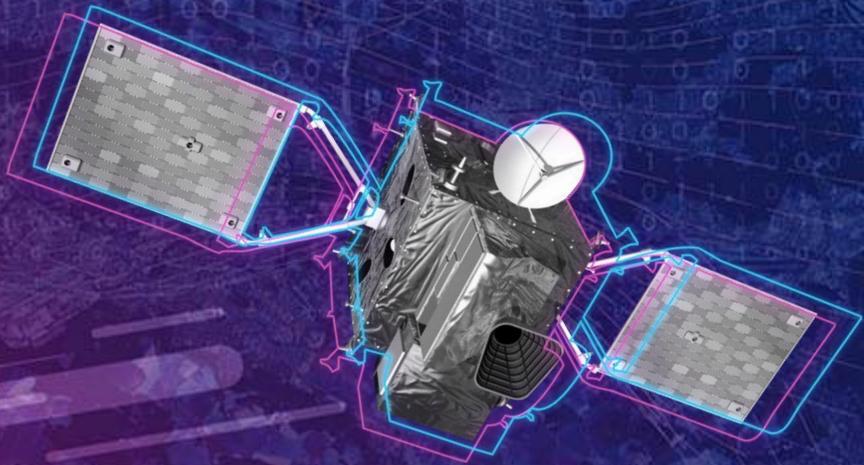




**CASSINI #EUSpace**

**Space Entrepreneurship Initiative**



Peter Vaník  
*EUSPA Market, Downstream and Innovation external consultant*  
26 September 2025

# Finland and EU Space

## COUNTRY PROFILE

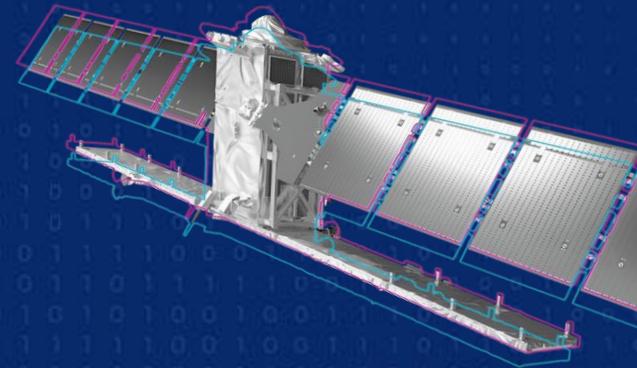
### + Finland FI

📁 EUSPA funded projects:	34 project(s)	€6.11M
↳ Horizon Europe	11 project(s)	€4.48M
↳ Horizon 2020	6 project(s)	€1.17M
↳ Fundamental Elements	2 project(s)	€236.82K
↳ CASSINI Business Accelerator	2 project(s)	€150.00K
↳ CASSINI Challenges	3 project(s)	€60.00K
↳ CASSINI Hackathons	2 project(s)	€10.00K
↳ CASSINI Matchmaking	8 project(s)	€0.00
📊 Most funded segment:	🚀 Space	
🏠 National GDP	€241.37B (2024)	
👤 Population	5.621M (2024)	



# CASSINI is a €1 Bn initiative to support #EUSpace

## The EU Space Programme



EO programme looking at our planet



GNSS service for positioning & timing info



Boosts GNSS's performances in Europe



Ensure secure communication capabilities



Informs about use and hazards of space

## **CASSINI #EUSpace**

*€1 Bn EU initiative to support space start-ups & SMEs in 2021-2027*

*Covers the **full EU Space Programme**, from upstream tech to downstream applications*

