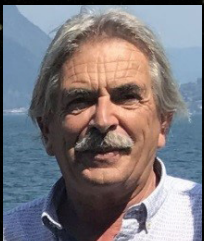


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Nathalie Stéphenne is a geographer with a master's in development studies and a PhD from UCLouvain, Belgium. She worked as team leader and business developer on Earth Observation and GIS topics in private companies (I-mage consult / EUROSENSE), universities (UCLouvain and Free University of Brussel) and research centres (DG Joint Research Center of the European Commission, Italy, and Institut Scientifique de Service Public). She created the Remote Sensing and Geodata unit at ISSeP. She is currently expert in geomatic in Walloon public services (Service Public de Wallonie).



Peter Zeil is senior expert and co-founder of Spatial Services Ltd, Salzburg, Austria, and provides consultancy in the field of earth observation and geospatial analysis. After concluding in 2016 a two-year term as Seconded National Expert working as a Policy Officer at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW, now DG DEFIS) in the context of Space Data for Societal Challenges and Growth, he continues to support the evolution and outreach activities of Copernicus.



Florian Herrmann has been Head of the Bavarian State Chancellery and Minister for Federal and European Affairs and Media since 2018. In this capacity he is responsible for coordinating the politics of the Bavarian government among the ministries - notably its reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic - as well as the politics between the Bavarian government and the federal or European level. Additionally, Florian Herrmann has been a member of the Bavarian State Parliament since 2008 and has been representing Bavaria in the European Committee of the Regions since 2019.



Franz Schausberger studied history and served as governor of Salzburg from 1996 to 2004. In 2004, he founded the Institute of the Regions of Europe (IRE), of which he is also president. The IRE is committed to strong networking of the regions in Europe and has about 160 members (regions, cities and municipalities as well as institutions and companies) from 20 European countries. Since 1996, Franz Schausberger has represented the province of Salzburg in the European Committee of the Regions in Brussels. From 2016, he acted as special advisor for enlargement and neighborhood policy to EU Commissioner Johannes Hahn. Since July 2020, he has been supporting Commissioner Hahn in his new function as Budget and Budget Commissioner as Special Advisor for EU Information in Europe.



Julien Turpin is policy officer and team leader for communication activities of DG Defence Industry and Space (DEFIS) at the European Commission. Julien joined the European Commission in 2014 in the context of the recently adopted Copernicus Regulation. He notably initiated the concept of Copernicus Relays and Copernicus Academy Networks and has ensured their supervision and development since the very beginning. Within the recently created DG DEFIS, Julien continues to manage initiatives aiming at fostering the promotion and uptake of Copernicus at European, regional and local levels.

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Barbara Riedler is an interdisciplinary researcher at the University of Salzburg, Department of Geoinformatics Z_GIS. Her thematic research focus lies in the support of humanitarian activities and environmental monitoring through EO-based indicators. She has profound knowledge and understanding of the Copernicus programme and landscape with particular focus on space components, user uptake and networking initiatives. Currently she is involved in the project management and coordination of dissemination activities of CopHub.AC.



Vidar Lien is a researcher at the Institute of Marine Research in Norway and expert in marine climate variability in northern latitudes, is involved in both the marine in-situ data component and the Arctic marine forecasting center of the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service.



Andres Jaadla is vice mayor of Rakvere and rapporteur on Space issues at the EU - Committee of the Regions. He is advisory board member of the UBC Sustainable Cities Commission and member of the UNECE Housing and land management, UNECE Real Estate Market Advisory Group. He is active in fostering tight cooperation between the European Institutions and Commission and Smart City Stakeholders and participated in several international delegations (USA, China, Japan etc.).



Christoph Schröder is a project manager and spatial data expert at the European Topic Centre team of the University of Málaga, supports European-wide environmental assessments for the European Environment Agency and collaborates in different user-uptake initiatives of Copernicus data and services at local, national and European level. As part of the CopHub.AC project team, he coordinates the Copernicus Academy Thematic Working Groups.



Roya Ayazi is holding positions in European Affairs since more than 20 years. Since 2009 she is Secretary General of NEREUS and is leading the Brussels/Belgium based secretariat. Her core responsibilities comprise advocacy and political interest representation towards the European institutions and the European Space Agency, international networking and collaborations. In this respect, Roya is responsible for the network's long-term partnership with the EC and ESA Copernicus4regions. Being trained as a German lawyer, Roya is a member of Women in Aerospace (WIA) and a former member of the Horizon2020-Advisory Group.

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Bernardo de Bernardinis was in charge of the presidency of ISPRA, the Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) until June 2017. Previously, he had been the Deputy Head of the Italian Civil Protection Department for Technical Operations for almost ten years. He holds a PhD in Fluid Mechanics from Imperial College. Therefore, even as a university professor for over twenty years, he had the opportunity to develop a professional, research and academic experience in earth observation, environmental prevention, protection, monitoring and assessment at national and international level. He acted as Chair or Member of numerous national and international committees and scientific groups and represented Italy in the GMES/Copernicus Committee and User Forum until 2019. In this long period, he helped the EC in designing and launching the first GMES operational services as Chair of the implementation group of what is now the Copernicus Emergency Management Service. He also participated in implementing and coordinating the Copernicus National User Forum, composed by the National Copernicus User Community representations under the leadership of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and supervised by its Military Advisor Office. Since the 2018, he is in charge of the promotion, implementation and coordination of the network of the national members of the European Copernicus Academy.



