

# Once Explorers, Always Explorers

## *Europe's Space Exploration Vision*

David Parker  
Director - Human and Robotic Exploration



*Space19*



# Exploration @ESA is Strategy-Driven



*“focused on solar system destinations where humans will someday live and work.”*

Global Exploration Strategy Framework Document, 2007

## ***ESA Scientific Programme***

‘bottom-up’ + mandatory

➤ **competitive mission selection** among proposals from science community

## ***ESA Exploration Programme***

‘top-down’ + optional

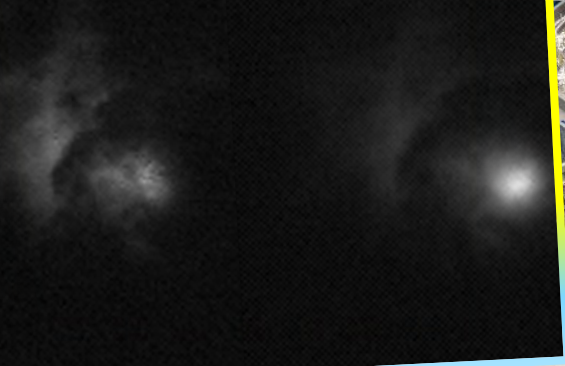
➤ **step-wise** with goal of extending human reach to Mars surface







# European Human and Robotic Exploration in 2018





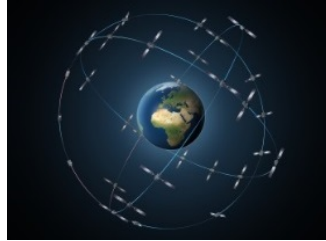
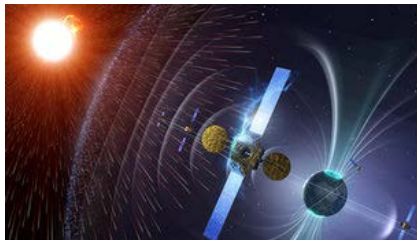
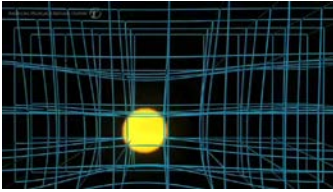
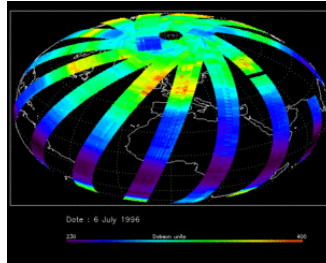
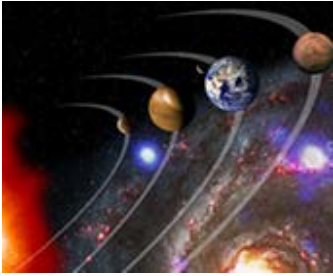
# Four Programmatic Pillars

Science and Exploration

Safety and Security

Applications

Enabling and Support (transp., tech, & ops)



ESA UN

Slide 5



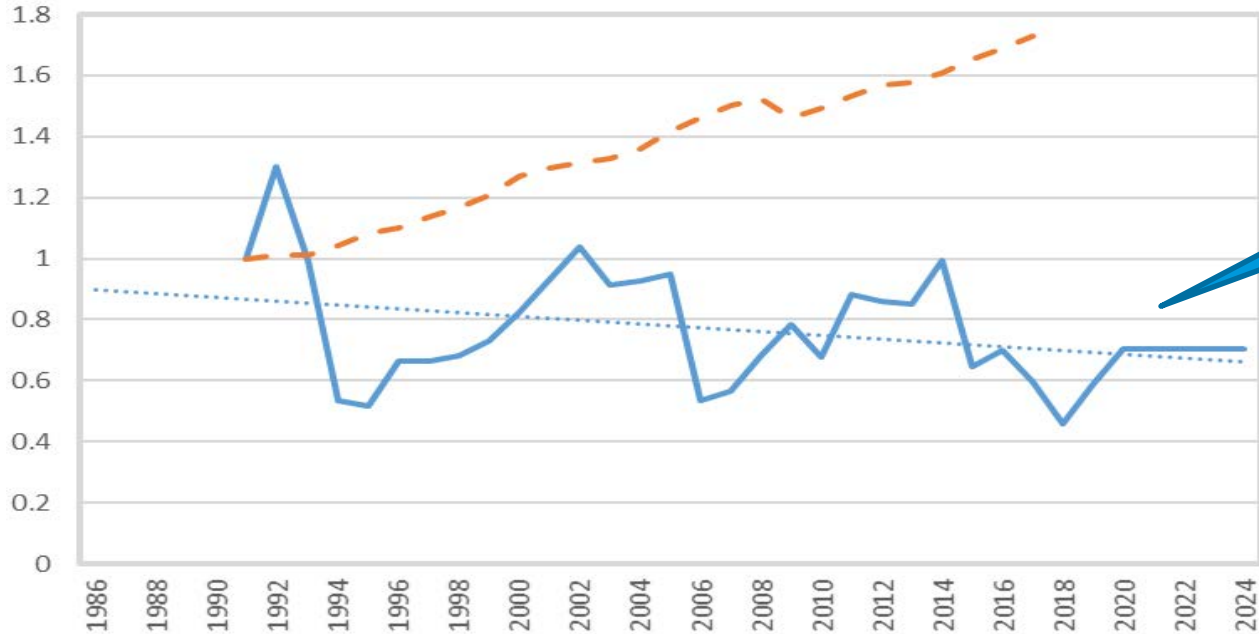
- New era of global exploration is happening *NOW*
- What role for Europe ?



# Why Europe doesn't have an independent exploration programme

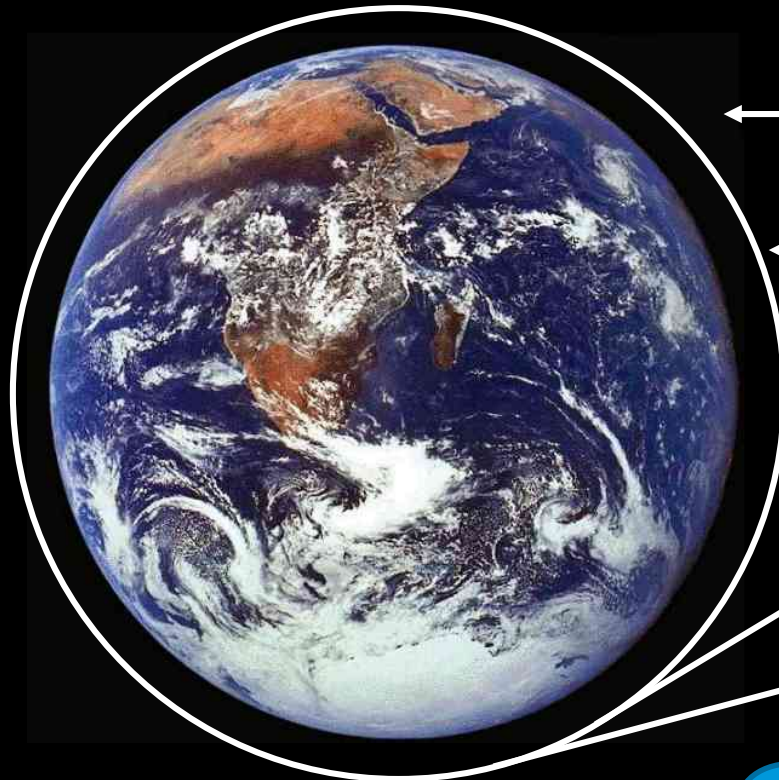


Proposal



- Exploration budget [evolution from 1991]
- - - ESA Members GDP [evolution from 1991]
- ..... Linear (Exploration budget [evolution from 1991])





