

Call For Papers

2nd European Interstellar Symposium

2-4 December 2026 | Venice, Italy

Hosted by The Venetian Institute of Sciences, Letters and Arts in association with The Interstellar Research Group and The International Academy of Astronautics.

The aim is to bring together a multi-disciplinary community dedicated to advancing interstellar travel. Producing symposiums that include Special Sessions, Keynote Lectures, Working Tracks, Seminars, science fiction author engagement and more.

The exploration of other stars and what lies between them (e.g. interstellar objects) is crucial not only for understanding the formation of stars, planets, galaxies, and the search for extraterrestrial life, but also for ensuring the safety of our planet and the future of humanity.

Our objective is to foster an exchange on various aspects of interstellar travel, including human and robotic exploration, power systems, communications, system reliability, psychology, crew health, anthropology, legal regimes, ethics, propulsion, potential destinations (including exoplanet research), life support systems, and habitats.

Topic Areas

-  Physical Sciences
-  Engineering
-  Astronomy
-  Human Factors
-  Ethics & Philosophy
-  Astrobiology

Scan the QR Code
For Full Symposium and
Submission Information



<https://bit.ly/2EIS>

Important Dates

31 Jul 2026 Abstract Submission Deadline
15 Sep 2026 Notification of Abstract Acceptance

Submit Abstracts to Registrar@irg.space





2EIS Call For Papers

The symposium aims to strengthen and motivate the community that looks at the exploration of the universe and with particular attention to the conception of interstellar travel. It follows by two years the event held in Luxembourg, with the aim of promoting the community interested in these studies in Europe.

Space exploration is a multidisciplinary challenge. For this reason, the symposium is organized with diverse topical sessions:

- **Astrophysics**, objective selection and interstellar medium studies;
- **Extrasolar object observations**;
- **Spacecraft engineering**, propulsion, communications, sustainability;
- **Crew health**, psychology and physiology;
- **Astrobiology**;
- **Diplomacy**, legislation and policy
- **Interstellar implications**, studies of holistic significance.

All sessions are organized with a keynote and invited speakers as well as contributed talks and posters. Instructions on the format are provided below.

On Dec. 1st there will also be a seminar half-day: these are 3-hour presentations on a single subject, providing an in depth look at that subject. Seminar topics will be announced on the Symposium website.

Scientific Committee:

Paolo Villoresi Chair, Univ. of Padua and Venetian Institute of Sci. Lett. and Arts, Italy

Les Johnson, Program Chair, Interstellar Research Group, USA

Patrizia Caraveo Italian Institute of Astrophysics and Venetian Institute of Sci. Lett. and Arts, Italy

Joseph Meany, President, Interstellar Research Group, USA

Andreas Hein, Univ. of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Roberto Ragazzoni Italian Institute of Astrophysics, Univ. of Padua and Venetian Institute of Sci. Lett. and Arts, Italy

Organizing Committee:

Tiziano Zingales Univ. of Padua, Italy

Michael Birchfield, Publicity Chair, Interstellar Research Group, USA

Sara Spath, Development Chair, Interstellar Research Group, USA



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Submission Guidelines

Contributions must be original work that has not been previously published. The Abstract shall include:

- **PRESENTING AUTHOR(S):** Please list ONLY the author(s) who will actually be in attendance and presenting at the conference. (first name, last name, affiliation and email)
- **Full AUTHORS list:** List all authors here, including Presenting Author(s)
- **Title:** the presentation title
- **Type:** state whether the abstract is for an oral presentation or poster
- **Target session:** chosen from the list above.
- **Background:** describes the research or initiative context **Objective:** describes the research or initiative objective
- **Objective** – describes the research or initiative objective
- **Methods** – describes research methodology used. For initiatives, describes the target population, program or curricular content, and evaluation method
- **Results** – summarizes findings in sufficient detail to support the conclusions
- **Conclusions** – states the conclusions drawn from results, including their applicability.

Abstract length not to exceed 350 words.

Select papers will be reviewed by the program committee and suggested for publication. They may be submitted for journal publication, such as in Acta Astronautica and the Journal of the British Interplanetary Society (JBIS).

Video and Archiving: All symposium events may be captured on video or in still images for use by the organizers and sponsors, in newsletters and social media. All presenters, speakers and selected participants will be asked to complete a Release Form that grants permission for IRG to use this content as described in the release form.

ABOUT IRG

The Tennessee Valley Interstellar Workshop (doing business as the Interstellar Research Group, IRG) is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) non-profit scientific, educational corporation in the state of Tennessee.

Our mission is to facilitate interstellar research and exploration by hosting regular summit meetings, encouraging educational advances, publishing technical and scientific papers, and supporting literature and culture, all in the service of enhancing public understanding and dialogue toward interstellar exploration.