

SPACE + Crete

CRETAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN EMERGING SPACE TECHNOLOGIES

INFO DAY

FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 2026 + FORTH, HERAKLION

AT A GLANCE

Key details

TIME	10:00 – 19:00 (EEST)
VENUE	FORTH — Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas N. Plastira 100, Vassilika Vouton, GR-700 13 Heraklion, Crete <i>FORTH Auditorium [Innovation and Advanced Training Hub – New Building]</i>
REGISTRATION	space-crete.eu

PROGRAMME

Agenda

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
OPENING & PROJECT OVERVIEW		
10:00 – 10:05	Welcome address	Prof. Vassilis Charmandaris <i>Chairman of the BoD, FORTH</i>
10:05 – 10:40	SPACE-Crete: Vision, structure and roadmap	Prof. Panagiotis Tsakalides <i>Project Coordinator, FORTH-ICS</i>
10:40 – 11:00	Industrial partner perspective: OHB-Hellas	Dr. Mathieu Bernou <i>CTO & Managing Director, OHB-Hellas</i>
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break & networking</i>	
ADVANCED PARTNERS & EUROPEAN ECOSYSTEM		
11:30 – 11:40	Private sponsor perspective: MOH	Nikolaos Giannakakis <i>CIO, Motor Oil Hellas</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Advanced partner perspective: CEA	Dr. Michel Berthé <i>DRF/IRFU, Dépt. d'Astrophysique, CEA</i>
12:00 – 12:20	Advanced partner perspective: DLR	Dr. Jakob Buchheim <i>DLR, Germany</i>
12:20 – 12:50	ESA BIC Greece: Support for space entrepreneurship	Dr. Jorge-A. Sanchez-P. <i>ESA BIC Greece</i>
12:50 – 14:00	<i>Lunch break & networking</i>	

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
THEMATIC SESSIONS		
14:00 – 14:45	Session 1 — Earth Observation & Artificial Intelligence	Prof. Grigorios Tsagkatakis FORTH-ICS / University of Crete Dr. Charalampos Kontoes National Observatory of Athens Dr. Nektarios Chrysoulakis FORTH-IACM Betty Charalampopoulou Geosystems Hellas
14:45 – 15:00	Break	
15:00 – 15:45	Session 2 — Optical/Quantum Sensing and Communications	Dr. Wolf von Klitzing FORTH-IESL Prof. Dimitris Papazoglou FORTH-IESL / University of Crete Dr. Thorsten Siebert IOF-Fraunhofer, Germany Amita Shrestha DLR, Germany
15:45 – 16:00	Break	
16:00 – 16:45	Session 3 — Funding Opportunities in Space	Vagia Piteli PRAXI Network Roula Bachtalia Head of Venture Banking Eurobank Dr. Olympia Karadima Business Development Manager-Space EFA Group
CLOSING & NETWORKING		
16:45 – 17:00	Closing remarks & next steps	Prof. Panagiotis Tsakalides Project Coordinator, FORTH-ICS
17:00 – 19:00	Evening reception (light drinks & bites)	

BEFORE YOU COME

Practical information

VENUE

FORTH, Vassilika Vouton — about 15 minutes by taxi from Heraklion city centre, 20 from the airport (HER). City buses to the Voutes / PAGNI campus stop beside FORTH.

CATERING

Complimentary coffee breaks, lunch, and evening reception drinks for all registered participants.

ACCESSIBILITY

The venue is wheelchair accessible. Please contact the organisers in advance for any specific access requirements.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs and video may be taken for dissemination purposes. Participants who prefer not to appear should inform the organisers on arrival.

CONSORTIUM



SPACE-Crete is co-funded by the European Union under Horizon Europe (HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-ACCESS-01-01, Teaming for Excellence). Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the granting authority.