1-2 years

~ 1 week



Human Mars challenges:

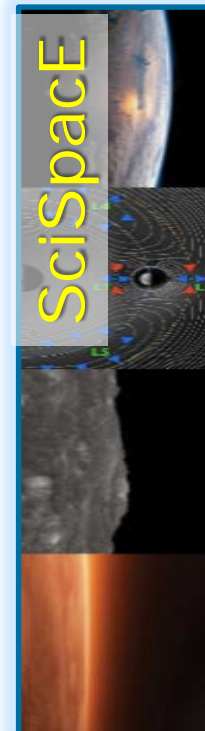
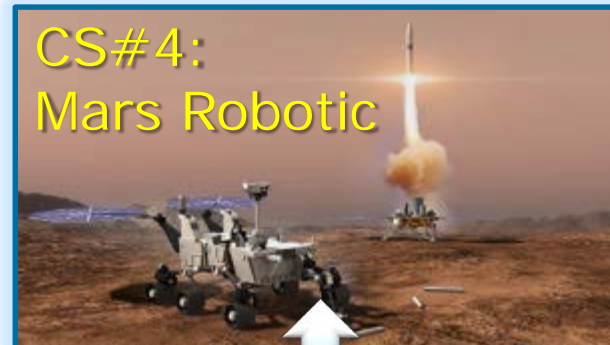
- propulsion
- safety/security
- physical health
- psychology
- radiation
- communication

The Moon helps de-risk these challenges



# Our Future programme

6 Activities; 4 Cornerstone campaigns; 1 Programme



# *Research in Low Earth Orbit benefiting Earth*



## **Space19+ actions**

- Modernisation of European operations → 'Columbus 2030'
- Stimulation of commercial research → 'Downstream Gateway'



## BETTER TOGETHER

1998: ESA meets International Space Station



strong partnership and international cooperation

- 15 international partners
- 230 individuals from 18 countries visited the ISS



## PROFITABLE SPACE

each euro spent on the Space Station produces €1.8 added value to European economies



**€7B**  
government revenues from ESA spending

**90%**  
spent in ESA participating countries

every 100 jobs in the space sector linked to the Space Station creates 90 additional jobs



## INSPIRATION

43K teachers trained per year



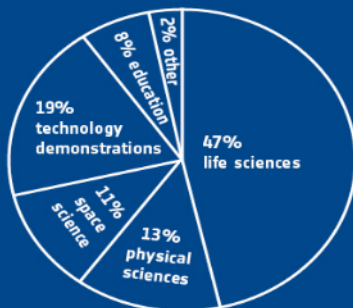
educational kits for schools

university lectures



student nano-satellites and hands-on projects

## KNOWLEDGE FOR SOCIETY



**1850+** european researchers



**800+** experiments



## COMPETITIVE INDUSTRY

the partnership established Europe as a reliable international partner



**4M** friends  
**Facebook**

**6M** followers  
**Twitter**

**85M** views  
**YouTube**

# International Space Station research

- Soyuz 59S successfully launched March 14, 2019
- Released in February:
  - Short-duration mission Announcement of Opportunity
  - Pre-/post-flight Announcement of Opportunity
    - AO Workshop on April 1 and 2, 2019 at ESTEC
  - EML Batch 4 Announcement of Opportunity
    - AO Workshop on May 23, 2019 in Friedrichshafen



→ SCIENCE WITH(OUT) GRAVITY  
International Space Station

The International Space Station allows **long-duration experiments** to be run in microgravity.

Experiments can be set up and controlled by **astronauts** or ground control.

It has **three dedicated laboratories** and external platforms for research with first-class facilities.

Over **230 experiments** have run in ESA's Columbus lab over the past decade. With European commercial access now available that number is set to grow even more.

#Space19plus #ScienceAtESA

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# ESA Research using bedrest model

- Start of joint ESA/NASA Bedrest study on March 25, 2019.
- Preparations for future ESA-sponsored bedrest studies have started.
- Validation of dry-immersion model.

→ SCIENCE WITH(OUT) GRAVITY

**Bedrest**

Bedrest volunteers spend five to 60 days in bed **tilted towards the head end**, usually at 6° below the horizontal.

By submitting themselves to this upside-down regime, the volunteers' bodies start to adapt as though in space with **blood and fluids rushing to the head** and muscles and bones wasting away.

At least one shoulder must be **touching the bed at all times** including during showers and toilet visits.

New bedrest studies run in Cologne, Germany, now include a **human centrifuge** to recreate gravity towards the feet.

#Space19plus #ScienceAtESA

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# ESA Research on Antarctic Research Stations

- Concordia WO2019 season with 4 ESA and 1 Italian experiment has started.
- Preparations for Concordia WO2020 are continuing.
- Recruitment of WO2020 Research MD under finalization.

The infographic features a light blue background with the ESA logo in the top right. It includes a globe with a red location pin over Antarctica. The main illustration shows two cylindrical research modules on black supports, connected by a walkway. Text boxes provide details about the station's isolation, altitude, and the challenges of winter.

→ SCIENCE WITH(OUT) GRAVITY

**Antarctic isolation**

Temperatures can drop to  $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the **Sun does not rise** above the horizon in the winter for four months.

**Concordia research station** in Antarctica is the closest thing to living on another planet.

At **3200 m altitude** there is little oxygen in the air.

No supplies can arrive for months in the winter. The crew of up to 15 have to **live and survive on their own.**

ESA also sends **climate scientists** to Concordia to verify satellite observations, these scientists only stay during the summer months.

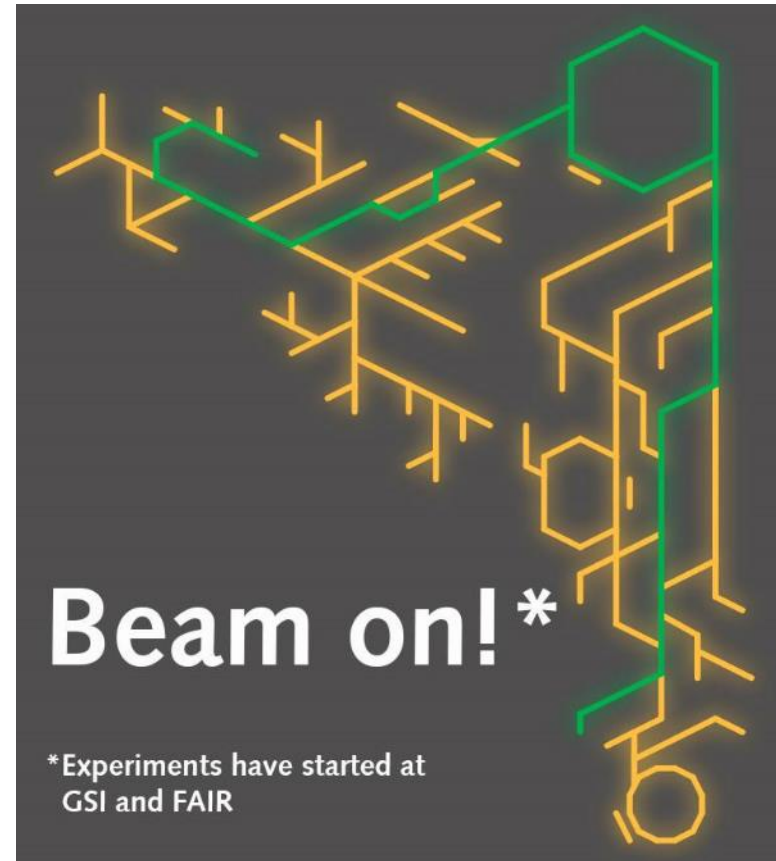
#Space19plus #ScienceAtESA

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# ESA Radiation Research Programme



- Resumption of science activities through traditional IBER programme.
- Start of ESA/FAIR Radiation Summer School in September 2019.

