⇔ present amount of dedicated space line in H 2020) + ~ 600 m€ ⇔ (40% increase ⇔ lower bound of recommendation of Lamy-Report for increase of funding for total FP 9) + 500 m€ for the JTI.