

# Latvian Space Office

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The Latvian Space Office is an entity in charge of a coordinated space policy development, administration of Latvia's associate membership in the European Space Agency and provision of support to the Latvian space industry and science.

It welcomes requests for information and support available to the national space sector stakeholders as well as queries on international cooperation with the Latvian space industry, science and governance.

The representatives of the Latvian Space Office:

**Kaspars Karolis - national space policy and European Space Agency.** [Kaspars.Karolis@izm.gov.lv](mailto:Kaspars.Karolis@izm.gov.lv)

**Angelina Bekasova - space economy, EU Space Programme and science communication.** [Angelina.Bekasova@em.gov.lv](mailto:Angelina.Bekasova@em.gov.lv)

**Dauids Stebelis - space industry relations and support.** [Dauids.Stebelis@msc-space.eu](mailto:Dauids.Stebelis@msc-space.eu)

**Pauls Irbins - outreach, education and governmental relations.** [Pauls.Irbins@latvija.space](mailto:Pauls.Irbins@latvija.space)

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**Kaspars Karolis** is Space Policy Senior Expert at the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Latvia and Head of the Latvian delegation to the European Space Agency.

He is the Latvian representative to the European Space Agency in:

- ESA Council
- ESA Requesting Party Activities Programme
- Programme Board on Space Situational Awareness
- Programme Board for Human Spaceflight, Microgravity and Exploration

Kaspars Karolis is the right contact person for information regarding Latvia's participation in the European Space Agency, the national space policy of Latvia and the history of its development and international cooperation projects.

**Angelina Bekasova** is Space and Innovation Policy Senior Expert at the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia and Director for International Relations and Industry Development at the Latvian Space Industry Association.

She is the Latvian delegate to the European Space Agency and the European Union Space Programme in the following roles:

European Space Agency:

- ESA Council
- International Relations Committee
- Advisory Communication Committee
- Programme Board for Earth Observation

European Union Space Programme:

- Committee – Horizontal Configuration
- Committee – Copernicus Configuration
- Copernicus User Forum
- Horizon Europe Cluster 4 (digital, industry & space)

She is also a Copernicus Relay representative on behalf of the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia.

Angelina Bekasova will be glad to respond to queries related to the space economy of Latvia, including the space ecosystem of Latvia, business environment and national and EU support mechanisms available for entities in Latvia. Additionally, she welcomes cooperation in outreach activities and international relations.

**Dauids Stebelis** is the founder of the Management Service Company (MSC) that specialises in innovation management and support. MSC implements the ESA service contract aimed to provide expertise and support to the Latvian space industry through the provision of information on ESA support opportunities available to Latvian entities, consulting on procurement processes and bidding to ESA programmes and fostering collaboration both within Latvia and internationally between Latvia and the

other ESA Member States.

He is a member of the ESA Technology Harmonisation Advisory Group.

Daivs Stebelis can be approached with requests for information on ESA opportunities and assistance in participation in ESA procurement programmes.

**Pauls Irbins** is the President of the Latvian Space Industry Association and the Director of the Space Education Centre in Cēsis, Latvia.

He is dedicated to developing the re-emerging space sector of Latvia and approaches this mission holistically: he assists the government of the Republic of Latvia in space policy making and implementation, cultivates kids' and their parents' curiosity and excitement for STEM, consults businesses on innovation, strategy and process optimisation and leads the creation of the Space Education Centre in Latvia - an ambitious project implemented in cooperation with Andøya Space (Norway) that is destined to boost fascination for space in Latvia and beyond.

Pauls Irbins was among those who set the Latvian space sector in motion more than a decade ago and is now a space activist and promoter of the knowledge economy in Latvia. In 2021, he was an ESA astronaut candidate.