

Report on European Space Conference 2020

February 11, 2020



By Shigeki Kuzuoka



目次

Abstract	1
Impression & Analysis	2
(1) Broad concepts regarding security	2
(2) Rise of new space agencies and organizations	2
(3) Rise of a united Europe	2
Other Miscellaneous Comments	3

Abstract

On January 21–22, the 12th European Space Conference was held at Egmont Palace in Brussels, Belgium. This conference is held every year and is hosted by the European Parliament, the European Commission (EC), the European Space Agency (ESA), and Eurospace. This year, there were more than 1,000 people in attendance, mainly from European governments and space agencies.

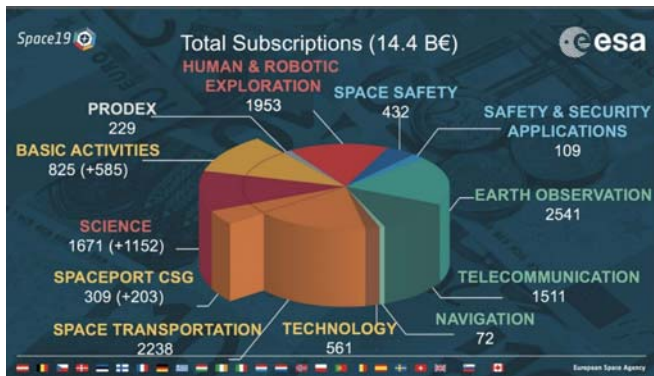


Background

At the end of 2016, the EC announced its "Space Strategy for Europe," and immediately after this announcement, work commenced toward realizing a long-term plan, named "Space19+." Space19+ was then approved in November 2019 at a meeting attended by ministers from 22 countries participating in the ESA. Space19+ defines four key pillars for the ESA in the future:

- Science and exploration: Scientific missions and manned activities
- Applications: Earth sciences, positioning, and communications

- Support for realization: Ground segments and development regarding vehicle launches
- Military security in space: Space weather, space defense, space debris, and cybersecurity



For realizing this project, the conference has approved expenditures of 14.4 billion euros for the coming five years, with a budget of 12.5 billion euros for the coming three years. This is an increase of 1.8 billion euros compared to 2016.

The author participated in the 9th Annual Conference on European Space Policy held in January 2017, right after the announcement regarding the European space policy was made. Therefore, in order to further understand the current status of European space activities since approval was gained for the “Space19+” project, the author made this next visit.

Impression & Analysis

At this conference, there was no information given or discussion held regarding the

“Space19+” project. It seems that the EC has done the necessary groundwork for this project, and therefore, the participants, coming from the governmental organizations, already have deep knowledge of the project. Therefore, at this conference, most of the presentations regarded space activities as carried out by the ESA and by each country, in compliance with the “Space19+” project.

The following are some topics that the author felt were important.

- (1) Broad concepts regarding security
<omitted below>
- (2) Rise of new space agencies and organizations
<omitted below>
- (3) Rise of a united Europe
<omitted below>

Other Miscellaneous Comments

Belgium is a mecca for beer. Sipping a Belgium beer is better done in the darkness of a cold winter, rather than drinking a beer as a casual beverage. Some Belgian pubs recommend meatballs as a beer pairing. On

this occasion, the author was able to pair two large meatballs with tomato sauce on top.



If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact:

Shigeki Kuzuoka



Satellite Business Network

<http://sat-biznet.com>

E-mail: shigeki-kuzuoka@sat-biznet.com

Shigeki Kuzuoka

Euroconsult

Euroconsult Japan Office

<http://www.euroconsult-ec.com>

E-mail: shigeki.kuzuoka@euroconsult-jp.com