

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Interactive Presentations - IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (IP)

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SPACE EDUCATION AS A TOOL SUPPORTING THE ASSIMILATION OF REFUGEE YOUTH.

Abstract

In 2022, 10 years of Poland in ESA have passed, this is an incentive for all stakeholders in the sector to develop further. Including industry education, thanks to which the personnel of the space sector is profiled. Also in 2022, the Polish education system faced the significant challenge of welcoming over 200,000 refugee children. Their integration supporting combating war traumas and allowing them to start functioning positively in society is extremely important. And we see such an opportunity in the specificity of space education. Involving young people in holistic, interdisciplinary, long-term projects is an opportunity to build bonds that facilitate the assimilation of young people. How was this achieved in Poland? Agnieszka Bajtyngier, an expert on space education from European Space Education Resource Office (ESERO), will present a Polish case study based on European Space Agency CanSat competition and Copernicus Science Center education program. The European CanSat Competition is an ESA Education project that promotes STEM skills amongst young European students through project-based learning. A CanSat is a simulation of a real satellite, integrated within the volume and shape of a soft drink can. The team's challenge is to fit all the major subsystems of a satellite inside this minimal volume, launched by a rocket. As the CanSat descends, its mission begins. The Copernicus Science Centre inspires to observe, experience, ask questions and look for answers. Learning at the Copernicus is supported by various educational spaces, and cooperation with the educational environment. A new special programme "Together for a better future" joined with space education is an important institution strategy in supporting refugees.