# CASSINI has a direct impact on the #EUSpace ecosystem



**550+**

**founders supported  
along their journey**



**60+**

**VCs active in the  
CASSINI ecosystem**



**30+**

**leading corporates  
involved in CASSINI**



**€9.9+ Mn**

**direct CASSINI seed  
support awarded**



**€2.2+ Bn**

**private funding secured  
by portfolio companies**

*Figures as of February 2025*

# CASSINI portfolio companies cover the full space value chain

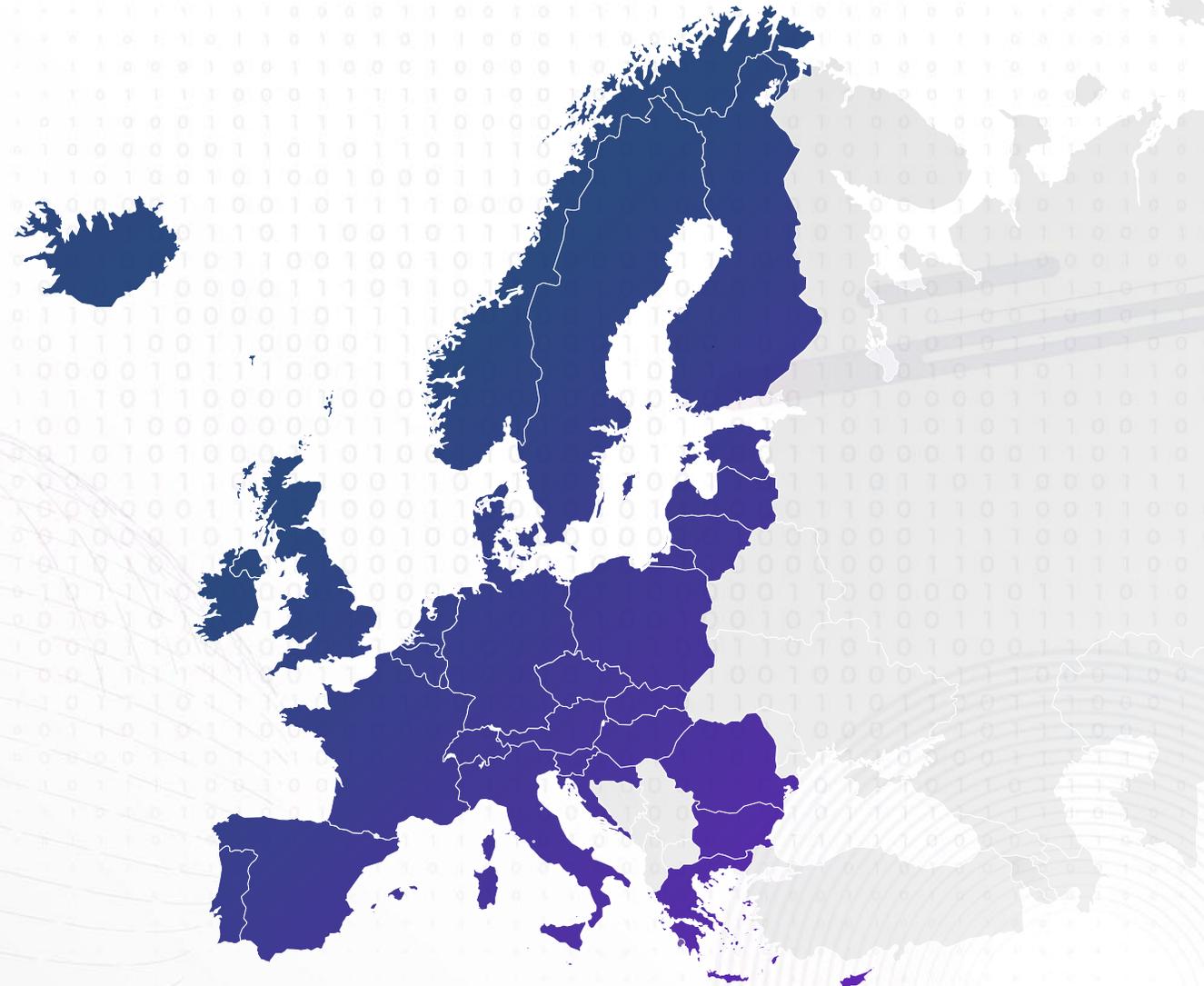
\*Selected companies



# CASSINI targets the commercialisation of space across Europe



CASSINI start-ups are present across the whole of Europe\*



\*Figures as of February 2025

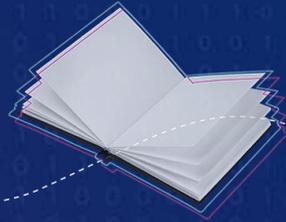
# CASSINI can count on a consolidated network of investors



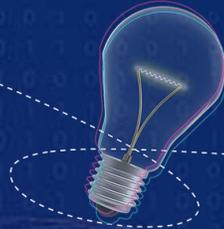
# CASSINI backs each stage of the space entrepreneurship journey



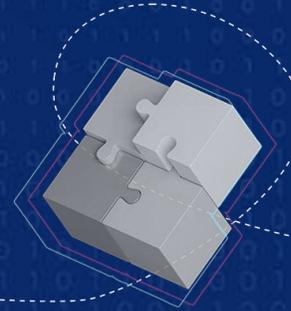
● Space Camps



● EU Space Academy



● Hackathons & Mentoring



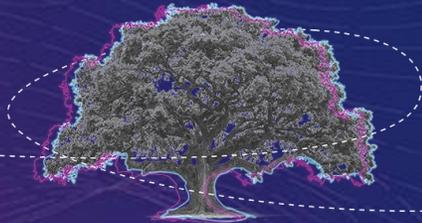
● Challenges



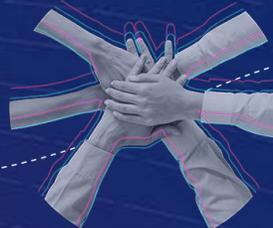
● Business Accelerator



● Matchmaking



● Investor Network



● Entrepreneurship Days

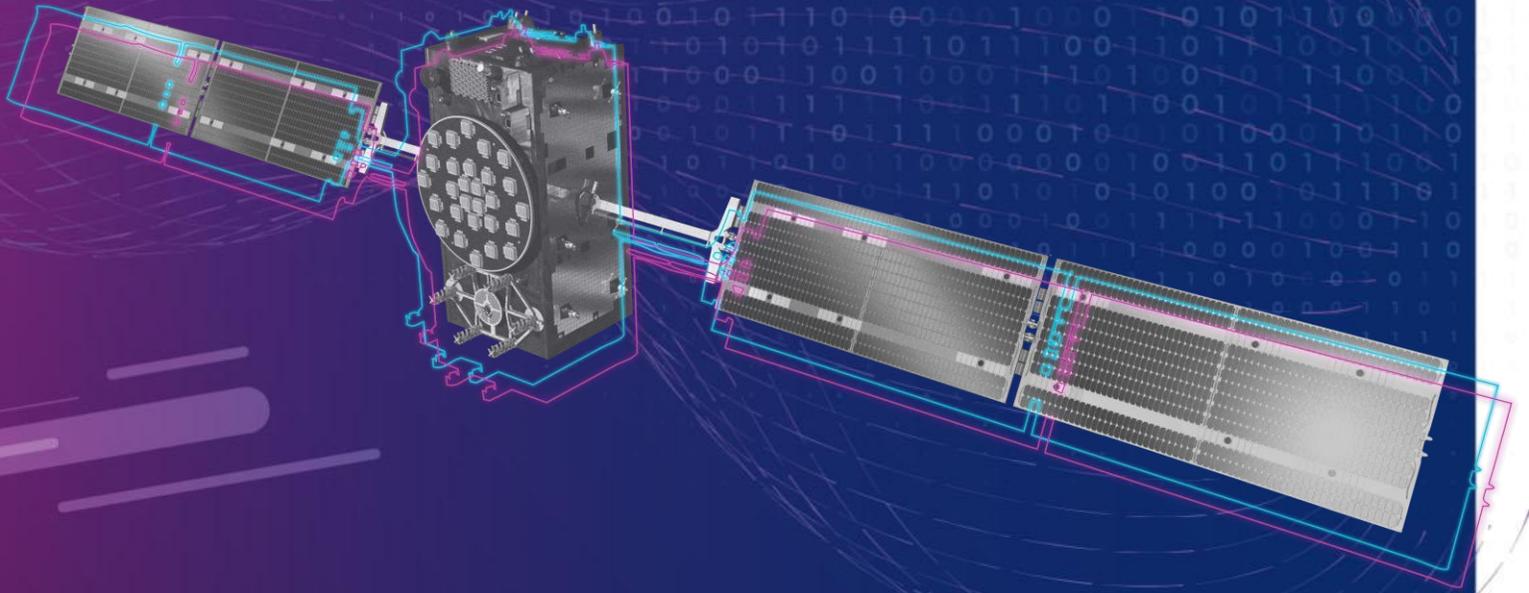


many other start-up & cross industry events in the EU





**CASSINI #EUSpace**



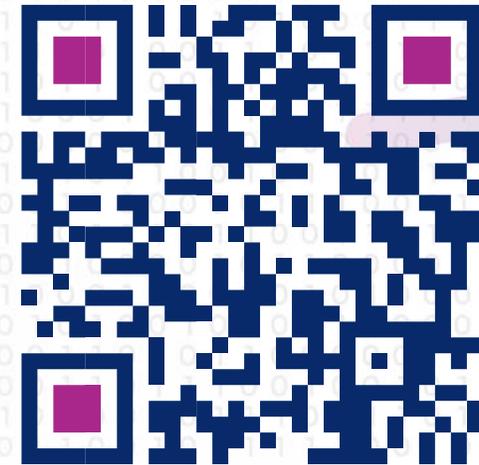
## Space Camps

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# CASSINI Space Camps 2025 – Pilot initiative



