



Piero MESSINA

CONTACT



europass

WORK EXPERIENCE

European Space Agency - HQ Paris, France

Website www.esa.int

Senior Policy Advisor, Director General's Cabinet

01/06/2024 – Current

As Senior member in the Director General's Cabinet I am entrusted with strategic files and relations with key Member States. Among the former the development of a new initiative towards European universities, the management of an external consultancy addressing ESA DG's Cabinet organisation or the coordination of a tripartite Tiger Team with Member States and Industry on ESA's financial situation. I am managing relations with Italy and Belgium and other ESA Member States. I regularly organise and support ministerial and high level meetings, including the Space Summit in Brussels in 2024 and latest Council at ministerial level in Bremen in November 2025, as well as DG's participation in other international meetings

European Space Agency - HQ Paris, France

Head of Council support section, Director General's Cabinet

01/09/2021 – 31/05/2024

I was in charge of a team preparing, organising and running the regular meetings of ESA's ruling body of the Council of Member States delegates, holding 4 meetings/year. In addition I supervised and coordinated the organisation of 2 Space Summits (bringing together ESA and EU) in 2022 (Toulouse) and 2023 (Seville) as well as ESA Council at ministerial level in Paris in 2022. Additionally I was responsible for ESA Historical Archives, their relations with EU Historical Archives in Florence. Furthermore in the course of 2022 I coordinated the work and deliberations of the High Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on the role of Europe in future space exploration, in cooperation with the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) that lead to the report

"Revolution Space"

https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2023/03/Revolution_Space_Europe_s_Mission_for_Space_Exploration

European Space Agency - HQ Paris, France

Senior Administrator, Policy & Programme Coordination Dept., Director General's Services

01/07/2011 – 31/08/2021

Responsible for the management of relations with 11 ESA Member States (incl. IT, UK, SP, PT and LU) involving institutional relations, analysis and follow-up of national policies and strategies as well as relations with National non-state entities. Strategize and lead implementation of sectorial policies (e.g. the ESA Atlantic Regional initiative and the Blue Worlds Task Force - BWTF). In charge of coordination of "Moon Village" concept development and in particular the element of habitability and "beyond LEO space economy. Lead of the ESA / Luxembourg WG on space resources and support to specific actions therein.

In particular, during this period, I

- Designed and run Europe's wide survey for BWTF (2020);
- Lead the ESA /SOM cooperation on moon habitat, incl. CDF session and display at Venice Architecture Biennale as part of the Moon Village concept (2019);
- Organised and supervised the implementation of the ESA 50-yearscelebration (2014);
- Co-lead in the organisation of the ESA Council meeting at ministeriallevel in November 2012 in Naples.

Head of the Coordination Office / Advisor to the Director, Directorate of Human Spaceflight and Exploratio



01/08/2008 – 30/06/2011

Duties were carried out both from ESA HQ in Paris and ESA/ESTEC in Noordwijk, The Netherlands

- Responsible for relations with Member States Delegations, with International Partners, with the European Commission and other stakeholders;
- strategized and defined the Directorate's promotional, communication and educational activities and supervised their implementation;
- managed the Director's secretariat, the relations with the Participating States supervisory board (Programme Board) and provided overall management support to the Director;
- coordinated the Directorate's Management Board and liaised with the other services and departments within ESA;
- lead the Directorate's participation, inputs and follow up to international fora such as the ISS Multilateral Coordination (MCB) Board and the International Space Exploration Coordination Group (ISECG) as well as to scientific advisory committees;
- Supported the Director in strategic analysis and definition of future opportunities.
- Contributed to the preparation of a Ministerial Conference (2008);
- Designed and followed up the implementation of the Directorate structure
- Increased the visibility in European media of human spaceflight programmes (measured and certified);
- Successfully managed communication activities related to major launch campaigns and enhanced the quality and quantity of multimedia products and publications;
- Established myself as Director's spokesperson and speech writer (later with supervisory role)
- Managed the organisation of major international conferences and thematic workshops.

In charge of a team of 26 people in the field of programme management, communication and education.

European Space Agency - HQ Paris, France

Administrator, Director's Office,

01/08/2001 – 31/07/2008

Seconded by the Italian Space Agency in Rome between 2007 and 2008

- Conducted relations with Member States Delegations, with International Partners, with the European Commission and other stakeholders;
- Executive Secretary of the senior Advisory Committee and vice- Executive Secretary of the Programme Board (Secretary of the AURORA-BP until 2006);
- contributed to the overall Programme strategy, to its coordination and acted as its spokesperson;
- drafted reports, articles, policy paper and notes and preparation of High level meetings;
- founding member of the International "Global Exploration Strategy" team (from 14 Countries world-wide) and initiator of the ESA/ASI joint workshops on International Cooperation for Space exploration (www.global-space-exploration.org);
- initiated and managed studies, consultancies and procurements
- liaison with the Programme Board Chair and detached to the Italian Space Agency in Rome. In this capacity I was nominated responsible for the communication activities for the participation of the European Astronaut Paolo Nespoli in the STS-120 mission (Esperia mission, 2007).
- Managed contractors, trainees and consultants
- Contribution to the establishment of the Aurora programme proposal at the 2005 ESA Ministerial Conference;
- Designed and successfully conducted the European student design contest in support of the Aurora exploration programme;
- Conceptualised and established ESA's Advisory Committee on Education (ACE)
- Founding member of the International Space Education Board (ISEB)

