

# Space Summit and LEO Cargo Return Service

*Samantha Cristoforetti*





# Why? What? How?

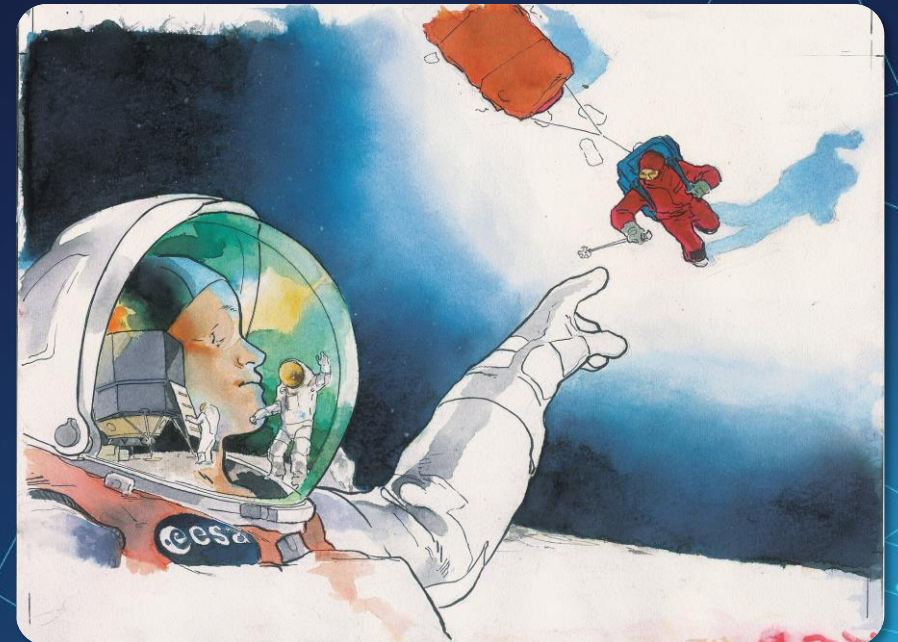
# ACT NOW, ACT DIFFERENTLY

# Space Summit Resolution

... pave the way for **Europe's technological, scientific and commercial participation in a post-ISS orbital economy**, through the competitive development of a low Earth orbit cargo return service,

[...] contributing as one of the possible solutions to the **parallel preparation** towards a potential future crew vehicle and further destinations;

"Resolution on Lifting Europe's Ambitions for a Green and Sustainable Future, Access to Space and Space Exploration", adopted on 6 November 2022 by the ESA Council, meeting at ministerial level



# DG Proposal

## Objective 1:

developing a **LEO cargo return service** to  
enable ESA's participation  
in the post-ISS LEO ecosystem and  
economy,  
requiring a demonstration mission with a  
**target date of 2028**



# DG Proposal

## Objective 2:

enabling an affordable and swift development of a **potential future LEO crew vehicle**, should it be decided by Member States at a later stage

## Objective 3:

enabling an affordable and fast development of **potential future cislunar cargo and crew vehicles**, should they be decided by Member States at a later stage, by maximising commonalities and synergies with the LEO vehicles.



# Phases (service development)

## Phase 1 (June 2024 – June 2026)

- Goal: advance the development to a stage that enables the execution of the demonstration mission by the target date.
- ESA co-funding: 75 Million total (3 contracts)

## Phase 2 (June 2026 – execution of the demonstration mission)

Phase 2 is subject to decisions, approval and appropriation of funds at the ESA Council at Ministerial Level in 2025.