JOIN THE CAMPS



## Build your future with Space!

- Fostering the next generation of space entrepreneurs by providing early exposure to the **opportunities with space**
- A **dynamic training curricula** will enable space-for-Earth projects that will be presented at a final event
- Completing the CASSINI ecosystem with an **initiative focused on youth**



14 to 18-  
year-olds



20-35  
participants



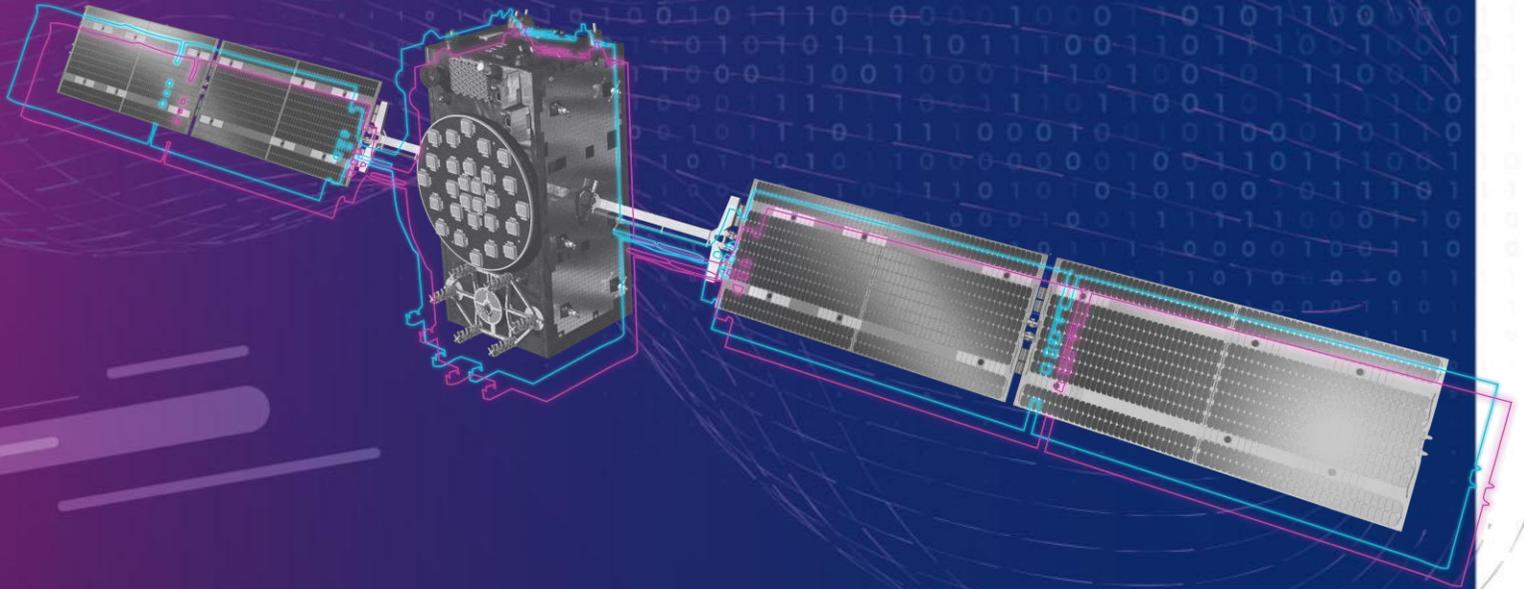
6 training  
modules



5 to 10-day  
duration

In up to 10 locations  
across the EU

 **CASSINI #EUSpace**



**EU Space  
Academy**

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# The EU Space Academy introduces innovators to #EUSpace



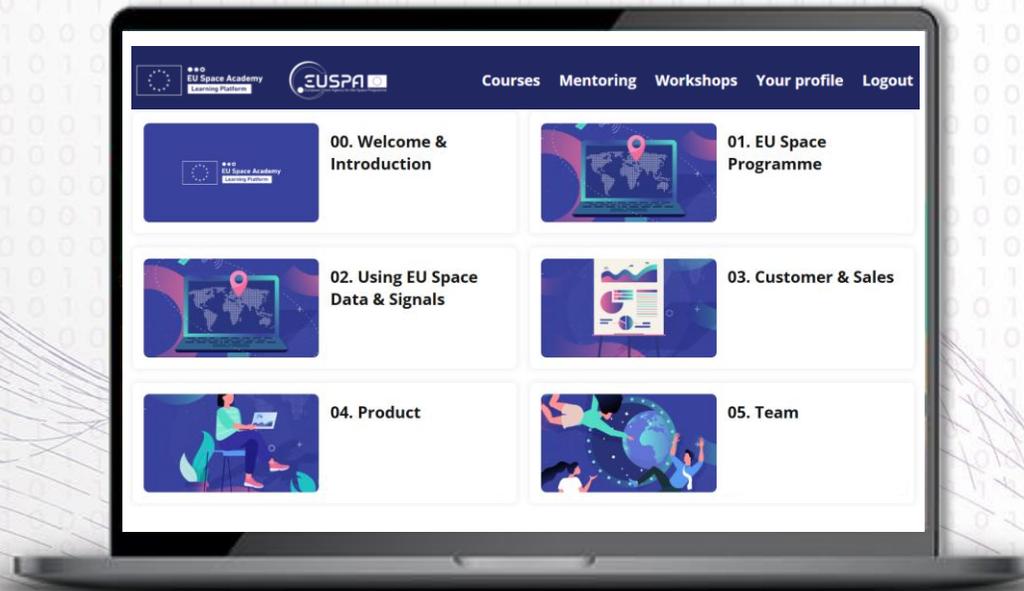
●\*○  
**EU Space Academy**  
**Learning Platform**