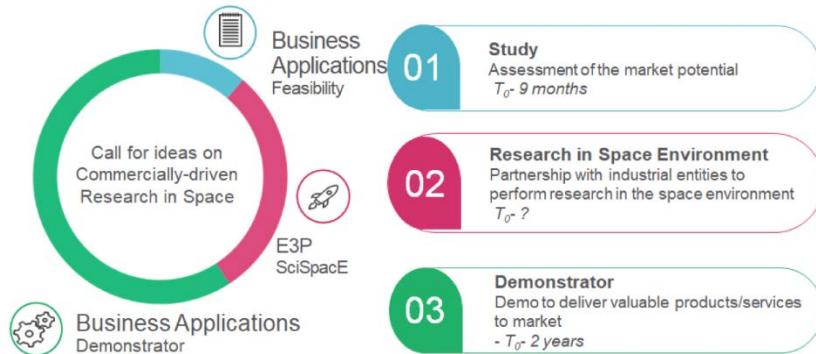


# CFI Commercially-driven Research in Space

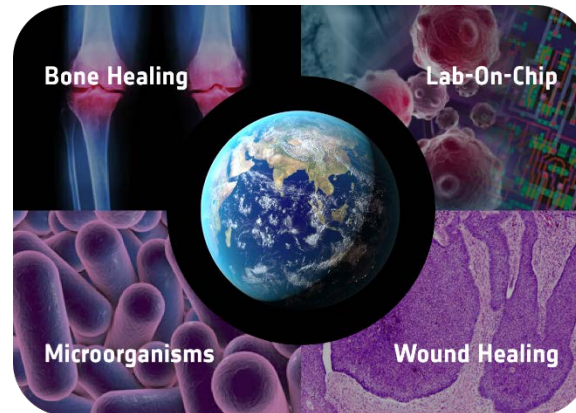


Joint initiative between E3P and ESA Business Applications to boost application-driven utilisation of the ISS and other space environment facilities.

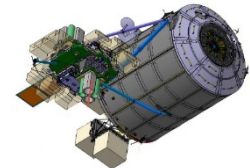
## Innovative 3 Phase Approach



3 + 2 out of 38 proposals suggested for implementation



Bartolomeo



14-16 Sept 2016  
ESA  
Space for Inspiration

8 Nov 2016  
ESA Inn Ex  
*Health*

4 Jun 2018  
ESA Inn Ex  
Open CFI

4 Sept 2018  
Close CFI  
38 proposals

Q1 2019  
CFI  
Implementation







# Forward to the Moon



# ESA Lunar Strategies Developed



Working with the Community, and endorsed by HESAC, two key strategies have been produced:

- ✓ Lunar Science Strategy
- ✓ Space Resources strategy (in which Moon is identified as the first destination for using space resources to support exploration)
- ✓ Following RFI in 2018, a group of lunar science and technology payloads have been selected for implementation via the missions of opportunity element of Cornerstone 3.



# Lunar research identified by the community



- The bombardment history of the inner solar system
- The structure and composition of the lunar interior
- The diversity of lunar crustal rocks
- Volatiles at the lunar poles
- Volcanism, impact and regolith processes
- Atmospheric and dust environment
- Life sciences and astrobiology
- Fundamental physics
- Low frequency Radio Astronomy
- **Space resource utilisation**



# NASA's Orion spaceship

An illustration of the Orion spaceship in orbit around Earth. The Earth is shown as a large, light-colored sphere with dark continents and oceans. The Orion spaceship is a small, white, multi-lobed object with blue solar panels, orbiting in a red and white ring. The background is a dark space with a bright star and several smaller stars.

Europe already at the heart of the next spacecraft to carry humans into deep space

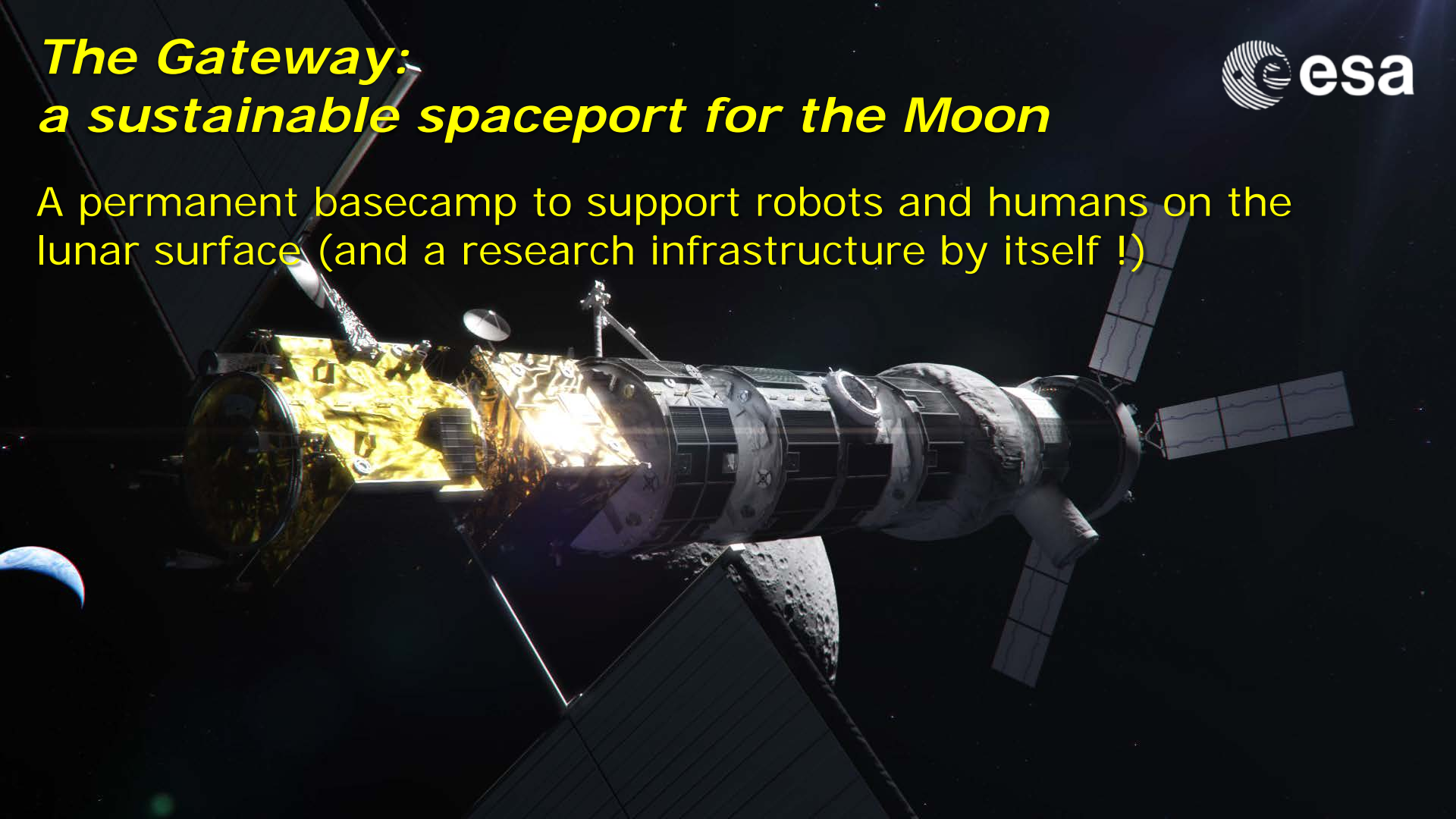
## Space19+ actions

- Secure ESM3 and ESM4; protect ESM5 onwards
- Potential ESM Batch procurement

# *The Gateway: a sustainable spaceport for the Moon*



A permanent basecamp to support robots and humans on the lunar surface (and a research infrastructure by itself !)



