



Press Release

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CNES at the 2019 International Paris Air Show An exceptional opening day

The 53rd International Paris Air Show at Le Bourget opened its doors today. CNES is showcasing France's space activities in its retro-futuristic public pavilion in front of the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace, at the foot of the Ariane 5 mock-up.

For CNES, the day focused resolutely on actions to tackle climate change, one of the key challenges of the 21st century. At the One Planet Summit organized by France in 2017, CNES put forward a proposal to set up a Space Climate Observatory (SCO) federating the resources of the world's space agencies, national weather services and research organizations to better gauge and visualize the impacts of climate change while giving decision-makers tools for diagnosis and action. Besides the SCO, CNES is also involved in numerous space projects studying the Earth system. Today was marked in particular by the signing of the Joint Declaration of Interest on the SCO by more than 20 heads of space agencies.

Pick of the day

CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall accompanied the presidential delegation for the opening of the show, presenting the CNES pavilion to President Emmanuel Macron and Florence Parly, the Minister for Armed Forces, as well as the four six-metre-high LED screens and mock-ups of the Prometheus engine, the MicroCarb satellite and Ariane 6's ELA4 launch pad. Next to the mock-up of the SuperCam instrument, he emphasized the excellent cooperation between France and the United States, notably in the domain of space exploration, alongside NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine. He also underlined how the agency is leading the way with the latest innovations in miniaturization, standardization and digitization of satellites in the fields of Earth observation, telecommunications, defence and space exploration. President Macron then officially launched the SCO in the CNES pavilion in the presence of the heads of space agencies.

Today's news

CNES and the United Arab Emirates Space Agency (UAESA) signed an agreement concerning a hyperspectral Earth-observation mission. Space cooperation between France and the UAE has been prolific and diverse in recent years, encompassing commercial, strategic and institutional areas. This cooperation is focused in particular on climate actions, where the two nations are playing a leading role as evidenced at the One Planet Summit and by their efforts setting up the Space Climate Observatory (SCO).

French astrophysicist Sylvestre Maurice presented Thomas Pesquet with the small Mars meteorite found in the Sahara Desert, a rock that Thomas Pesquet had previously taken with him during his six-month stay aboard the International Space Station (ISS) and will be taking again on his second flight.

CNES and Portugal Space, the Portuguese space agency, signed a cooperation agreement on launcher expertise, Earth-observation data, NewSpace and nanosatellites, the first between the two agencies since Portugal Space's inception in March 2019.

The Global Space in Toulouse event was officially presented. This international event dedicated to space, put together in partnership with the entire space sector, aims to federate through innovative tools, provide a platform for the latest innovations and technologies, and bring new partners together. It will be held at Toulouse Métropole's new Parc des Expositions exhibition centre.

Coming up tomorrow

- 09:00 – Agreement on CFOSat with CNSA and Eumetsat | [CNES Chalet](#)
- 10:00 – Roundtable on space exploration with space agency representatives | [CNES Chalet](#) (**accreditation required**)
- 11:45 – Signing of agreement with the Occitanie Regional Council to develop regional space applications | [CNES Chalet](#)
- 15:00 – CNES-DLR roundtable on mobility | [CNES Chalet](#)
- 15:15 – Ceremony announcing winners of the Generation ISS competition with Frédérique Vidal, Minister for Higher Education, Research and Innovation, and Thomas Pesquet | [CNES Pavilion](#)
- 15:45 – Presentation of Kineis | [CNES Chalet](#)

Conference programme for Tuesday 18 June – Space applications and defence

- 10:00 – GNSS benefiting rail transport and agriculture
- 11:00 – CSO: military eyes in the sky
- 11:45 – ‘Let’s meet Space Start-ups’ pitches
- 13:30 – Spacecraft engineering and technologies
- 15:45 – Kineis: French NewSpace meets the Internet of Things
- 16:15 – Universal access to healthcare everywhere

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