**Online learning platform** offering lectures, workshops, & 1-to-1 mentoring to #EUSpace innovators

**Raising awareness of #EUSpace opportunities,** fostering the commercial use of space technology

**Facilitating investment readiness** of enthusiasts & entrepreneurs entering the space industry

# All you need to know to start building your #EUSpace solution



START LEARNING



# The EU Space Academy is a reference for #EUSpace innovators



**2000+ & 250+**  
enthusiasts & start-ups  
joined the platform



**300+ hours**  
tailored 1-to-1  
mentoring sessions



**120+**  
lectures  
available online



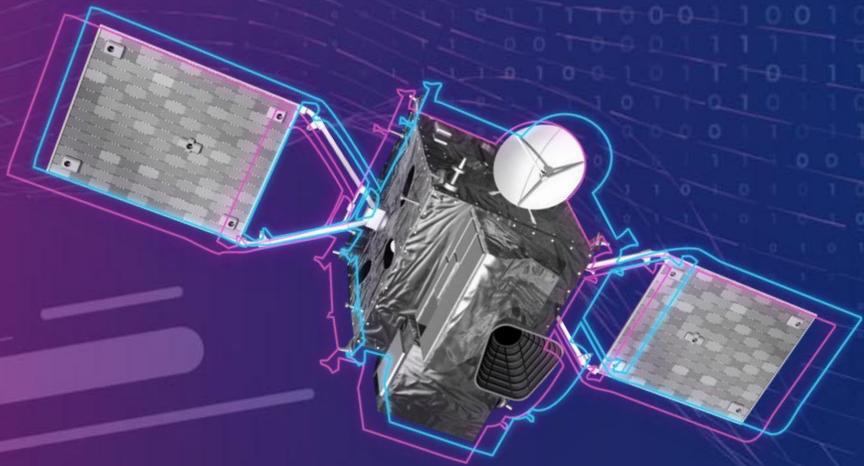
**30+**  
workshops  
held



**87%**  
satisfaction rate  
for the programme

Leading industry & academia players that provided their expertise





# **CASSINI Hackathons & Mentoring**

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# The CASSINI Hackathons foster #EUSpace data ideas



## **CASSINI #EUSpace** Hackathons & Mentoring

**Online competitions to foster #EUSpace data ideas that target high social impact business opportunities**

**Designed for students, researchers, & entrepreneurs who seek investors' visibility**

**Held twice a year since 2021 on variable themes addressing the EU sustainability & digitalisation goals**

# The Hackathons catalyse the creativity of #EUSpace innovators



**80**

**physical locations**  
across the whole EU



**3000+**

**individuals**  
participating



**700+**

**teams competing**  
with new ideas



**2400+**

**mentoring hours**  
for innovators



**6**

**teams incorporated**  
into companies

Companies that incorporated from Hackathon teams

Yolanda.ai



*Figures as of February 2025*

# 10<sup>th</sup> CASSINI Hackathon: EU Space for Consumer Experiences

 7-9 November 2025

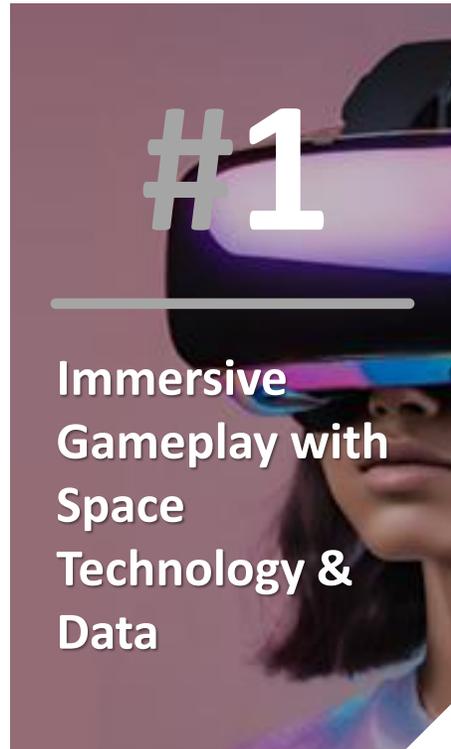
  Helsinki  
*and 9 other locations*



## #1

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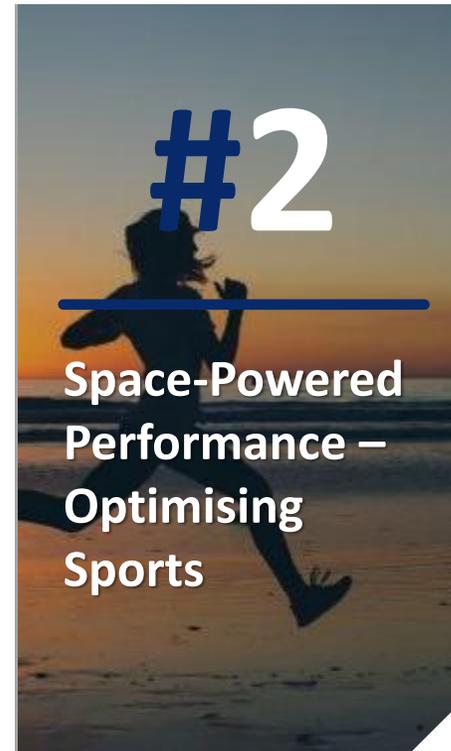
Immersive  
Gameplay with  
Space  
Technology &  
Data



## #2

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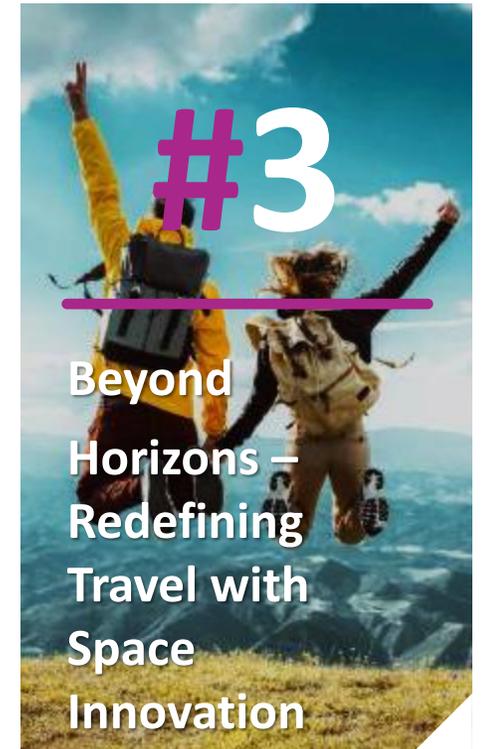
Space-Powered  
Performance –  
Optimising  
Sports

