

# JOINT INDUSTRY STATEMENT

## A NEW ESA RESOLUTION FOR OPEN LAUNCH PROCUREMENT COMPETITION WITHIN EUROPE

November 2022

The upcoming ESA Ministerial Council Conference is happening at a turning point in Europe and the global space ecosystem. Independent, resilient and competitive access to space out of Europe, which is currently at risk, will support European member states to solve the challenges and problems that we, as a society, are facing.

The space transportation ecosystem in Europe is at a delicate moment. Access to space for Europe in the coming years is very limited and becoming a bottleneck for European space ecosystem growth. In parallel, from 2023, new commercial European launch service providers will be operational.

In order to strengthen the fragile access to space capability in Europe, we request that launches for all institutional missions are procured in an **open competition** as of immediately, considering all European Launch Service Providers, without restrictions of any kind. Therefore, a new resolution for this matter should be approved at the ESA Ministerial Council Conference.

Having additional access to space that is **affordable, flexible, and globally competitive** will also impact the satellite industry and related technology companies, which can innovate and grow faster. It will also be positive for the overall space budget, leaving further available funding for new additional missions.

Additionally, ESA spending should prioritize programs that incentivize the space economy and foster innovation such as service contracts, marketplace or the development of breakthrough technologies.

**Now is time to act.**

### Signatories

