

PRESS RELEASE

Paris-Saclay, 14 September 2026

Université Paris-Saclay and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs strengthen their cooperation in space law

Université Paris-Saclay has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA). The signing took place on the sidelines of the International Space Summit, held at the Grand Palais in Paris on 9 and 10 September 2026, under the patronage of the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron.

Initiated and led by Philippe Achilleas, Professor of Public Law at the Jean Monnet Faculty (Law, Economics and Management) of Université Paris-Saclay, the agreement signed between Université Paris-Saclay and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) enables the university to join the network of experts involved in UNOOSA's Global Space Law Project.

As part of this initiative, the university will contribute its expertise in space law, space policy and the sustainability of space activities to United Nations initiatives, particularly in the areas of training, capacity-building and support for States in developing their national legal and policy frameworks.

The cooperation will also involve exchanges of expertise and best practices, the participation of university experts in the project's activities, as well as mutual support for the organisation of seminars, workshops and training sessions in the fields of space law, policy and sustainability.

Finally, researchers and students at Université Paris-Saclay will have enhanced access to resources and events organised by UNOOSA.

This agreement reflects the international recognition of Université Paris-Saclay's expertise in space law. It comes at a particularly symbolic time, as the university celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Master's degree in Aerospace Activities and Digital Technologies (M2 DAST) and the IDRT Space & Cyberspace research team (formerly IDEST).

The M2 DAST

Established in 2002 at Université Paris-Saclay, the Master's degree in Aerospace Activities and Digital Technologies is the world's first programme to combine space law and digital law. It was created at the initiative and with the support of professionals in the field, in response to the needs of rapidly growing sectors seeking highly qualified legal professionals.

Executive education: an Executive Certificate in Space Law and Policy for space-sector professionals

As part of its executive education offering, Université Paris-Saclay offers an Executive Certificate in Space Law and Policy, an expert-level programme designed for professionals seeking to deepen their understanding of the legal, institutional and strategic dimensions of space activities.

Delivered in English as an intensive one-week, in-person programme, it is aimed in particular at senior executives, lawyers, consultants and space-sector experts, project managers and decision-makers, as well as public-sector officials involved in the development or implementation of space policies.

The programme provides a comparative and practical approach to space law and policy at national, European and international levels.

➤ [View the Executive Certificate in Space Law and Policy brochure](#)

À PROPOS DE L'UNIVERSITÉ PARIS-SACLAY

Université Paris-Saclay was born from the shared ambition of French universities, grandes écoles and national research organisations. As a leading university in Europe and worldwide, it spans the fields of science and engineering, life sciences and health, and humanities and social sciences.

The university's research policy closely intertwines research and innovation, incorporating both basic and applied science to tackle major societal challenges. Université Paris-Saclay offers a varied range of degrees from undergraduate to doctoral level, including programmes offered in partnership with its grandes écoles, all of which are focused on student success and employability. The university prepares students for an ever-changing world where the ability to think critically, adapt and update their skills is crucial. Université Paris-Saclay also offers a comprehensive range of lifelong learning courses.

Located to the south of Paris, the university extends across a vast and diverse local area. Its location strengthens both its international visibility and its close ties with its socio-economic partners (major companies, SMEs, start-ups, local authorities and non-profit organisations).

www.universite-paris-saclay.fr

ABOUT THE ÎLE-DE-FRANCE SPACE ACADEMY

Established in January 2024, the Île-de-France Space Academy is a project awarded the "Compétences et métiers d'avenir" label under the France 2030 investment plan. It aims to develop industrial competitiveness and future technologies in the space sector across the Île-de-France region.

Its mission is to bring together, enhance and promote the region's training provision in order to meet the needs of the regional space sector. Île-de-France is home to the largest concentration of organisations in the sector and is the second-largest employment region in the space industry, accounting for one quarter of the national workforce. The sector offers a wide range of careers, with many opportunities for women.

The Île-de-France Space Academy brings together eight Île-de-France higher education and research institutions: Université Paris-Saclay, Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (UVSQ), Sorbonne Université, Université Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL), Université Paris Cité, Université Paris-Est Créteil Val-de-Marne (UPEC), Institut Polytechnique de Paris and the French Aerospace Lab (ONERA).

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