

SPEAKER PROFILES

Session 2: Bursting the Public-to-Public Bubbles



Mariella Graziano | Executive Director, International Strategy and Business Development, GMV

Mariella Graziano is an Aerospace Engineer from the Sapienza University of Rome (Sapienza-Università di Roma). She joined GMV in 1999 and since 2022 she has held the position of Executive Director of Strategy and Business Development for Science, Exploration and Transportation - GMV Space Systems.



Gisela Süss | Head of the Legal Service Department, ESA

Gisela Süss has worked at ESA for 22 years. Prior to assuming her current role as Head of the Legal Service Department in June 2022, Ms. Süss served as the Head of the Institutional Law Division and as a Legal Advisor.



Isabella Poldrugo | Deputy Head of Unit of DG DEFIS' Space Policy Unit

Ms. Poldrugo is Deputy Head of Unit the European Commission - Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space (DEFIS), responsible for EU Space Policy. The objective of the unit is to design and ensure a coherent and overarching EU Space policy, including regulatory aspects and to foster an innovative and globally competitive EU space ecosystem.



**Mauro Piermaria | Director for Programs and Strategies,
Space Policy Office of the Italian Prime Minister, Italy**

Mauro Piermaria started his career in the aeronautic sector at Alenia Aeronautica working on the Eurofighter prototypes and after he spent three years at NASA Kennedy Space Center working on the ISS Shuttle missions. From 2014 to 2020 he was Head of Equities & Governance Affairs at Italian Space Agency appointed as Secretary of the ASI Board of Directors and managing the Agency Equity Investments in the affiliated companies. Mr. Piermaria was also Head of Innovation and Space Economy at Italian Space Agency managing the Agency Equities investments, technology transfer and the overall Space Economy activities.



**Kaoutar Abousmir | Head of International Space Strategy,
DSIT, UK**

Kaoutar Abousmir is a career civil servant and strategy professional currently heading the International Space Strategy team of the UK Department for Science Innovation and Technology (DSIT). Her current areas of responsibility cover civil space policy and includes providing leadership on the UK strategic approach to international collaboration on space. This includes overseeing implementation of the international commitments in the National Space Strategy, working closely with other government departments.



**René Kleeßen | Director of Organisations and
Infrastructures, DLR, Germany**

Before taking up his position as Director of Organisations and Infrastructures, René Kleeßen was Space Programme Director at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR). With a background in Aerospace Engineering, Mr. Kleeßen also held the position of Galileo Programme Manager in the Space Administration of DLR.