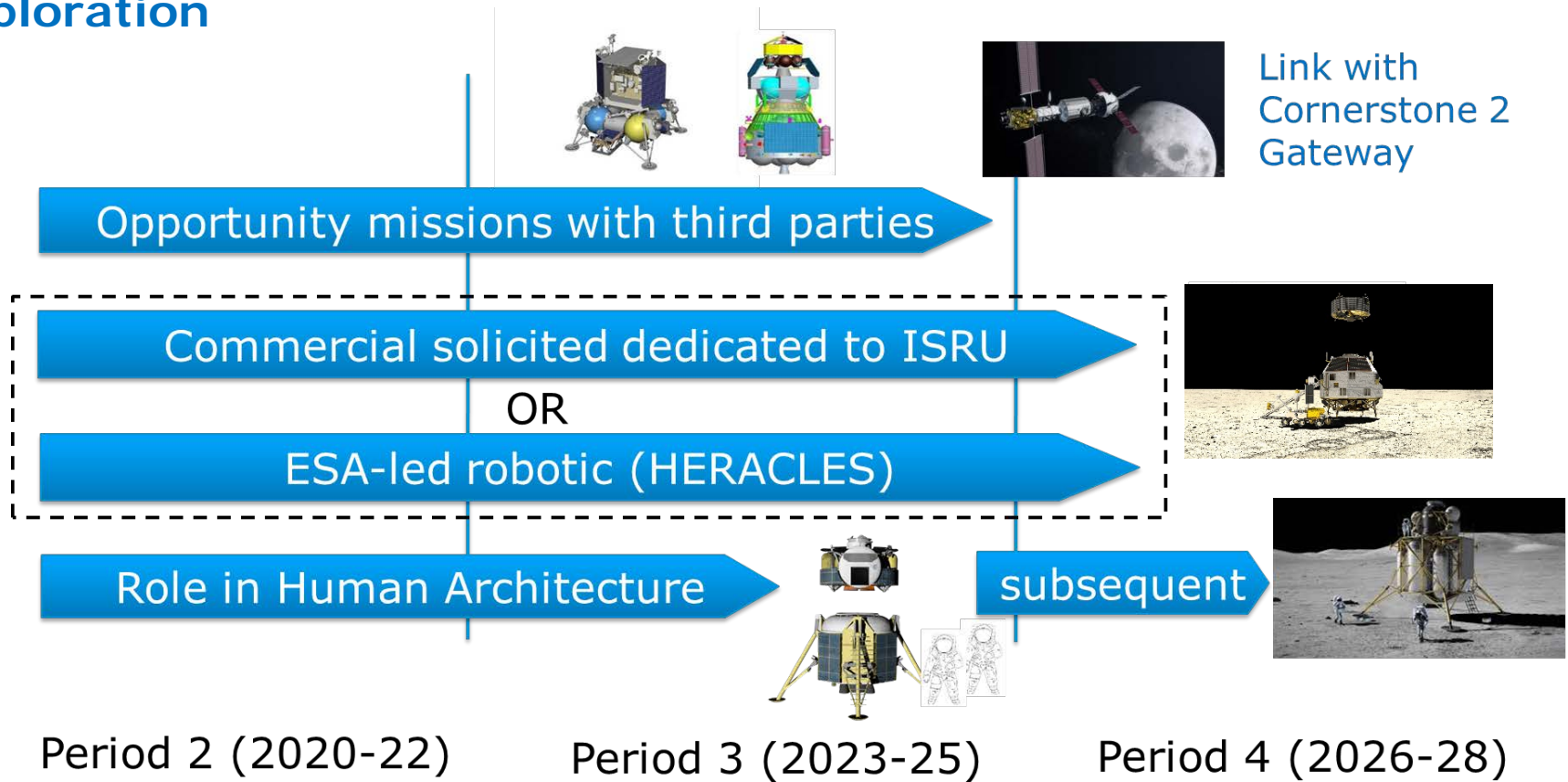
## Preparing for the Gateway

- Possible design of ESPRIT's interior was tested underwater in Marseille in March by JF Clervoy and Astronaut trainer H. Stevenin.
- Test's main objectives were to evaluate requirements for payload operations and determine the best positioning for two cameras that will allow operations to be viewed from Earth.
- Credit: Airbus Defence & Space





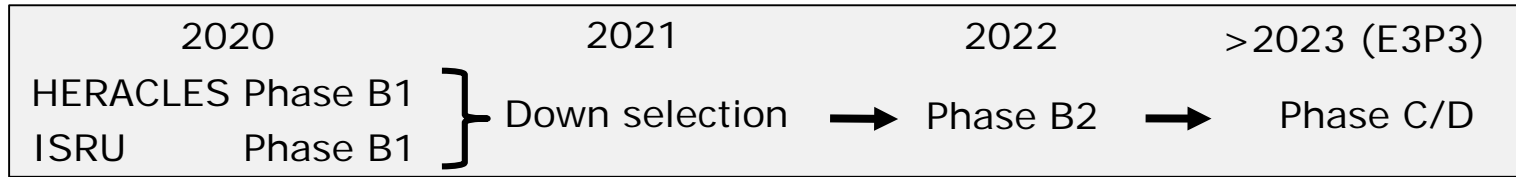
# Moon Robotic exploration (CS#3) and link to human exploration



# Moon Robotic exploration (CS#3) (2/2)



- Step 1: Missions of Opportunity
  - ✓ PILOT and PROSPECT (Luna-27)
  - ✓ New possibilities: e.g. Chang'e series, US missions, JAXA, commercial
- Step 2: Preparation of an ESA-led robotic mission
  - ✓ Robotic Precursor to human exploration (HERACLES) enabled by IPs
  - ✓ Demonstration of end-to-end ISRU enabled by commercial partnership



- Step 3: Role in Human architecture (Phase A/B studies within ExPeRT)
  - ✓ Roles in US-led ascender/descender or Moon tug transfer vehicle considered
  - ✓ Both elements based on Orion/ESM experience

