



# UNISPACE+50

18 – 21 June 2018

## Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), in its role of the gateway to space in the United Nations system, has fostered international cooperation in outer space since its very beginning and has served as a driver towards more effective space governance. In this context since 1968, the United Nations and the international community have gathered for three United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space held in 1968, 1982 and 1999 with the aim to analyze the practical benefits of utilizing outer space for the very functioning of our society and for bettering the lives of humankind worldwide.

In their capacity of platforms for exchanging views and ideas on space exploration and practical applications of space technologies as well as forums to foster international cooperation, the implementation of the outcomes and decisions from the UNISPACE conferences have succeeded in delivering a wide range of economic, social and technological benefits to humankind. Building upon the success of the past three conferences, there is an urgent need to look back on the last 50 years of space exploration, science and innovation and to address the dynamics and evolution of the recent years to facilitate cooperation among states and other actors in the space domain, with the aim to preserve outer space utilization for peaceful purposes and protect space as a “global commons”.

In order to address the increasing complexity of the space domain, the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) has mandated UNOOSA to organize a milestone event UNISPACE+50. UNISPACE+50 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held in 1968. UNISPACE+50 is a timely opportunity to discuss the future of the space domain in regards to the dynamics of the past decades and the challenges to international cooperation, sustainability, safety and security of outer space, stemming from the evolution of the sector in the sixty years of the space age.

The whole process of UNISPACE+50 coincides with the ever growing importance of space for humankind and its applicability to efforts, goals and targets of three main international frameworks: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

UNISPACE+50 will be held from 18 to 21 June 2018 on the premises of the Vienna International Centre (VIC) in Vienna, Austria and is split up into the following events:

- **UNISPACE+50 Symposium** held from 18 to 19 June 2018

The symposium will feature exciting talks from a wide range of experts from space agencies, who will address the role of space science and technology in fostering global development and cooperation, and how space is generating innovation and new opportunities for society. The Symposium will be split into special sessions dedicated to debate the role of women, youth, industry, and civil society in the space sector.

- **High-level Segment** held on 20 to 21 June 2018

The High-level part will be held as a special segment of the 61st session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and will be open to all Member States of the United Nations, with an address by United Nations Champion for Space Scott Kelly, the adoption of the UNISPACE+50 resolution, and statements by United Nations Member States.

- **UNISPACE+50 Exhibition**

To celebrate UNISPACE+50, the first such event of the 21st Century, an exhibition will open at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) from 18 to 23 June 2018. The exhibition aims to increase awareness and understanding of the work of the COPUOS, UNOOSA as well as its partners, including Member States, and the private sector.