

27th SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE POLICY, REGULATIONS AND ECONOMICS (E3)  
International Space Exploration Policies and Programmes (2)

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ASTROMAP, A EUROPEAN ROAD MAPPING PROJECT IN SUPPORT OF A EUROPEAN  
RESEARCH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME IN ASTROBIOLOGY AND SPACE EXPLORATION

**Abstract**

With Horizon 2020 the European Union has initiated the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly 80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020). Space research is a fundamental part of Horizon 2020. To establish a European Research framework programme in the “Space” domain, the EU has supported research activity roadmaps for different space areas within its last Framework Programme 7 (FP7). Astrobiology and space exploration are among the areas that have received increasing attention within FP7. To prepare a European vision for astrobiology and space exploration, the AstRoMap (Astrobiology and Planetary Exploration Road Mapping) project (see: <http://www.astromap.eu>) has been funded within FP7. As foresight and networking activity, AstroMap is structured around the following areas:

1. Community consultation with the following tasks:
  - Reach and expand the astrobiology community by performing a wide consultation on current and future research and teaching activities in astrobiology related fields;
  - Map the astrobiology and planetary research landscape in Europe and beyond;
  - Facilitate networking and exchange of information within this community.
2. Workshops organization on the following topics:
  - Origin of organic compounds, steps to life;
  - Physico-chemical boundary conditions for habitability;
  - Biosignatures as facilitating life detection;
  - Origin of the Solar system.
3. Astrobiology road-mapping based on the results and major conclusions elaborated during the workshops and tailored to the European needs and competences.

AstRoMap Partners are: 1. Centro de Astrobiología (INTA-CSIC), Torrejón de Ardoz, Madrid, Spain ; 2. European Science Foundation, Strasbourg, France ; 3. Association pour un Réseau Européen d'Exo/Astrobiology (EANA), France ; 4. B-USOC, Brussels, Belgique; 5. Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt (DLR), Cologne, Germany; 6. Institute for Space Astrophysics and Planetology-National Institute for Astrophysics (IAPS-INAF), Rome, Italy.