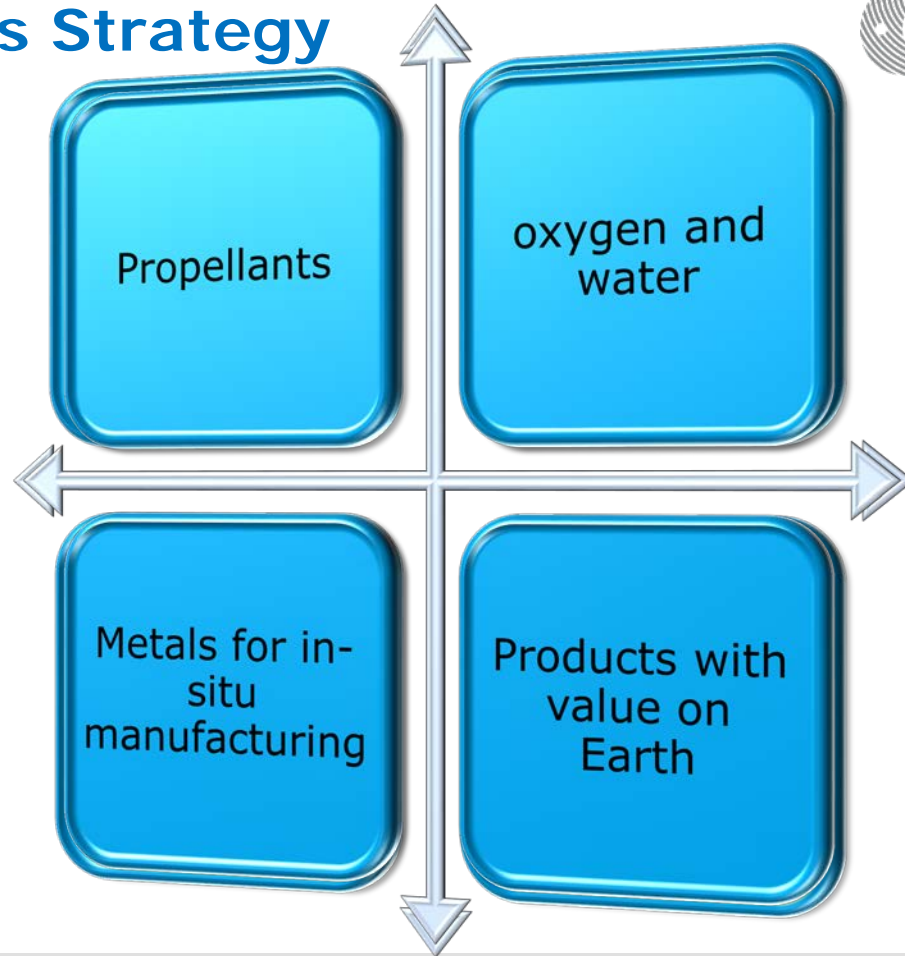


# ESA's Space Resources Strategy



**What ?**

*An end to end demonstration of feasibility of using lunar resources*





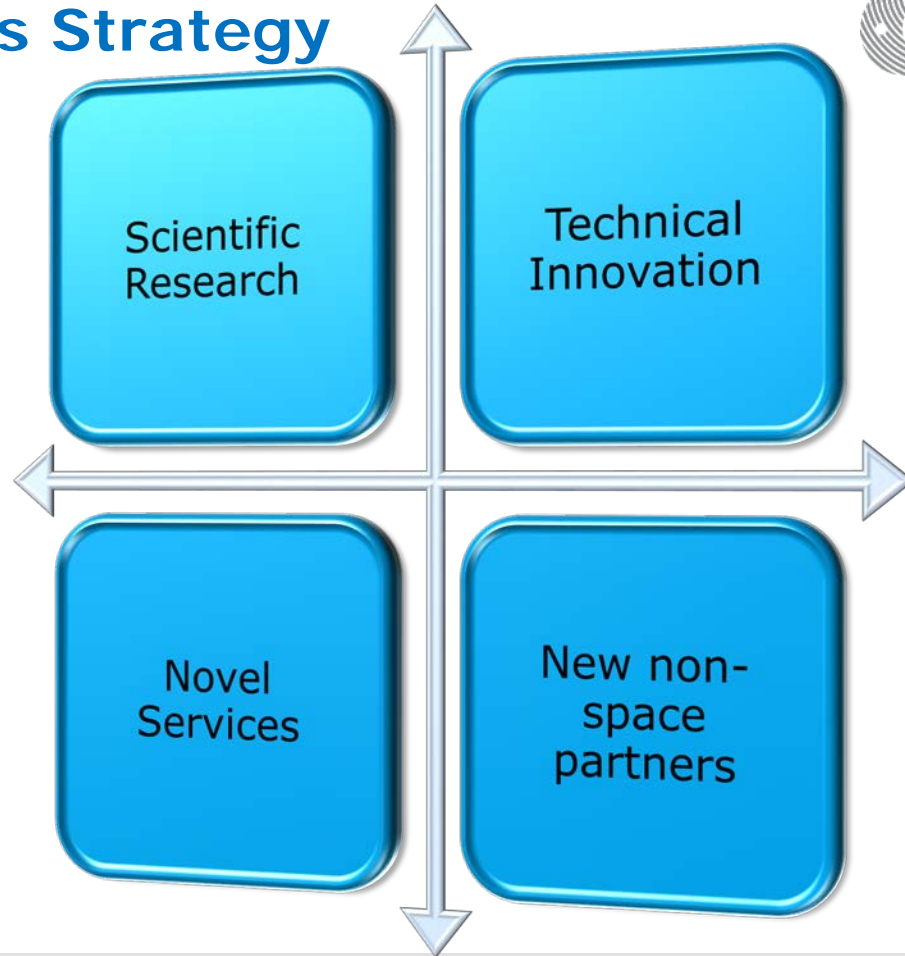
# ESA's Space Resources Strategy

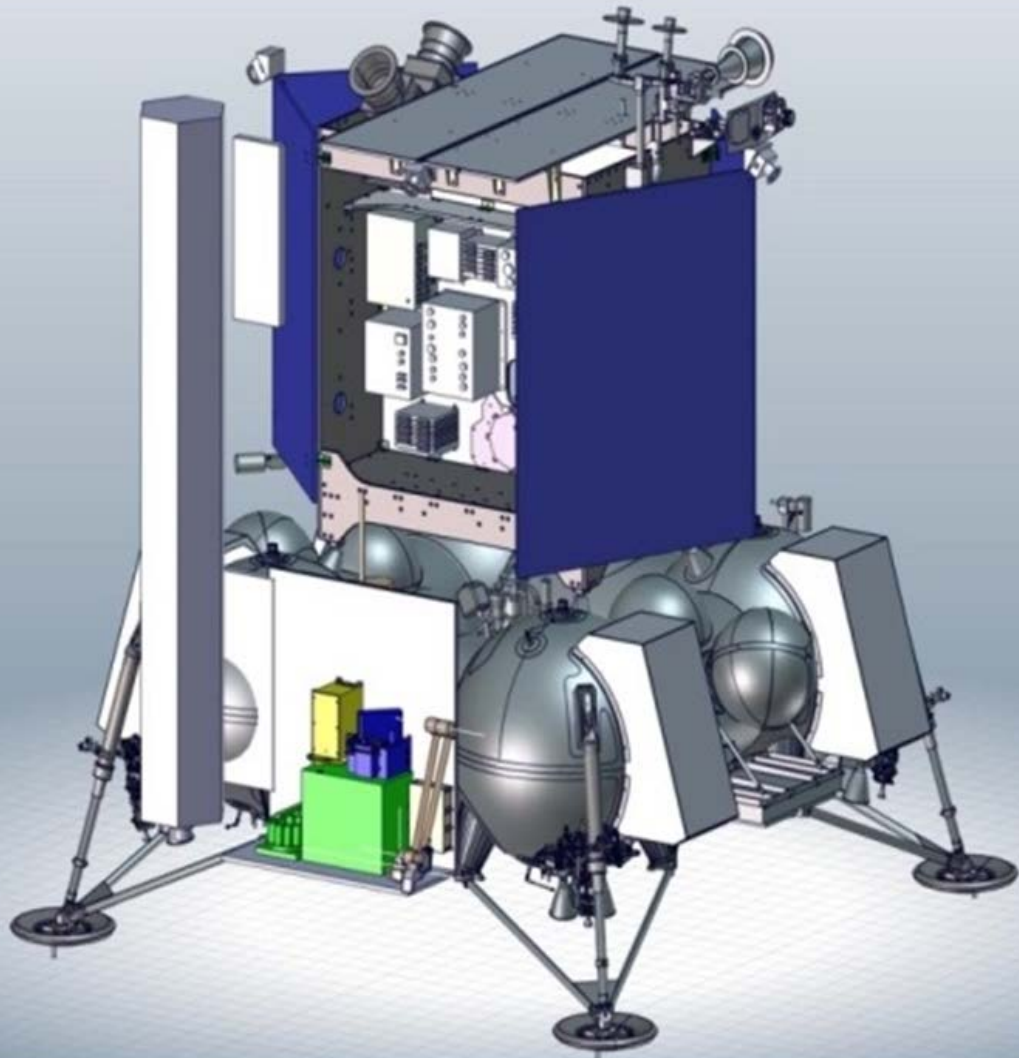


**What ?**

*An end to end demonstration of feasibility of using lunar resources*

**And How ?**





Lunar Resource Lander  
(ESA+Russia)  
2023

Permanently  
shadowed regions at  
Moon's South pole.