European Space Agency - HQ Paris, France

Coordinator in the Director's Office, Directorate of Industrial Matters and Technology Programmes

01/08/1999 – 29/07/2001

- Yearly Budget as well as Medium and Long Term Plan preparation, follow-up, etc.
- Staff management including projections and simulations;
- Preparation of Directorate's input to high level and official meetings; • Representation of the Directorate in Expert Panels and Committees;
- Support to the ESA's Small and Medium Enterprises Initiative.
- Organised the Industry Space Days for European Small and Medium Enterprises

European Space Agency - ESOC Darmstadt, Germany

Finance & Budget Officer

01/03/1991 – 31/07/1999

- Financial planning, control and reporting of several Programmes' budget for a total amount exceeding 140 MEURO;
- Follow up of contract expenditure and cost analysis and control;
- Liaise with technical officers providing them support on financial management and procedural issues.
- Contributed to the design of the new ESA financial management system;
- Developed automatic procedures to manage travel expenditure and bank reconciliation

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

01/09/2020 – 31/05/2021 Italy

National Security and Intelligence – Specialisation Course University of Florence (Italy) Faculty of Political Sciences "Cesare Alfieri"

Level in EQF EQF level 6

01/10/2018 – 14/06/2019 Paris, France

Auditeur IHEDN - Session Nationale Enjeux et Strategie Maritimes Institut Hautes Etudes Defense Nationale (IHEDN)

Website <https://ihedn.fr/en/> Level in EQF EQF level 7

01/10/2013 – 30/06/2016 Paris, France

Master en Sciences Sociales (niveau 2) - Histoire des Sciences, Technologies et Societé E HESS - Centre Koyre

Website <https://koyre.ehess.fr/> Level in EQF EQF level 7

01/09/2011 – 31/05/2013 Arezzo

Strategic Communication and problem solving Strategic Therapy Centre (STC)

Website <https://www.centroditerapiastategica.com/en/listituto/about-2/> Level in EQF EQF level 5

01/09/1998 – 30/07/1999 Strasbourg, France

Master in Space Studies International Space University

Website www.isunet.edu Level in EQF EQF level 7

01/11/1990 – 30/06/1997 Florence, Italy

Laurea in Scienze Politiche - International Economic Relations University of Florence (Italy) Faculty of Political Sciences "Cesare Alfieri"

Level in EQF EQF level 6

LANGUAGE SKILLS

MOTHER TONGUE(S): Italian **Other**

language(s):

English

Listening C2

Spoken production C2 Reading C2

Spoken interaction C2

Writing C2

French

Listening C2

Spoken production C2 Reading C2

Spoken interaction C2

Writing C2

German

Listening C1

Spoken production B2 Reading C1

Spoken interaction B2

Writing A2

Spanish

Listening B2

Spoken production A2 Reading B2

Spoken interaction A2

Writing A1

Russian

Listening A1

Spoken production A1 Reading A1

Spoken interaction A1

Writing A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

VOLUNTEERING

01/06/2017 – CURRENT Paris

Croix Rouge Francaise / Croce Rossa Italiana

In charge of the logistic and operational aspects of a Croix Rouge section in Paris (2017 - 2019)

NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

01/09/2017 – CURRENT Paris

International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Political and Military History, Tactical and Strategic wargaming and simulations, Practicing sport (Rugby, Kayak, Scuba diving), Strategic communication, coaching and problem solving, producer of olive oil

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

● Several years of teaching experience at graduate and undergraduate level

The regular lecturing and teaching activities include:

- Faculty of the International Space University (2001 - 2010)
- Lead of the students Team Project "Lunares" at the 2004 ISU Summer Study Programme in Adelaide, Australia
- Simulation of an ESA Council meeting at ministerial level for the Space Policy Institute at GWU, Washington, USA
- Workshop and simulation of international negotiations on the theme space resources at ISU SSP (Cork, 2017 and Leiden, 2018)
- New York University Abu Dhabi (NYU AD) - J-Term (May - June 2022)
- Regular faculty at TU Wien Executive MBA in Space Architecture (since 2024)
- Lecturer at the University of Padua on ESA activities and simulation of an ESA Council at ministerial level

Luogo e data 14.01.2026

Firma

Piero MESSINA

(firma autografa omessa ai sensi dell'art. 3 Dlgs n. 39/1993)