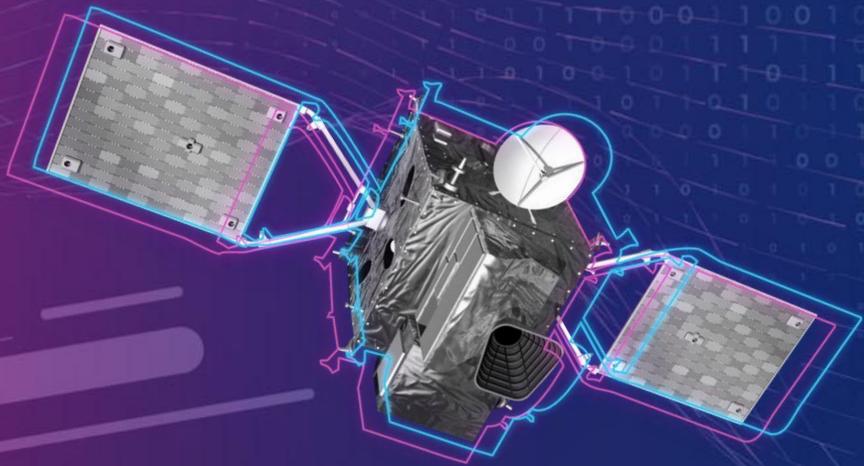


## #3

---

Beyond  
Horizons –  
Redefining  
Travel with  
Space  
Innovation





# CASSINI Challenges

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# Participate in the Challenges to kick-start your #EUSpace solution

## Make it with Space!

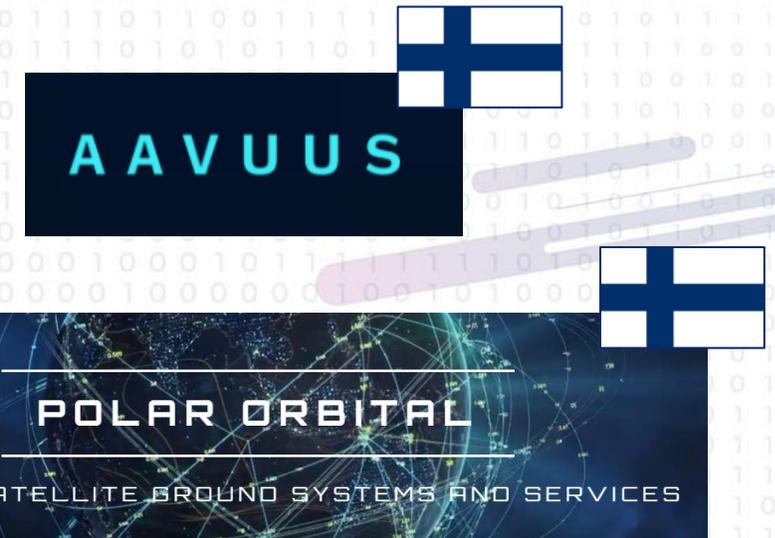
- To solve any problem on earth using space technology
- 3 unique tracks: **Idea**, **Prototype** and **Product**
- Solutions can employ all types of **EU Space data** from Galileo and Copernicus to SST, SSA and GovSatcom
- Enhance the competitiveness of the EU Space industry



€1.15 Mn prize  
money



32 prizes  
overall



Idea



Prototype



Product



# The Challenges supported many new commercial opportunities



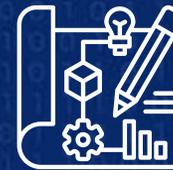
**1400+**  
total applicants for  
the competition



**€4.95 Mn & 180+**  
cash prize & teams  
awarded



**101**  
supported business  
ideas



**50**  
backed high-potential  
prototypes



**30**  
boosted commercial  
products

Winners of the previous product challenges

**INVOLI**

**al**  
astrolight

**REVOLV VALAR**

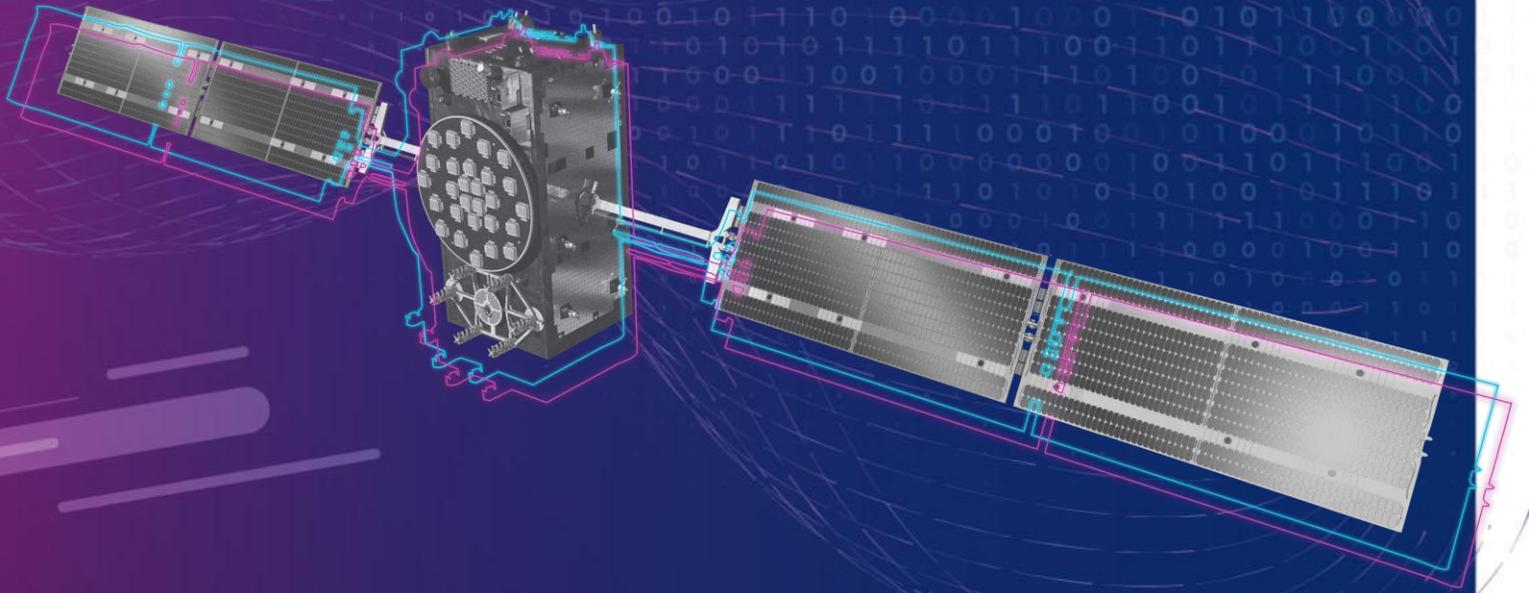
**WEAVAIR**

**SEQANA**

**SPACESHIP**

*Figures as of February 2025*

 **CASSINI #EUSpace**



# CASSINI Business Accelerator

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# The CASSINI Business Accelerator programme helps start-ups grow