Perhaps hosting  
water ice

*(false colour)*

# Lunar science Statement of Intent signed with NASA SMD

- Coordinate science on early robotic missions
- E.g. NASA CLPS
- European Lunar Pathfinder
- Joint WG set up



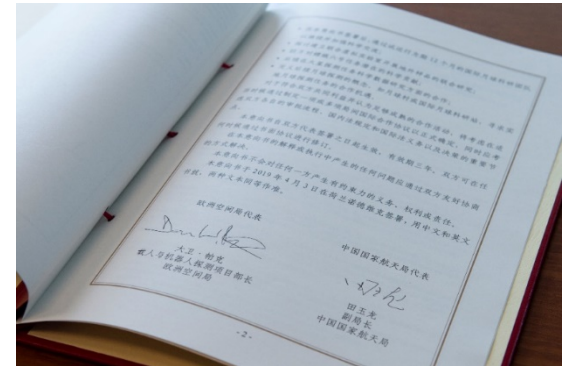


# Letter of Intent with CNSA



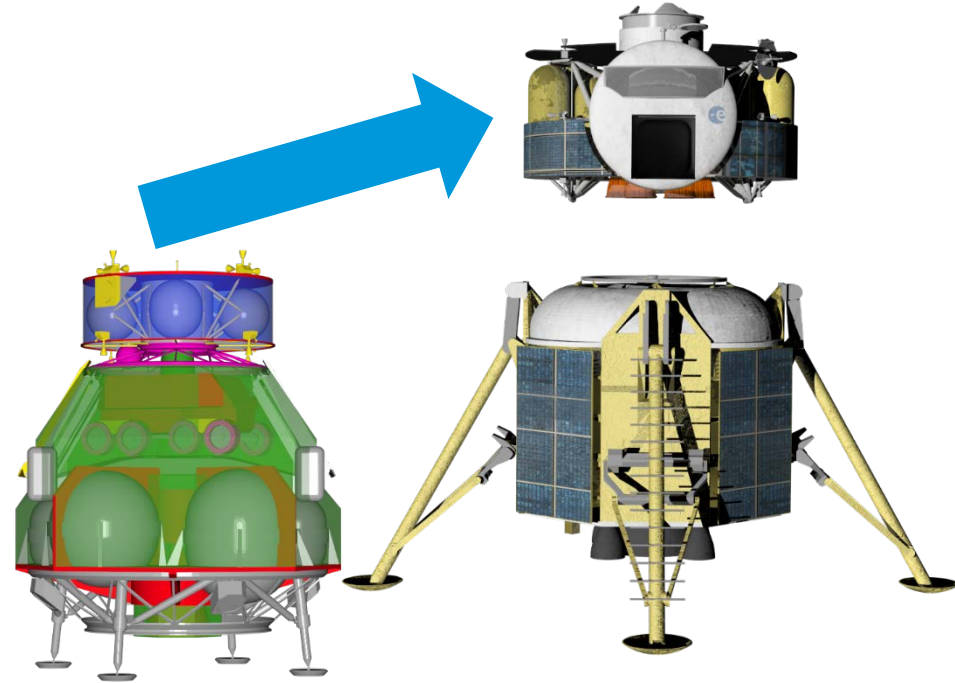
Cooperation opportunities in the following areas:

- 12 months pilot phase aimed at establishing an International Lunar Research Team.
- Joint Virtual Laboratory on extra-terrestrial samples.
- Potential European contributions to the Chang'E 6 mission.
- Future scientific Mars cooperation.
- Future architecture work on an International Lunar Research Station.



# Towards a Human Return to the Moon

- Not just a re-run of Apollo !
- Balance “Science” and “Mars forward” objectives
- Sustainable - re-usable elements
- Plan for an “Exit Strategy”
  - ✓ Transition to sustained presence - a Moon base
  - ✓ Forward to Mars



**Gateway + robotic missions**  
= sustainable human exploration





# And on to the Red Planet ...

# ExoMars 2016

*On the trail of a mystery ...*

*Is there methane, oxygen, water in the atmosphere?*



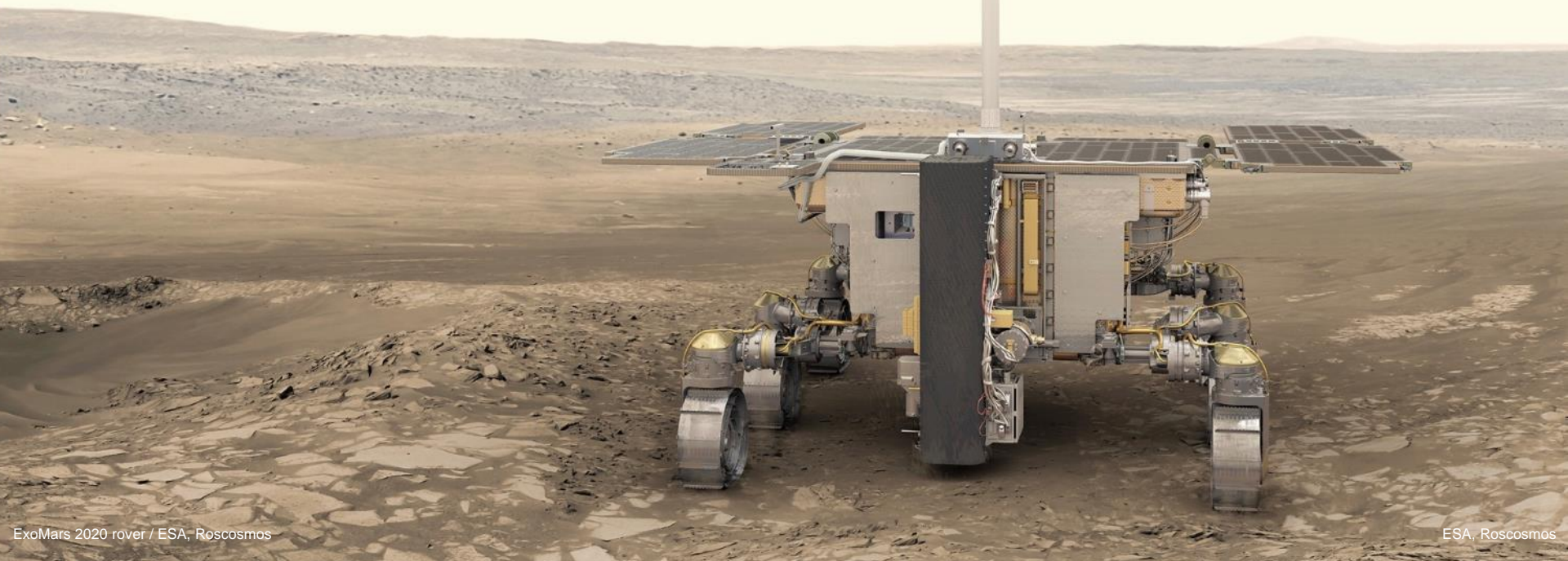
*→ First 3 'Nature' Papers published in April 2019*



# ExoMars 2020

## *The Rosalind Franklin Rover*

### A robotic scientist in search of life





# What are we aiming for with the rover ?



## 2020: ExoMars Rover and Surface Platform

- ✓ Travel back in time 4 billion years to explore the bottom of a Martian sea that no longer exists
- ✓ Drill deep to penetrate below the organics degradation horizon
- ✓ Look for traces of life beyond Earth
- ✓ Obtain knowledge for future sample return and human missions



A group of six technicians in white cleanroom suits are working on a complex piece of electronic equipment, likely a rover component, in a cleanroom environment. The equipment is mounted on a metal cart and features a large silver wheel. The technicians are wearing white gloves and masks. The background shows various pieces of equipment and a clean, industrial setting.