Monica Miguel-Lago is a senior project manager at the European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC) with more than 15 years of working experience in the Earth Observation sector interacting with different stakeholders from the most highly regarded technological related firms to international organizations such as GEO, UN specialized agencies, ESA or EC. With scientific background and proven "lead" for a diverse range of Association related activities but also responsible for relations with EARSC members and other stakeholders where she contributed to enhancing and improving EARSC's community relationships. Through all these years, she acquired a deep understanding of the EO applications portfolio and its evolution gaining the ability to communicate on the capabilities and limitations of Earth Observation, which makes her profile with valuable assets and experience for conducting international projects.



Antonio Tabasco Cabezas is head of GMV's Remote Sensing Applications and Services Division at GMV. Antonio has a background in Computer Science that makes him a firm believer in the use of Big Data and Machine learning for the upscale of EO services. As a result of the activities carried out, GMV holds a strong position in the areas of Security and Emergency, Forestry and Agriculture with a clear strategy for the future towards the improvement of climate resilience and data integration.

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Francisco Luís Wallenstein Faria e Maia de Macedo has graduated in Economics (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, 1994) and in Biology (Universidade dos Açores, 2002) and has a PhD in Marine Biology (Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh-Scotland, 2011). After 10 years doing research on coastal ecosystems of the Azores and 5 years working as Project Officer in the Fisheries and Science & Technology Departments of the Regional Government of the Azores, he was recently appointed to represent the Region in NEREUS and Copernicus matters and invited to integrate the Cabinet of the Regional Secretary for Sea, Science and Technology and the Azores Mission Structure for Space. Since March 2019 he has assumed the role of President of the Management Board of “Associação RAEGE Açores”, the entity that represents the Azores region in the General Assembly of the recently founded Portuguese Space Agency – Portugal Space.



Dimitrios Papadakis is Co-founder and Director of Evenflow, a fast-growing SME specialised in the promotion, exploitation and market uptake of innovative technologies, primarily related to Space. He is a strategy consultant and communication expert with twelve years of experience in the commercialisation of space-based applications, particularly linked to Copernicus. Dimitri has served as project manager, editor and author high-profile Copernicus-related activities and has managed contracts for clients such as the European Environment Agency, the European Commission and European Union Satellite Centre. Dimitri was one of the primary contributors to the landmark Copernicus Cost-Benefit Analysis, and has carried out numerous Copernicus-related market and user uptake studies.



Phil Monbet, with a background in chemistry from the University of Brittany, completed a thesis „Marine Chemistry“ at the European Institute of the Sea (IUEM, Brest). He then joined Ifremer and Ineris „National Institute of Industrial Risks Environment“ for missions of marine environmental research, expertise and consulting. His research activities have taken him to the AIMS „Australian Institute of Marine Science“, Melbourne Monash University and Plymouth University in the UK where his research was devoted mainly to the biogeochemistry of phosphorus in waters and coastal sediments. Back in France, he has provided consultancies for major French energy stakeholder regarding the ecological monitoring of water around nuclear power plants waterfronts (Flamanville, Penly Paluel) and AREVA NC La Hague. In 2010, he joined Pole Mer Bretagne Atlantique, a Sea Business Cluster dealing with innovation in the maritime sector as Head of European Affairs managing the European projects. Phil has been on secondment for several year at France Energies Marines, the national French research institute on MRE. He has been appointed Deputy Director in charge of the cluster management and international affairs since 2017.

Recent link with the European Commission:

- Expert evaluator at the European Commission (EASME) since 2016
- Member of the Blue Skills working Group at DG-MARE
- National Contact Point (Space)
- Copernicus Relay

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Stefan Lang is Associate Professor at the Department of Geoinformatics – Z_GIS, head of the “Integrated Spatial Analysis” division and Research Coordinator at Z_GIS. He leads the Christian Doppler Laboratory GEOHUM and is coordinator of CopHub.AC and early promoter of the Copernicus Academy. With his interests in spatial image analysis, systemic and hierarchical scale concepts, and multi-source data integration, he belongs to the core faculty in the Doctorate College GIScience. Dr Lang has organized a number of conferences, workshops, and Summer Schools, and is involved in the programme coordination of the ERASMUS Mundus Copernicus Joint Master-in Digital Earth. As a co-founder of the Z_GIS spin-off Spatial Services GmbH he is active in Copernicus service development and validation concepts, including in the humanitarian domain.



Jürgen Vogel works as Coordinator International Programmes for the Bavarian Cluster Aerospace - bavAIRia e.V. - in Oberpfaffenhofen since 2011. He is member of the Copernicus Office Bavaria as well as of the Copernicus Relay bavAIRia. For twenty years, Jürgen has been dealing with regional innovation support and policies. He has been coordinating eight European regional initiatives, many of them related to Galileo or Copernicus applications. He holds a Ph.D. in physics from the University of Erlangen, Bavaria, and is a Feodor-Lynen fellow of the Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation, Bonn.