



Access to Space in the Era
of New Space Entrepreneurship
24 September 2020, 17:00 – 18:30

Online evening conference

Jean-Jacques Tortora, European Space Policy Institute, Vienna
Chris Welch, International Space University, Strasbourg

Dear Madam, Sir,

We are pleased to invite you to an **online evening conference**, organised by the **Centre for Security and Defence Studies** of the Royal Higher Institute for Defence on **Thursday 24 September 2020**.

When SpaceX appeared in 2002, few experts could have predicted the impact it would have on the launchers market. Today, Elon Musk's company has become one of the most prominent actors in this field of activities. Yet, SpaceX is just one example of the numerous private actors that invested in the space domain. By developing innovative technological and managerial methods, these economic players have challenged the whole space industry and put the domination of big groups (Boeing, Arianespace, etc.) into question. Regarding Europe, this trend has contributed to raise tensions among partners involved in the Ariane programme: the European autonomous access to space is now severely challenged. Moreover, the question of the future of space as a strategic asset controlled by historical space powers must be asked.

The New Space industry is currently on the track to compete, along with long-established groups, for the new challenges to come like projects of returning to the Moon or landing on Mars. Though space exploration seems to have lost something of its "magic" in the eyes of the public, it is extremely doubtful to claim that upcoming enterprises in the space sector will rely on old management methods and past innovations. In preparation for such objectives, the New Space entrepreneurship is working on innovative ways to develop the right technologies, which could regenerate an interest to space exploration.

To discuss these issues, we will be pleased to welcome Jean-Jacques Tortora, Director of the European Space Policy Institute based in Vienna, and Chris Welch from the International Space University of Strasbourg.

This conference will take place on **Thursday 24 September 2020 at 17.00 hours** and will be given in **English**. We thank you in advance for registering via the following link: <https://www.defence-institute.be>. **Registration, subject to availability, is compulsory and must be received by Monday 21 September 2020 at the latest**. You will then receive the link to connect to the conference.

(Signed)

Filip BORREMANS, MSc Eng
Air Force Colonel GS
Director-general
Royal Higher Institute for Defence

Programme:

16.00 – 17.00 : Registration – connection to online conference
17.00 – 18.30 : Conference and Q & A