**Analytical Laboratory – the heart of the rover science**

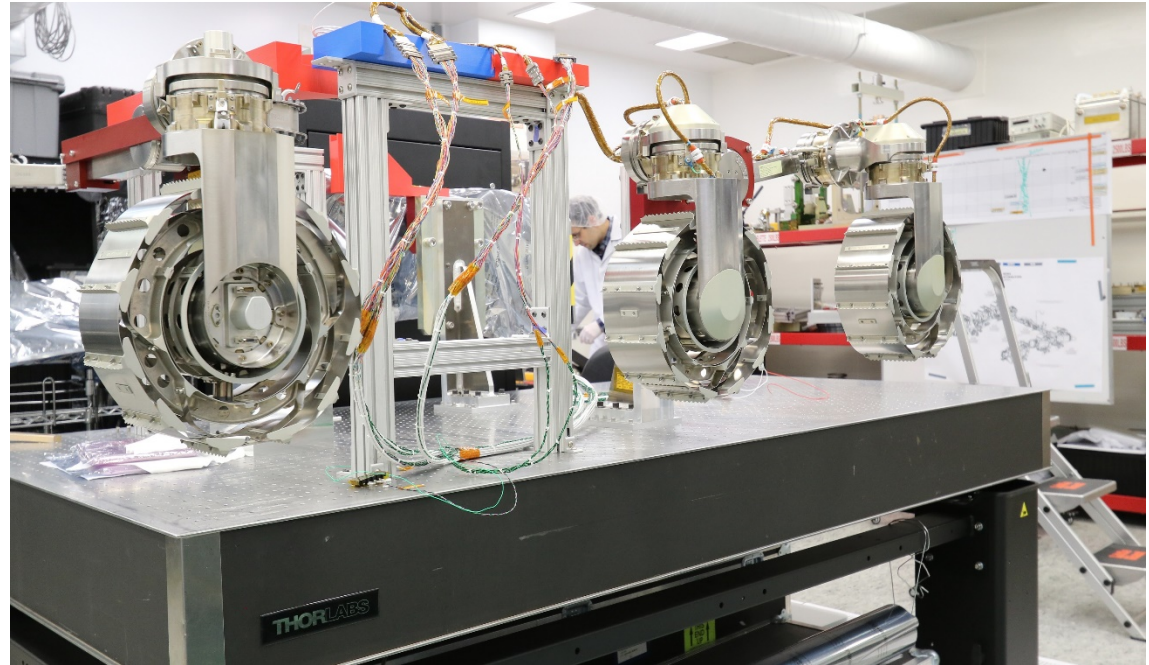


# Rover Chassis testing and the flight hardware



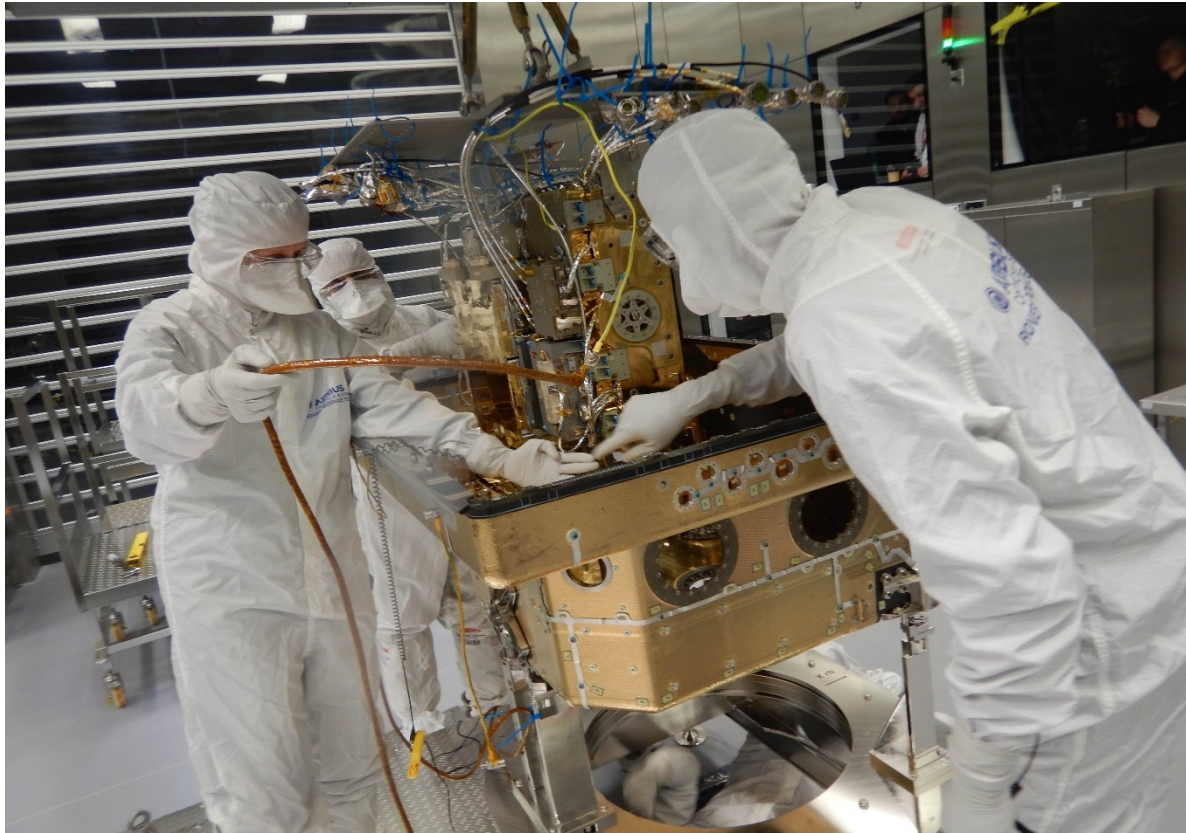
Rover chassis testing credit:  
RUAG-CH facilities

ESA UNCLASSIFIED - For Official Use



Rover Chassis Flight Model  
Credit: MDA-Canada

Slide 37



Rover service module  
integration  
within the flight  
model bathtub

Credit: Airbus Defence  
& Space

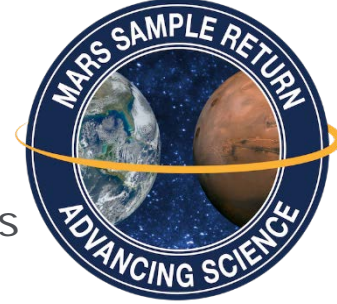


# The First Round Trip to the surface of Mars

## *Robotic Mars Sample Return*



# International Science Case for MSR published



Meteoritics & Planetary Science 54, Nr S1, S3-S152 (2019)  
doi: 10.1111/maps.13242

## The potential science and engineering value of samples delivered to Earth by Mars sample return

International MSR Objectives and Samples Team (iMOST)

