

23rd SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE ACTIVITY AND SOCIETY (E5)
 Part 1: The Role of Art in Space Activities (5A)

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CULTURAL SPACE PROGRAM

Abstract

National and commercial space programs are the most complex social-technological achievements of modern civilization. Through the development of science and technology they influence the development of modern social-technological culture. But due to their limited sphere of national and commercial goals their influence on culture remains merely *coincidental, inconsiderate* and *unreflected*.

KSEVT (Cultural Centre of European Space Technologies) was founded as an answer to all these needs. KSEVT develops a *cultural space program* that sets its main frame around the topics of *culturalization of space* and the *composite of art and science*.

Existing space programs are designed to “utilize” space. National and commercial organizations develop useful solutions for the purpose of national security, civil exploration of space (and planet Earth) and development of commercial services.

The applicative value of technological solutions is typical for existing space programs, because it enables enhancements of social processes. The technological nature of these solutions is designed for the individual to access it as an user – a citizen or consumer.

With the cultural space program we encourage a change of focus in space research:

- next to outer space and our own planet research we encourage a new comprehension of man in accessible space;
- next to development of technology we encourage development of the individual;
- next to applicability we encourage understanding.

SPACE CULTURALISATION: The expansion of civilization to the near space requires a re-examination of cultural patterns’ functionality. Cultural patterns that developed through the course of history – in conditions available on the Earth’s surface – thoroughly manifest the existing relation between the individual and his surroundings. The expansion to Earth’s orbit, other planets and interplanetary space, however, already caused completely new cultural patterns to develop, patterns that influence existing civilizational models on the Earth’s surface.

COMPOSITE OF ART AND SCIENCE: A key tool of space exploration is the ability of thought. Through the course of history two main principles have been formed – art and science. Both have played their part in space exploration. A further development in understanding of space requires the capacities of both principles of thought to incorporate themselves in it composite thought – this will result in composite research, composite development and composite production. Despite their complexity space programs do not make full-range use of research, development and production capacities. With composite methods we can grasp the entire civilizational mass of thought.