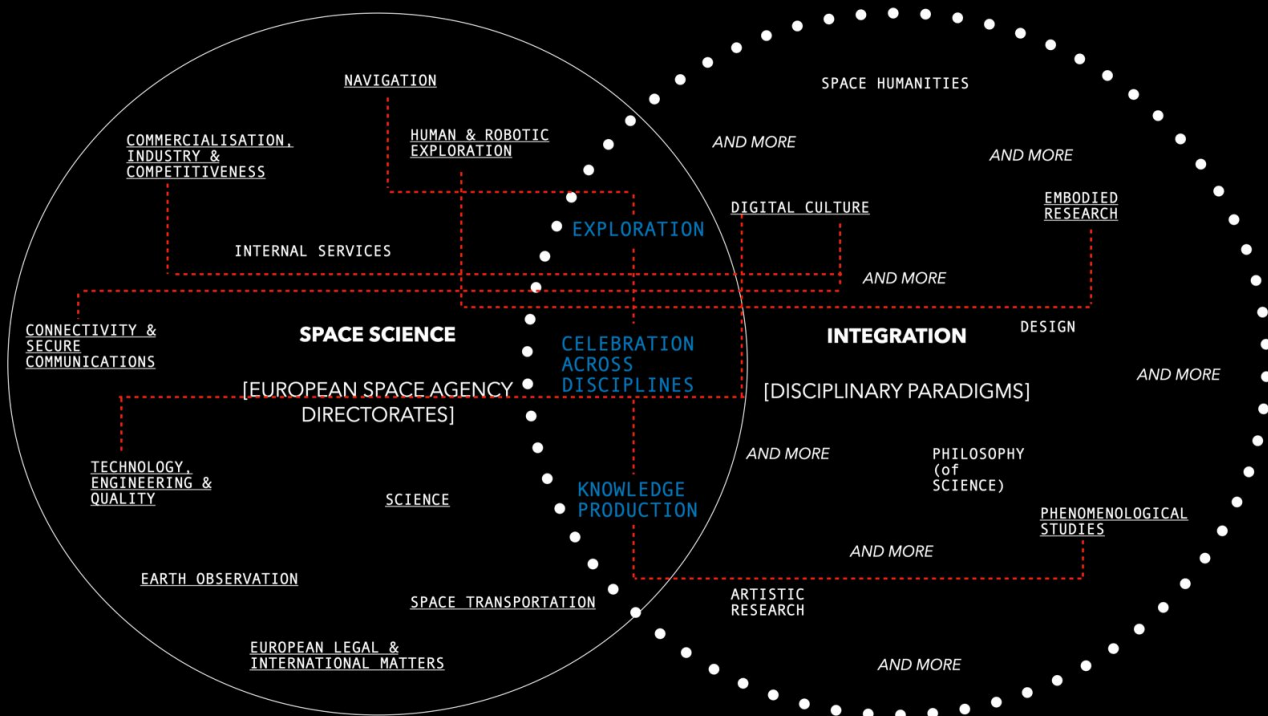


COSMIC INTEGRATIONALISTS

MANIFESTO



For centuries, humankind has questioned, imagined, explored, and navigated the mysteries of the cosmos within and beyond the limitations of our technological abilities, lying in the dimensions of our designed disciplines. Emerging from the paradigm of “*space as the enabler*”¹, addressing, disseminating, as well as “*expanding the frontiers of knowledge*” necessitates celebration of the harmony of knowledges, which can be achieved by facilitating the questioning, exploration, and navigation of the mysteries of cosmos through the lens of transdisciplinarity. Nicolescu’s vision manifests an imagine of a ‘disciplinary big bang’ in which transdisciplinarity exists between disciplines, across disciplines, and beyond disciplines”². Going beyond the human condition of conditioning, this manifesto proposes a paradigm/model of care that recognises the intentions/aims of the space sector integrating civil society and its contributions for societal development.

Harmony: Space is the symbol for the intrinsic human nature of the exploration of the unknown and unity. In Asimov’s words, “*There are no nations, there’s only humanity*”, space infrastructures like the ISS are the space-based representations of this cultural unification and human creativity across specialities and professions. Incorporating artistic research into the continual advancement of space science can anchor multifaceted and diversified networks that promote a transdisciplinary space sector in which artistic researchers collaborate and operate parallel with the space scientists. Systematic integration of programmes such as artist residencies can play an integral component in developing methods for space missions from all frontiers of knowledge production.

¹ EU Space Policy and the involvement of civil society, Final Study Report, Page 21. EESC. 2023. Available at: <https://www.espi.or.at/reports/eu-space-policy-and-the-involvement-of-civil-society/> (Last Accessed: 27th October 2024).

² A New Vision of the World Transdisciplinarity, Nicolescu, B. CIRET. 1999. Available at: <https://ciret-transdisciplinarity.org/transdisciplinarity.php#en> (Last Accessed: 27th October 2024).

Integration: By embracing the intersection of art and space research, as well as integrating art as a fundamental part of space exploration, as a new research paradigm, we can enable the expansion of our abilities to perceive and explore the cosmos. By reimagining space research through the lens of transdisciplinarity, art can act as a portal for imagining exploration without colonisation, a new form of exploration that facilitates both local and global cultures to integrate and celebrate their existing interpretations of cosmology, thereby expanding how we define, perceive, and interpret astronomical phenomena.

Innovation: Exploring beyond the current restrictive understanding of ‘innovation’, the integration of *artistic intelligence* can foster novel knowledge production methodologies for the acceleration of the space sector as well as its significant role in societal growth. The democratisation of space technologies/knowledge can facilitate the involvement of citizen-driven initiatives, empowering “*groups and organisations that represent citizens with different interests*”³. In which “*organisations representing employers, workers, consumers, families, young people, farmers, and people with disabilities*”, as well as communities, small-scale organisations, students, creative institutions, NGOs, creative studios, artists, designers, coastal communities, environmentalists, forestry departments, doctors, creative technologists, writers, musicians, architects, “*small and medium-sized enterprises and crafts*”, dancers, librarians, “*charities, cooperatives, foundations, mutual societies and social enterprises*”, farmers, and more, and more, and more, and more... to contribute to the growing space sector and its vision of making humanity an interplanetary species.

Europe forms a constellation of cultures, and begun both collective as well as collaborative exploration of space since 1962. ESA’s directorates have been and continue to comprise “Technology, Engineering and Quality; Human and Robotic Exploration; European Legal and International Matters; Space Transportation; Earth Observation; Navigation; Science; Connectivity and Secure Communications; Internal Services; Operations; and Commercialisation, Industry and Competitiveness as main domains for research and development. The acceleration of space exploration requires a revision of the directorate, including the paradigm of Space Humanities: Space Culture and Heritage, in which other-than STEM-related research paradigms have a platform for investigation and contribute to space science knowledge and technology infrastructures. The knowledge and accessibility to facilities are highly specialised and restricted for use by the civil society. By involving artistic practitioners, space science can gain from discovering and generating alternative approaches. Policies are required to address civil society and its incorporation in the currently established infrastructure of space exploration. Further honouring space as a culture in its own right, encompassing its historical origin and progress.

In order to involve everyone in the space exploration,
everyone must feel involved in the space exploration.

As the visions of interplanetary humanity evolve,
the terrestrial systems must also transform in order to
make space truly for all.

Pragya Jain & Rick Heemskerk
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³ "What is the European Economic and Social Committee?", European Economic and Social Committee, 2016: <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/resources/docs/qe-01-16-049-en-n.pdf>.