**Acceleration programme offering coaching, training & events** to boost the commercial evolution of top space start-ups

Helps **participants developing sales and fundraising skills**, extending their network & accessing local stakeholders

**Tailored to space companies in growth stage** that have a product on the market & already achieved pre-commercial success



# The call for the next Business Accelerator Batch is open now

Batch 4

Finished

Batch 5

Ongoing

Batch 6

Apply now

Xentara

SPACE  
COMPOSITE STRUCTURES  
DENMARK

INFINITE ORBITS

dronetag

SpaceLocker  
Welcome to Orbit

WEVAIR

AISTECH  
access to intelligent space technologies

HIGHTEK

TALOS

Hydra Space  
ICI SATELLITE CONNECTIVITY

SENSAR

sternula

GERMAN  
ORBITAL SYSTEMS

ION-X  
UNLOCK YOUR ORBIT POTENTIAL

KERMAP

Aat

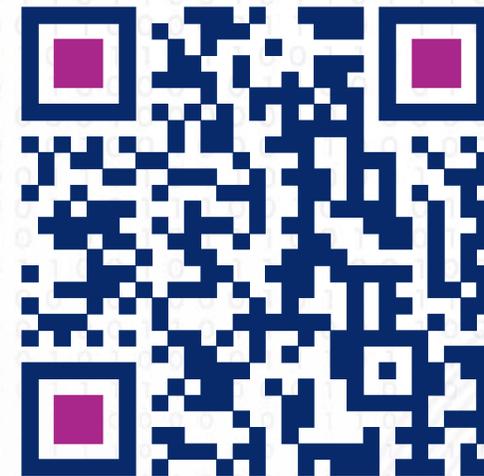
B2SPACE

REVOLV

2NDSpace

oledcomm

APPLY BY 30<sup>th</sup> SEPT



# The Business Accelerator facilitated companies generating revenue



**7800+ & 450+**  
sales leads & sales  
deals closed



**€62 Mn (33%)**  
revenue generated  
(new customers)



**€150+ Mn**  
private funding  
secured



**€42 Mn**  
public funding  
secured

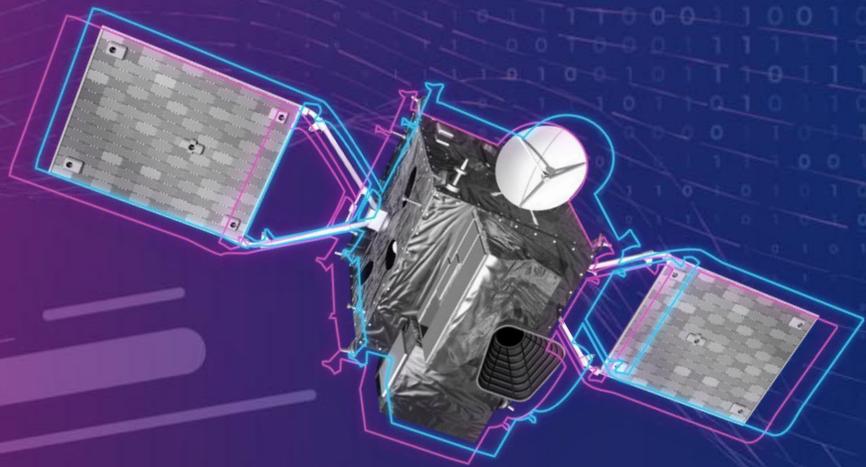


**450+ FTEs (24%)**  
new workforce  
created (female)

Some successful start-ups already part of the CASSINI Business Accelerator



*Figures as of February 2025*



# CASSINI Matchmaking

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# The CASSINI Matchmaking connects start-ups with new partners



**CASSINI #EUSpace**  
Matchmaking

**Dedicated events for connecting start-ups**, scaleup companies and SMEs to investors and corporates

**Start-ups receive pitch training, curated intros**, and 1-to-1 meetings, to help them secure funding & form partnerships

**Investors connect** with investment-ready companies & corporates can have early access to fresh tech inputs

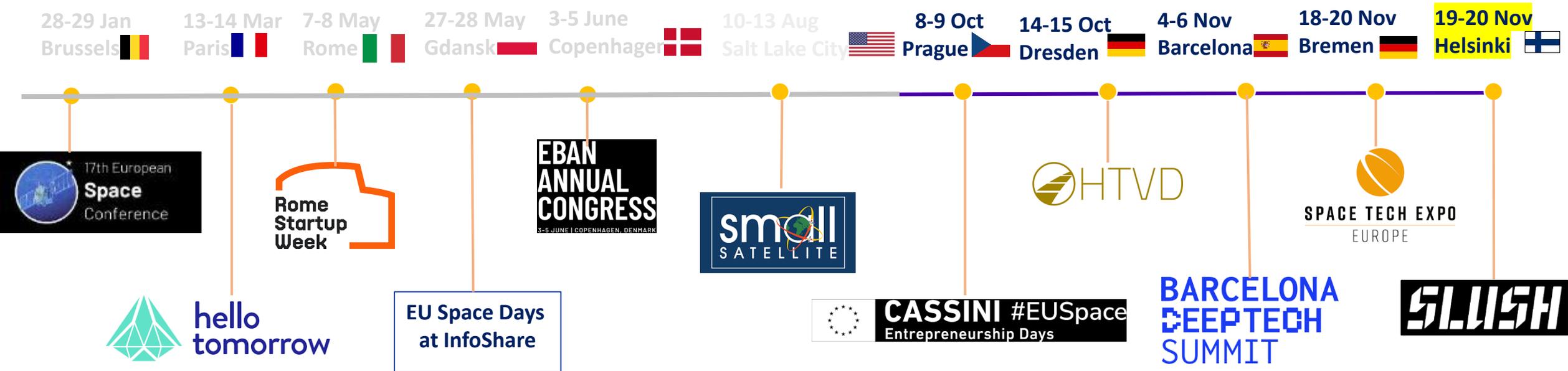
# CASSINI Matchmaking 2025

Start-ups receive pitch training, curated intros, and 1-to-1 meetings with investors and corporates to help them secure funding & form partnerships.