D. W. BEATY, M. M. GRADY, H. Y. McSWEEN, E. SEFTON-NASH, B. L. CARRIER, F. ALTIERI, Y. AMELIN, E. AMMANNITO, M. ANAND, L. G. BENNING, J. L. BISHOP, L. E. BORG, D. BOUCHER, J. R. BRUCATO, H. BUSEMANN, K. A. CAMPBELL, A. D. CZAJA, V. DEBAILLE, D. J. DES MARAIS, M. DIXON, B. L. EHLMANN, J. D. FARMER, D. C. FERNANDEZ-REMOLAR, J. FILIBERTO, J. FOGARTY, D. P. GLAVIN, Y. S. GOREVA, L. J. HALLIS, A. D. HARRINGTON, E. M. HAUSRATH, C. D. K. HERD, B. HORGAN, M. HUMAYUN, T. KLEINE, J. KLEINHENZ, R. MACKELPRANG, N. MANGOLD, L. E. MAYHEW, J. T. McCOY, F. M. McCUBBIN, S. M. McLENNAN, D. E. MOSER, F. MOYNIER, J. F. MUSTARD, P. B. NILES, G. G. ORI, F. RAULIN, P. RETTBERG, M. A. RUCKER, N. SCHMITZ, S. P. SCHWENZER, M. A. SEPTON, R. SHAHEEN, Z. D. SHARP, D. L. SHUSTER, S. SILJESTRÖM, C. L. SMITH, J. A. SPRY, A. STEELE, T. D. SWINDLE, I. L. TEN KATE, N. J. TOSCA, T. USUI, M. J. VAN KRANENDONK, M. WADHWA, B. P. WEISS, S. C. WERNER, F. WESTALL, R. M. WHEELER, J. ZIPFEL, and M. P. ZORZANO

**Executive Summary:** <https://doi.org/10.1111/maps.13232>

**Full Report:** <https://doi.org/10.1111/maps.13242>

**iMOST co-chairs:** Monica Grady (Open University, UK), David Beaty (JPL), Hap McSween (U. of Tennessee), Elliot Sefton-Nash (ESA).

- Structure of MSR scientific objectives defined
  - 7 primary objectives
  - 2 have detailed sub-goals (geology, life)
- Major effort to validate with large community
  - 71 co-authors (32 in ESA states, yellow)
  - Presentation and community feedback at 4 major science conferences
  - 31 reviewers
- Massive effort to review all relevant published literature





# Mars Sample Return Campaign



Mars 2020  
Rover



Sample Return  
Lander

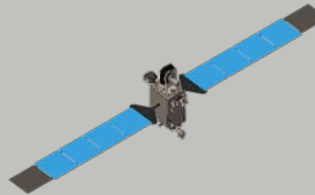


Science Facilities



International

Earth Return Orbiter





## *Technology*

- Propulsion
- Energy
- Life Support
- Autonomy/Navigation/Artificial Intelligence
- In Situ Resources
- Radiation protection and mitigation

## *System Studies*

- Main focus: robotic + human lunar



# Main contents of E3P Period 2



| Activity               | Main actions  |
|------------------------|---|
| SciSpacE               | - ISS science; non-ISS science; start of Gateway science  |
| CS#1 Humans in LEO     | - Columbus 2030 (modernisation project)<br>- Astronaut missions in 2020/21/22<br>- Business in Space Growth Network                                     |
| CS#2 Humans Beyond LEO | - ESM batch procurement (3+4; protect 5+6)<br>- ESPRIT (refuelling, telecoms and science module)<br>- I-Hab (crew module with JAXA/CSA/NASA)            |
| CS#3 Lunar robotic     | - Missions of Opportunity (tech/science on 3 <sup>rd</sup> party international and commercial missions)<br>- Preparation for major European-led mission |
| CS#4 Mars robotic      | - Completion of ExoMars<br>- MSR Sample Fetch Rover<br>- MSR Earth Return Orbiter   |
| ExPeRT                 | - Mid-TRL exploration technology + mission studies  |

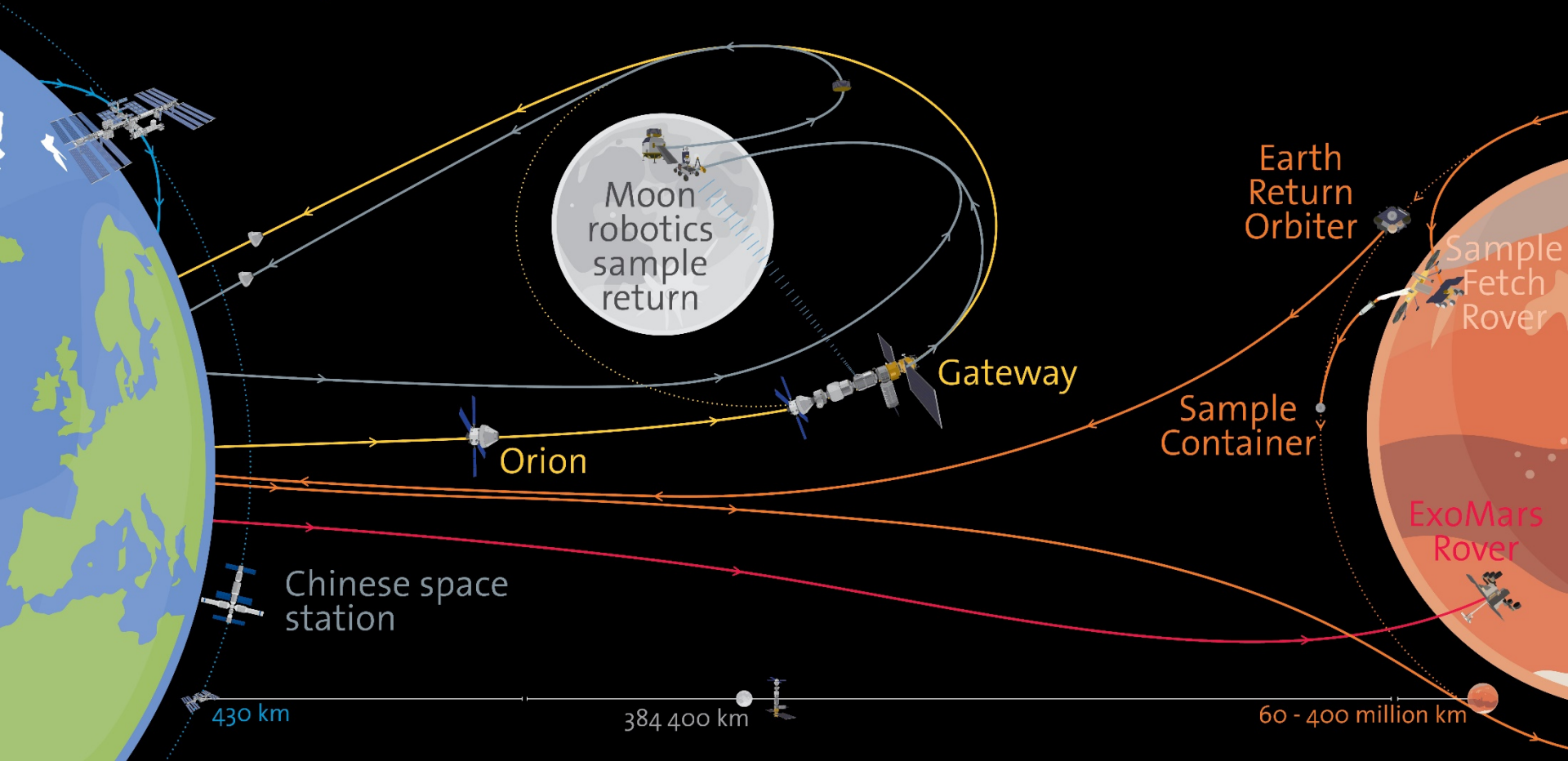


Cornerstone 1  
International  
Space Station

Cornerstone 2  
Gateway

Cornerstone 3  
Opportunity  
missions

Cornerstone 4  
Mars Sample Return  
ExoMars



# Tomorrow's headlines ?



*... First European en route to the Moon ...*

*... First lunar internet service operational ...*

*... First proof that explorers can 'live off the land' using off-world resources ...*

*... First round-trip mission to surface of Mars underway*

*...*



Space19 



European Space Agency