

European Space Agency (ESA)

- The European Space Agency (ESA) is an international organisation involved in the propagation of space technologies in common sectors
- The ESA was established on 30 May 1975
- The agency supports member countries in the area of space research
- The ESA ensures, expands and coordinates access to space technologies and applications in Europe
- The ESA strives to ensure that space brings benefits not only to Europeans, but to people around the world
- The headquarters of the European Space Agency are located in Paris
- The ESA currently has 22 member countries
- Johann-Dietrich Woerner has been the director general of the ESA since 1 July 2015

On what does the ESA focus?

- The agency's task is to formulate and implement the European space programme
- The objective of projects and programmes is to enhance knowledge of Earth and comprehensively of space
- ESA develops satellite technology and services and supports European industry
- The agency has supported more than 400 start-ups to date

Who are the members of the European Space Agency?

- Austria
- Belgium
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Spain



- Sweden
- Switzerland
- In connection with an Agreement on Cooperation, Canada also participates in a number of projects

The ESA in the Czech Republic

- The Czech Republic became the 18th member of the ESA on 12 November 2008
- On 11 March 2016, CzechInvest signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the company Anwendungszentrum Oberpfaffenhofen, the ESA Business Incubation Centre (BIC) Bavaria
- The ESA Prague BIC was opened on 9 May 2016

ESA Business Incubation Centres (ESA BICs)

- A network of 16 Business Incubation Centres of the European Space Agency in countries that are members of the ESA
- ESA BICs operate in 13 countries
- ESA BIC Prague in Czech Republic is the thirteenth country to host an ESA BIC
- ESA BICs support start-up firms focusing on the use of space technologies in commercially feasible applications and services

Where they are located?

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Austria ¹ | • Great Britain | • Spain |
| • Belgium | • Ireland ² | • Sweden |
| • Czech Republic | • Italy | • Switzerland ³ |
| • France | • Netherlands | |
| • Germany | • Portugal | |

ESA BIC Prague

- The Prague facility is the first ESA BIC in Central and Eastern Europe
- The establishment of Prague space incubator was initiated by the Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic
- Business and Investment Development Agency CzechInvest is the operator of the programme
- The partners of the ESA BIC Prague programme are Prague City Hall and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic
- Nearly CZK 45 million has been allocated to the programme
- Prague has become part of the network of sixteen ESA BICs
- The centre will focus on supporting the transfer of space technologies into everyday life
- The centre will support 25 Czech start-ups over a five-year period
- Each firm can draw support in the amount of up to EUR 50,000 over the two-year incubation period

¹ To open

² To open

³ To open

- Beyond financial support, CzechInvest will provide consulting and advisory services in the areas of technology and business
- The ESA BIC Prague is located in the Prague Startup Centre at Adria Palace

Space technology in everyday life

- The European Space Agency's patent portfolio contains 142 inventions
- The technologies are protected by 411 patents

Thanks to space technologies:

- The company Carmat manufactured an artificial heart
- EOMAP mapped the Great Barrier Reef
- The Italian company Flyby mapped solar activity and connected satellites with smart solar panels
- New Omega watches contain technology that keeps track of upcoming event and shows the time remaining
- The Austrian company Magna Steyr's futuristic local city transportation car runs on pure hydrogen, just like a space rocket