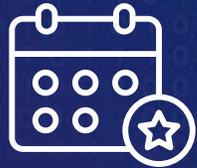
JOIN THE MATCHMAKING



## Matchmaking events in 2025



# The Matchmaking events spark business conversations



10

Matchmaking  
events per year



27

EU countries  
represented



300+

Start-up & SME  
attendees



300+

Investor &  
corporate attendees



900+

1-to-1 meetings at  
Matchmaking events

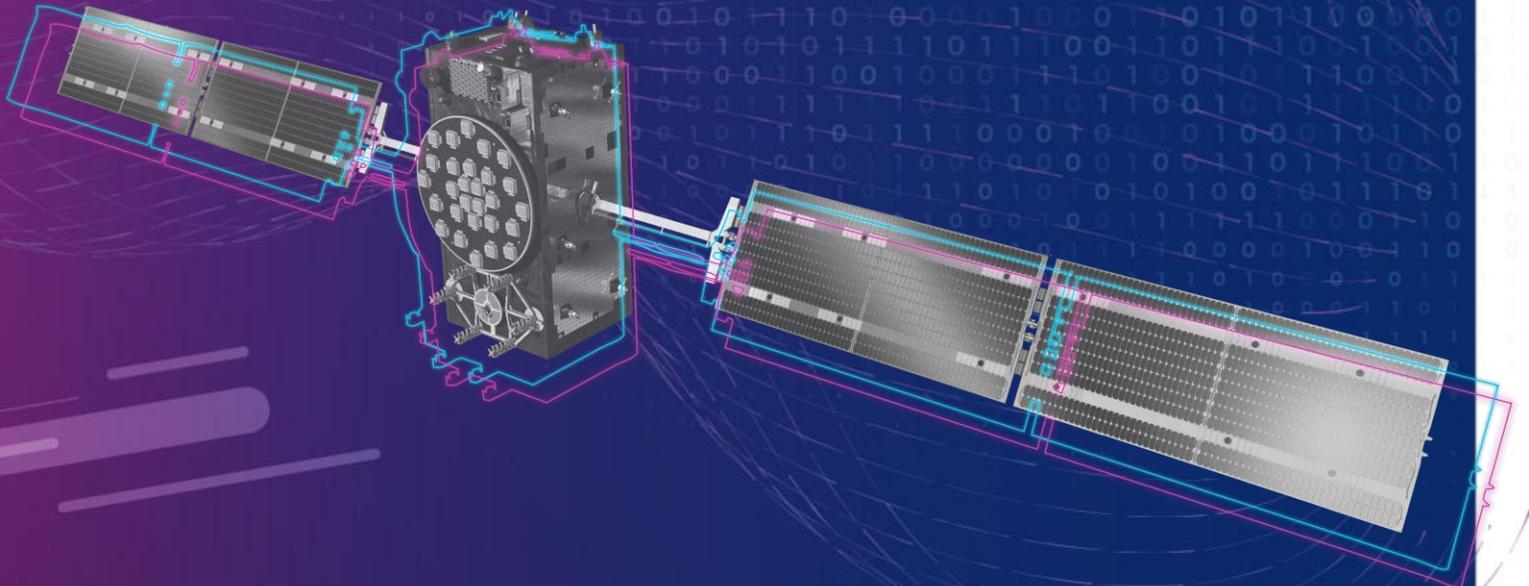
Leading investors that participated in the Matchmaking events



Figures as of February 2025



**CASSINI #EUSpace**



# CASSINI Investors

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# CASSINI Investor Network deploys up to €1 Bn risk capital



**CASSINI #EUSpace**  
Investor Network

The initiative **fosters investment into EU-based space companies**

Provides up to **€1 Bn risk capital** to VC funds

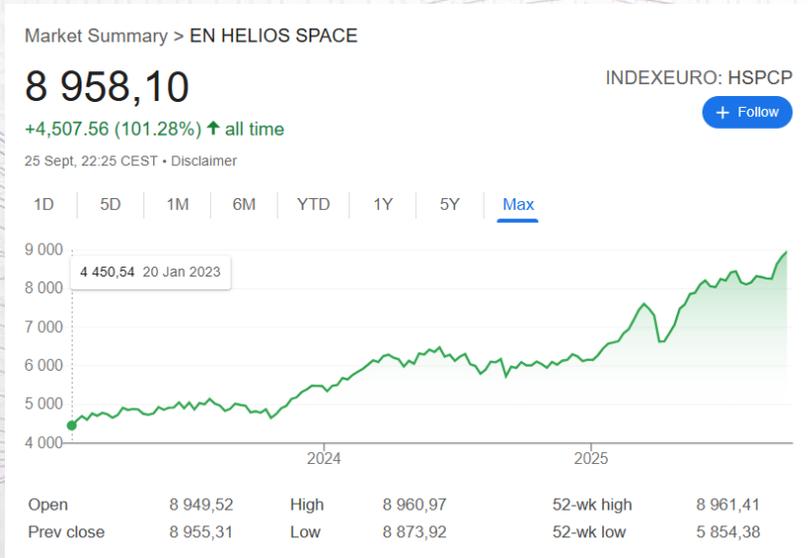
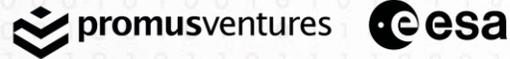
**Promotes #EUSpace business**, stimulating Family Office investments and institutional loans

# The HELIOS Space Stock Index tracks European space companies

Euronext®

Helios Space Index

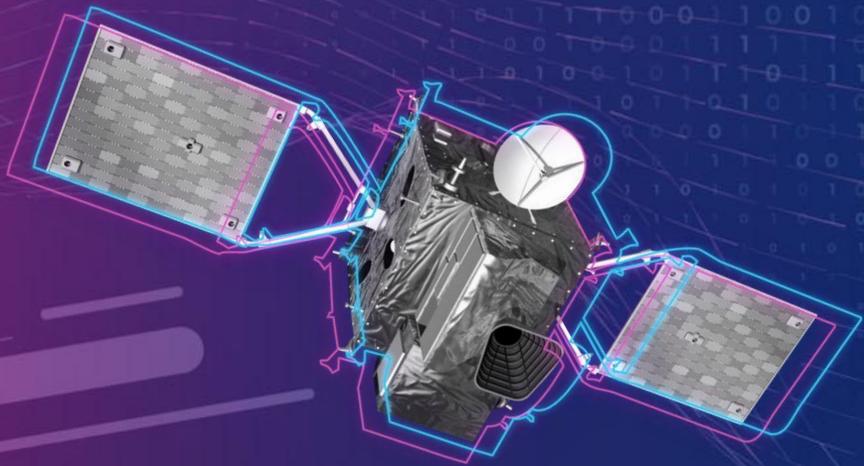
Euronext's first Space-oriented index



LEARN MORE



 **CASSINI #EUSpace**



# **CASSINI Entrepreneurship Days**

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**CASSINI #EUSpace**  
Entrepreneurship Days



