

## Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Space Industry Friends,

Ten years ago, we had the pleasure of organizing a reception here in Prague. I remember well the backdrop – the **European Union** had just been awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize**, demonstrating the incredible strength of this Union and the successful space programs as good examples of how to cooperate.

The occasion back in 2012 was that **EUSPA, GSA** at the time, had moved to Prague. We, as the industry association for downstream space industry, wanted to express our support to the important role GSA had in enabling growth and value creation in Europe related to space and space applications. This task was close to the heart of our association **Galileo Services** then, and still is today as **Space Y**.

Today we have many achievements we would like to celebrate. Firstly, the **Czech Presidency** focus on developing the space downstream industry is highly appreciated by the industry and we trust this important work will be followed up by presidencies to come.

The 10 years anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize has in our present situation become an even more important backdrop for how we choose to work together. It is therefore with great pleasure we extend our congratulations to Europe on the third major space program, **IRIS<sup>2</sup>**, or Secure Connectivity. This is indeed pertinent and timely, and as a Norwegian I would like to add that we would certainly like to join this important program as we have with **Copernicus** and **Galileo** for the **greater good of Europe**.

And happy anniversary to EUSPA for 10 years in in Prague and the Czech Republic. Now with an extended mandate and responsibility and even larger potential for developing growth in Europe. We as **SpaceY** will certainly support this important work any way we can.

And finally, **SpaceY**, former **Galileo Services**, has an anniversary of its own to celebrate. In March 2022 it was 20 years since the association was founded and our “Raison d'etre” has always been to enable value and job creation in Europe related to the great European space programs and therefore focusing on developing **downstream industry and applications**.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome **SES** as a new, full member of **SpaceY**. I would also like to mention that we have recent interest from additional Czech industry players to join this essential association for space downstream. Afterall, this makes perfect sense as Prague in many ways is the **Space Downstream Capital of Europe**.

Please join me in a toast for the ultimate success of the European space programs – ***To create great value for Europe.***

Thank you for your attention.

(Prague, 2022-11-28, Gard Ueland, chairman of Space Y)