

Engage on Earth, Unite in Space

Exploring Next Level Cross-Sector Innovations



INNOspace Masters Conference, 12 November 2026

Preliminary Event Programme

09:00	Registration and Coffee Reception Networking, Exposition and facilities for bilateral discussions
09:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks Dr Walther Pelzer, Member of DLR Executive Board, Director General German Space Agency
09:45	Dialogue 10 Years INNOspace Masters Dr Walther Pelzer, Member of DLR Executive Board, Director General German Space Agency Dr Franziska Zeitler, Head of Innovation & New Markets, German Space Agency
10:00	Success Stories of INNOspace Masters
10:30	DLR Challenge "Groundbreaking Cross-Sector Innovations" Dr Walther Pelzer, Member of DLR Executive Board, Director General German Space Agency Dr Franziska Zeitler, Head of Innovation & New Markets, German Space Agency <i>Pitches of Winning Teams & Award Ceremony</i>
10:50	Mercedes-Benz Car2Space Challenge "Space up your Drive" Ida Wolf, Vice President Innovations & Operations Development (tbc), Mercedes-Benz AG <i>Pitches of Winning Teams & Award Ceremony</i>
11:15	Keynote
11:30	Break into Sessions



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11:35 **Select Your Path: Poster Session (A), Thematic Session (B) or Open Networking (C)**

(A) Poster Session

Success Stories and Alumni Projects
Exhibition Room

(B) Thematic Session

Empowering European Space Start-ups

12:10 **Lunch Break & Networking**

13:10 **Airbus Challenge “Boosting Earth-Space Industry Partnerships”**

Dr Marc Steckling, Head of Space Systems Germany (tbc), Airbus D&S
Andreas Linmann, KAM Technical Strategy and R&D Management Germany (tbc), Airbus D&S

Pitches of Winning Teams & Award Ceremony

13:35 **Panel Discussion**

Shaping the Future of the Space Sector: Goals, Priorities, and Cross-Industry Benefits

Dr Walther Pelzer, Director General of the German Space Agency at DLR
Dr Josef Aschbacher (tbc), ESA Director General, ESA
Dr Marc Steckling (tbc), Head of Space Systems Germany, Airbus D&S
Dr Kristina Wagner (tbc), Chief Technology Officer and Chief Digital Officer OHB SE
Ida Wolf (tbc), Vice President Innovations & Operations Development, Mercedes-Benz AG

14:15 **OHB Challenge “Sovereign End-to-End Systems”**

Dr Kristina Wagner, Chief Technology Officer and Chief Digital Officer, OHB SE
Niklas Voigt – Head of Think Tank R&D, OHB SE

Pitches of Winning Teams & Award Ceremony

14:40 **Break into Sessions**



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14:45	Select Your Path: Poster Session (A), Thematic Session (B) or Open Networking (C)	
	(A) Poster Session	(B) Thematic Session
	Success Stories and Alumni Projects Exhibition Room	tbd
15:10	Coffee Break	
15:30	ESA Business Applications Challenge “Space for a Resilient Society” Dr Rita Rinaldo (tbc), Head of Projects and Studies Implementation Division, ESA Anke Freimuth, Coordinator ESA Business Applications Germany, German Space Agency at DLR <i>Pitches of Winning Teams & Award Ceremony</i>	
15:55	Keynote	
16:20	ESA Business Incubation Challenge “Join the New Space Economy” Dr Andreas Kanstein, Managing Director, Centre of Satellite Navigation Hesse (cesah) Thorsten Rudolph, Managing Director, AZO Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen <i>Pitches of Winning Teams & Award Ceremony</i>	
16:45	Closing Keynote Dorothee Bär, Minister to the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space	
16:55	Awarding of Overall Winner INNOspace Masters 2026 Dorothee Bär, Federal Minister of Research, Technology and Space Dr Walther Pelzer, Member of the DLR Executive Board, Director General German Space Agency	
17:00- 18:30	Press Photos and Open Networking	

Moderation: Claus Kruesken

Location: Futurium – Alexanderufer 2, 10117 Berlin