Editorial

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With this first issue of the all-new *CEAS Space Journal* the Council of European Aerospace Societies (CEAS) is proud to offer European and international scientists and engineers a world-class journal for the publication of high-quality research, technological, and developmental results. The CEAS would like to thank the German Aerospace Center (DLR) and the European Space Agency (ESA) for creating this journal, thus realising a new milestone in European scientific publications.

The increased cooperation within the European scientific environment and the merging of various organisations particularly in industry have stimulated the need to provide a powerful European space journal. Created in the mid-eighties as a Confederation of European Aerospace Societies, this organisation became a legal entity, the Council of European Aerospace Societies (CEAS), under Belgian law in Brussels with the goal to promote aerospace

activities in Europe and worldwide. A priority decision that was taken in the early days of the CEAS under the lead of the DLR and ESA was the launching of the present *CEAS Space Journal* and in parallel the CEAS Aeronautical Journal, both with Springer.

In the past three decades the European aerospace research and technology base has developed into a leading worldwide professional community in terms of quality and volume. An independent approach to technical publications is crucial in order to stimulate the understanding of scientific and engineering work and to advance developments in this area. The *CEAS Space Journal* is devoted to publishing new developments and results in all areas of space-related science and technology, including important spin-off capabilities and applications as well as ground-based support systems and manufacturing advances. Original contributions not already published elsewhere are accepted. Also of interest are invited in-depth reviews on the status of development in areas of high relevance to space, and descriptions of possible ways forward. All submitted contributions are rigorously reviewed by two reviewers. In addition to regular issues, special editions will be issued that group excellent papers from special scientific and engineering events. Typical disciplines of interest include mission design and space systems, aerothermodynamics, environmental control and life support systems, guidance, navigation and control mechanisms, propulsion, power, robotics, structures, testing, thermal control, and satellite communication. Springer Verlag has provided the website <http://www.edmgr.com/ceas/> to access the *CEAS Space Journal* area with convenient handling features. Accepted articles from the CEAS journals are posted on the Springer server, and subsequently published in paper issues.

I would like to thank all those who contributed and were engaged in realising this first issue, and they can be proud

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of the results. To name but a few: Mrs Silvia Schilgerius from Springer for her positive attitude and valuable cooperation, Dr Wilhelm Kordulla, without whom this issue would not have been possible, Prof Dr Joachim Szodruch, former President of the CEAS, who provided inspiration and guidance, the entire Editorial Board and the many Field Editors, all of whom accepted the task without hesitation. The support on the part of all members of the Board of CEAS was essential and is highly appreciated.

I am sure this *CEAS Space Journal* will play an important role in Europe and around the globe, and with your support and contribution it will advance high-level space scientific and engineering work for the benefit of our space community.

C. Stavrínidis
Chairman, CEAS Space Branch