



THE POWER OF IDEAS

THE MESSAGES OF THE SPACE RENAISSANCE ITALIA' CONGRESS

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The de-growth is an ominous prospect for humanity. The expansion into space is inevitable and urgent. Space tourism: the first mature sector toward civilian astronautics. The multi-culturalism as an essential tool to reach the conscience and to let people understand that space is not that far as it is perceived.

These are some of the conclusions of the Space Renaissance Italia' national congress, held on May 8th and 9th this year at the Politecnico University of Milano, entitled "**Space without frontiers: a greater world is possible!**" An unique in its kind event, about which many were skeptic, that instead proved to be a great success. Futurists, scientists, philosophers, engineers, humanists and trans-humanists, technologists, musicians, and writers. And more, communication, television and films experts, as well as students. All of them integrated into the debate, giving rise to a deep cross-fertilization along the thin line of the Space Renaissance philosophy, which sees the expansion of civilization into space the healthiest and urgent solution, and perhaps the only one, to the crisis of growth that our civilization is facing, while the natural resources of our beloved Mother Earth are now insufficient to support its development. Echoing what Konstantin Tsiolkovsky said, humanity has to leave its cradle.

The conference clearly showed that we are now a mature movement, with great potential for growth, byb the way in strong agreement with the Futurists, the Trans-Humanists and with the "anthropic" imperative proposed by the Italian Institute for the Future, to ensure the long term survival of human civilization.

During two days of intense work technical and humanistic topics followed each other in a deliberate alternate sequence, in order to favor the process of viral involvement and sharing, in a game of feelings, ideas and provocations which fueled the curiosity and stimulate the willingness to follow on the path. The greatest impressive thing was the high level of attention of the attendees, even when you when the speeches were about very specific topics: a quiet room, reaching out to absorb the contents of every single word.

SPACE TOURISM: A STRATEGIC ASSET TOWARDS THE GEO-LUNAR SPACE INDUSTRIALISATION

The congress saw the official presentation of the Space Renaissance Italia' Strategic Plan, dedicated to the Space Tourism in broad sense, a catalyst for a new industrial development and a decisive paradigm shift: the human activity in space can no longer remain the exclusive property of scientific experimentation. Only by enlarging the scope of use of the *Fourth Environment* to citizens and businesses, developing civilian astronautics, the new industrial revolution will begin, creating millions of jobs both on ground and in space, creating the conditions for the use of the immense available natural resources beyond the earth's atmosphere. The essential themes of the Plan raised a strong echo in almost all of the interventions.

Space Tourism in broad sense. Everything is ready, so to speak, to create in a few decades an infrastructure for living and working in the geo-lunar space, from low Earth orbit to low lunar orbit and to the soil of the Moon. In presence of suitable political decisions, we could get to have more than 70,000 people constantly living in that space, in infrastructures such as real houses, hotels, factories, workshops and integration facilities, power plants, warehouses and supply, as well as transportation systems of various kinds. And, under these conditions, we could reach to a traffic of more than 5 million passengers per year, a business of the order of hundreds of billions of Euros per year. But, in order to get appropriate policy decisions, we need the greatest possible involvement of the public opinion, to understand the real value of the proposal and the associated risks to remain closed here on Earth. Space Renaissance Italia therefore assumed the task of promoting and spreading the knowledge and perception of space.

The **OUTREACH** project contains a number of primary and multi-cultural items to stimulate such spreading. The Chapters of Scientific, Cultural and Artistic View are dedicated to their communities, such as the

concert "To a Star..... Between Earth and Sky, Musical Suggestions for a New Humanism" performed by the ensemble "La Variazione". As well as the retrospective "Black & White: a space walk through cinema and TV" and the journey into the science fiction as an important moment of imagination and cultural design.

ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE is instead a project fully oriented to approach the ordinary citizen to space, through direct more or less complex experiences: parabolic flights made by small and large aircrafts (SpaceLand), the suborbital flights offered by Virgin Galactic and Space Expedition Corporation, up to reaching the orbit by the Russian Soyuz, and Dragon of SpaceX.

Focusing primarily on the priority of developing the connection between Earth and Low Earth Orbit on a private basis, the project **DESIGN THE FUTURE** includes the development of some systems, useful for this purpose, the study of hotels and space stations with simulated gravity, adequate evolution of the important role played by Italy in the development of the International Space Station, of the space transportation means and their forerunners. Among the latter, HyPlane, a hypersonic aircraft capable of carrying six passengers to the threshold of space (70 km altitude), giving rise to point-to-point sub-orbital flights, what we have called Space Tourism 2.0. Being studied with the contribute of several universities, companies and SMEs, national and foreign, HyPlane is a milestone on the roadmap of reducing the access to space cost by evolving aeronautics to astronautics. The suborbital 44 passengers aircraft ShiplnSpace is aiming in the same direction, albeit moving from other working hypotheses. The discussions about the technologies and systems to remove the numerous and increasingly dangerous space debris (Aviospace), to equip the new space systems of subsystems able to avoid the production of debris (D- Orbit), and to deploy the nuclear waste terrestrial systems at the Lagrangian points (KAIST) completed the picture.

The education of the new generations, but even before the education of the trainers is essential for the development and dissemination of the new Space Renaissance culture. The **EDUCATION** project includes a section dedicated to the upper-middle and high schools, and one to the highest levels called Space Renaissance Academy. The speeches by OdisseoSpace and the Polytechnic of Milan witnessed how important is the involvement of students.

In short, the Congress officially announced the presence in Italy of a philosophical and scientific avant-garde, candidate to lead the development of a unifying vision. Such a vision is utterly absent today, and is urgently needed to bring Italy and the whole of humanity beyond the confines of the beloved Mother Earth. Such avant-guard now exists, and deeply believes in a " space without borders ", where "a greater world is possible"!

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