COSPAR

Panel on Potentially Environmentally Detrimental Activities in Space (PEDAS)

15 April 2026



Chair:

Carolin Frueh, C. (USA), 2022 – 2026*



Vice-Chair:

Carmen Pardini (Italy), 2022 – 2026* (Carmen.Pardini – at – isti.cnr.it)

Terms of Reference:

The COSPAR Panel on Potentially Environmentally Detrimental Activities in Space (PEDAS) is concerned with perturbations of the terrestrial and planetary environments resulting from space activities. Typical examples are: space debris in Earth orbit, light pollution from satellites, pollution of the Earth's atmosphere by rocket launches and re-entries, perturbation of the lunar environment by all human activities as well as possible perturbation of the Martian environment by space activities. The Panel acts on an ad hoc basis to evaluate questions of environmental impacts by space activities alone or together with other relevant organizations primarily to advise the international community, e.g., the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) of the United Nations.

* (after officer term) = second and final term in the office indicated

Intercommission/Panel/Task Group/Committee Liaisons:

- COSPAR: Thomas Schildknecht, 2024 – 2028
- PE: Jiri Silha, 2024 – 2028
- CIR: Hélène Boithias (Airbus)
- CIR: John Reed, ULA, Chief Technologist

For further details about the Panel, please visit the PEDAS home page.

Related links:

COSPAR Panel on Innovative Solutions (PoIS) invitation to **join the quest to revolutionize space debris tracking**.

COSPAR signed **ESA's Zero Debris Charter** in November 2024

The challenge of space debris: Near-Earth and Cislunar, Open Access Government, April 2022