# CASSINI

## Entrepreneurship Days 2025

8–9 October | Prague

**REGISTER NOW**



Registrations are now open

**100+**  
STARTUPS

**40+**  
INVESTORS

**400**  
PARTICIPANTS



### Discover the Future

Explore cutting-edge innovations at the intersection of **space and defense**



### Build Game-Changing Connections

**100+ startups | 40+ investors | Top industry leaders & policymakers**



### Accelerate Your Venture

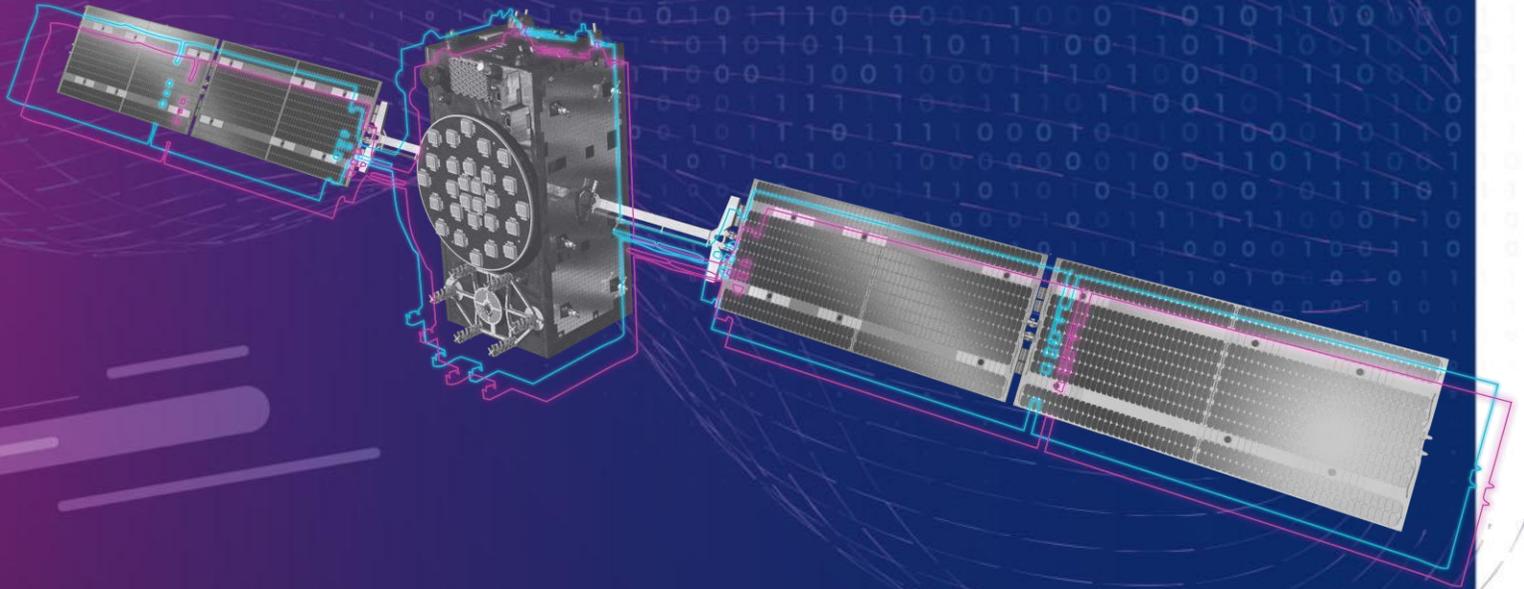
Pitch to top investors, join exclusive accelerators, and gain visibility



### Be Part of the Movement

Join a bold and fast-growing community reshaping the European space sector

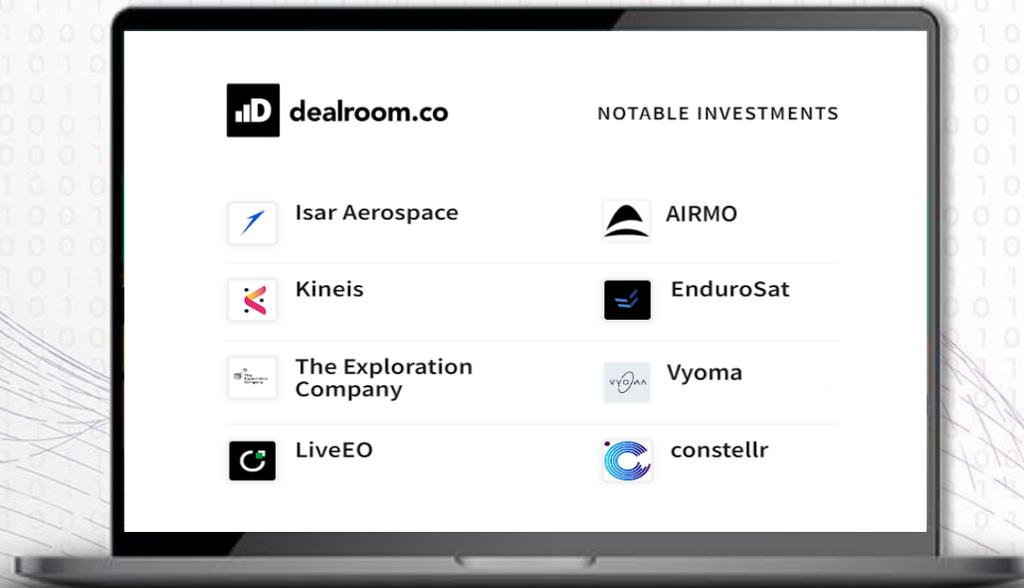




## Other CASSINI resources

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# dealroom.co gives access to investment data of CASSINI companies



ACCESS THE DATA



# Stay updated on the latest entrepreneurship opportunities

## Space Career Launchpad!

Find early career jobs, find talent

<https://starseu.net/spacecareer/>



## The CASSINI Newsletter

provides you monthly with a list of opportunities to expand your network

**SUBSCRIBE NOW**

