

Engage on Earth, Unite in Space

Exploring Next Level Cross-Sector Innovations

Submission is open
from **15 January**
to **25 March 2026**

The Competition

INNOspace Masters is an international innovation competition organised by the German Space Agency at DLR in cooperation with ESA, the ESA Business Incubation Centres in Germany, as well as Airbus, Mercedes-Benz and OHB. Launched in 2015, it is open to companies of all sizes, start-ups, research institutions and universities, as well as individuals from all over the world.

The Goal

The competition is part of the INNOspace® initiative and promotes ideas for the transfer of technology and expertise from other industries to the space sector (spin-ins/New Space) or from space to non-space sectors (spin-offs) in order to set new impulses for the next space generation in Germany and Europe.

The Reward

Winners of the INNOspace Masters 2026 Challenges will embark on a tailored journey to turn their idea into a real innovation project or business by getting

- Access to capital and funding
- Support from research and market specialists
- the Chance to co-innovate with world market leaders
- Access to premium networks in Germany and Europe

to shape the future of space in Germany and Europe!

The Challenges

The competition offers six different challenges to participate in. Each challenge covers a wide range of topics and focuses on a different stage of technological maturity – from applied research to market-ready solutions.

The 2026 challenges are:

German Space Agency at DLR Challenge:

Groundbreaking Cross-Sector Innovations

ESA BIC Challenge:

Join the New Space Economy

ESA BA Challenge:

Space for a Resilient Society

Airbus Challenge:

Boosting Earth-Space Industry Partnerships

Mercedes-Benz car2space Challenge:

Space up your Drive

OHB Challenge:

Sovereign End-to-End Systems

The Application

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innospace-masters.de