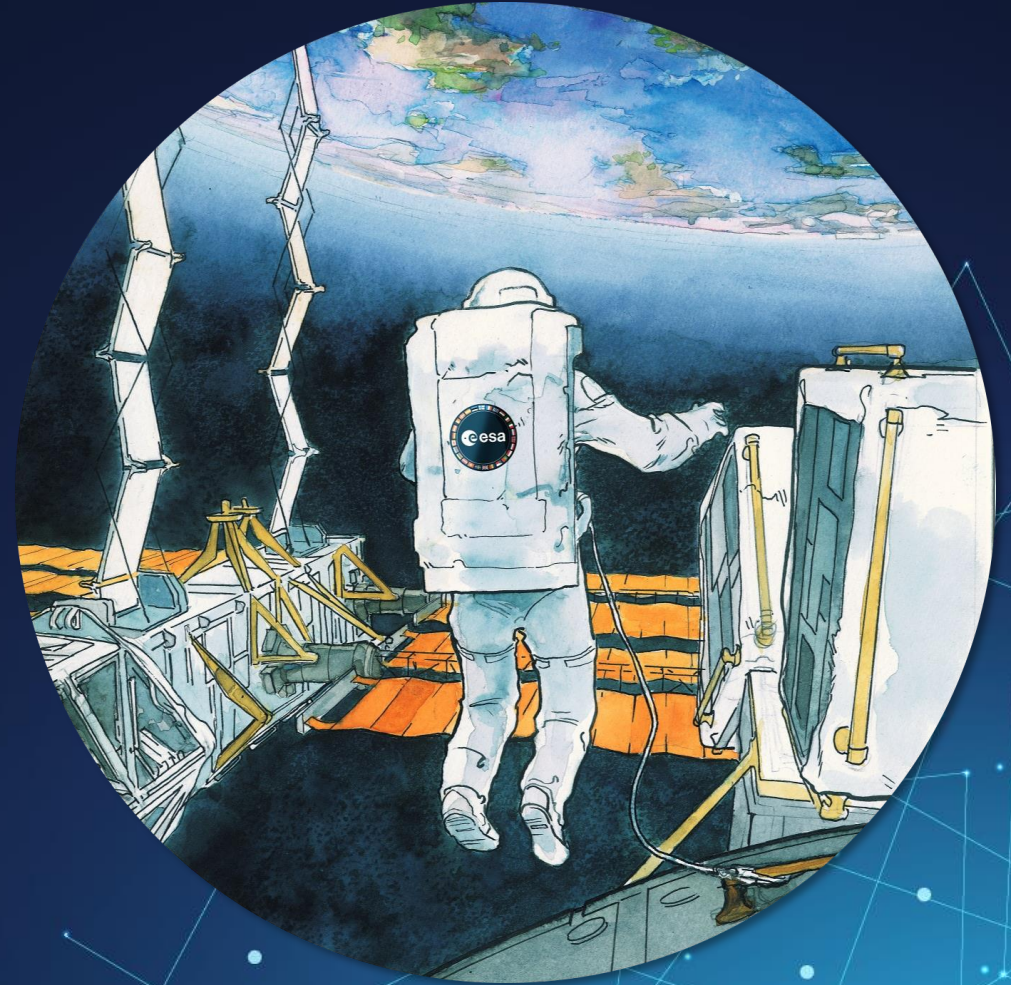


# Phases (service)

Following a successful demonstration mission,  
should ESA receive the mandate to do so,

the Agency will procure recurring services  
that will serve as **barter elements** to enable  
**astronaut flights and utilization** in the post-  
ISS LEO ecosystem

(subject to future decisions by the  
ESA Council at Ministerial level)



# High level requirements

Demonstrate end-to-end service of pressurized cargo delivery to - and return from - the ISS, including powered cargo.

## Fulfil certification requirements

Industry retains full design authority and is free to define performance targets for a competitive and profitable service to both institutional and private customers.

vehicle and associated infrastructure/operations are compatible with evolution to crew transportation to LEO and cargo return from cislunar space



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  - Target of minimum 40% in the overall activity (Phase 1 + Phase 2)

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# Timeline

- ☒ Dec 2023: issue of the Fixed Call for Proposals
- ☒ 8 Jan 2024: industry briefing
- ☐ 29 Feb 2024: deadline to submit proposals
- ☐ Mar-Apr 2024: proposal evaluations, negotiations, audits
- ☐ May 2024: Contracts Signature