



EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE SPACE SECTOR XIX

YOUNG SPACE: WHEN CHILDREN, TEENAGERS, AND YOUNG ADULTS REACH FOR THE STARS

Thursday 13 November 2025, 11:00-12:30 CET
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EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE SPACE SECTOR, NEW TRENDS, PARTNERSHIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Programme 13 November 2025 (moderated discussion with participating partners):

Introduction and moderation by Margarita Chrysaki, NEREUS
Communication & Project officer (5 min);

- “A new era. A new generation. The aerospace generation.” by Nils Waldmann, Office of the Aerospace Strategy of Baden-Württemberg – THE aerospace LÄND, Office hosted by Forum Luft- und Raumfahrt Baden-Württemberg e.V.
- “Your future in Space” by Gennaro Russo, Ph.D., Senior Manager, Campanian Aerospace Technology District

Moderated discussion (15 min)

Discussion & QnA

Closing

About: The 19th edition of the NEREUS infosession on education and training in the space sector will focus on the next generation on how to inspire, engage, and empower children, teenagers, and young adults to pursue space-related careers.

Target group: Universities/research centres which are NEREUS-Associate members, Universities based in NEREUS-members regions, other Universities interested in education/training, cooperation partners, NEREUS-regions who hosted the EO4GEO workshops in the past, all NEREUS-members interested in the education/training regarding the use of space technologies;

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE SPACE SECTOR, NEW TRENDS, PARTNERSHIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

About: The 19th edition of the NEREUS infosession on education and training in the space sector will focus on the next generation on how to inspire, engage, and empower children, teenagers, and young adults to pursue space-related careers. Through presentations and discussion, the session will explore how youth across Europe connect with space through student initiatives, competitions, and educational programmes. It will highlight concrete examples from regional and national strategies that actively support young people's involvement in space, showcasing how regions can serve as enablers of innovation, curiosity, and long-term commitment to the space domain.

Based on insights of a field research conducted as part of a Master's thesis in European Ethnology at the University of Würzburg, which involved accompanying a student space association in Franconia, Bavaria region, and drawing from practical experience within the framework of the Aerospace Strategy of Baden-Württemberg region, the speaker will share perspectives on youth engagement in the space sector. As part of this strategy, collaboration with student associations such as KSat, HyEnD, and SeeSat has played a key role in supporting and showcasing student-led initiatives in aerospace. The speaker will provide a practical perspective on supporting youth through strategic initiatives, such as Mission Zukunft: On To New Horizons.

The session will conclude with a discussion on how to strengthen youth participation in the space ecosystem from early education and regional initiatives to European programmes underlining that while funding is vital, fostering purpose, mentorship, and community is what truly sustains.

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The webinars have the overall objective to bring together the university community of the Network and partners of the network interested in education/training, capacity building skills development, create new opportunities for partnerships and set the frame for new ways of cooperation, create opportunities to better partner and network Associate partners with regional stakeholders but also to reach out to new organisations. The webinar aims at:

- Introducing new education players who recently joined the platform and other key stakeholders in the area of education/training;
- Enhancing collaboration amongst the universities/research centres presented present (?) on the platform but also to reach out to new players outside the Network;
- Identifying strengths/areas to cooperate with each other;
- Presenting major university related-projects and partnerships: a) the Erasmus+ EU education/training initiative, Universeh, an alliance of five young and mature universities from five European countries; (Please note, in case you wish to present an initiative of your region or organisation to the network community, please contact the secretariat.)
- Presenting and discussing on new funding opportunities/programmes;

Background:

The role of the education/training sector is crucial for the development of regional economy and growth. New skills and interdisciplinary knowledge is needed given challenges, such as unemployment, digitalisation, green transition, etc. The growing role of the space sector can provide solutions to a wide range of regional domains including agriculture, maritime activities, urban planning, air quality, climate adaptation, sustainable development.

These info sessions will introduce the key education players in the area of space and explore potential partnerships within but also outside the Network. In addition, new education/training trends on the uptake and integration of space/geospatial data and services will be presented

Education/training is also considered a key topic for regional strategies and future needs in space products and experts for the public and private sector at a local and regional level. NEREUS is a European network of regions, currently comprised of 23 Member regions and 38 Associate members (including universities) and its role is also to update members and participate in the development of an appropriate educational framework that will support regional growth and development.