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APRIL 2026

**Dear colleagues, partners, and friends of HARMONY,**

Welcome to the eleventh edition of the HARMONY project newsletter!

Most of the doctoral candidates are now working on their final results and writing their manuscript. This newsletter is mostly dedicated to the last "HARMONY Network-Wide Event" which took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2026 at Thales Research and Technology in Palaiseau, France.

[Visit our website to know more about the HARMONY PhDs!](#)

## Retrospective



At the end of March, the Harmonists came together one final time for a last network-wide event hosted by Thales Research and Technology in Palaiseau, France.

On the first day, March 30<sup>th</sup>, the HARMONY coordinator Dr. Thomas Delamotte, presented the project at the JPAL "Journée de Palaiseau" event organized by Thales. The coordinators from two other European training networks, ANTERRA and GENIUS, also took the opportunity to share highlights from their respective projects.

In the context of the Thales Industry Days on March 31<sup>st</sup>, the HARMONY PhD candidates delivered a joint presentation covering their individual research topics, shared training activities, and the HARMONY Project as a whole.

On both days, the Harmonists also showcased their research through poster presentations, giving attendees a closer look at their PhD work.

This very fruitful event concluded with a panel discussion entitled "Bridging the Gap to Product - Maturing the Technologies for European Competitiveness," with the participation of representatives from Thales Group, Airbus Defense and Space UK, Eutelsat and CNRS.



Since the beginning of the year, the Harmonists also made several achievements in their PhD research and professional careers.

**Giulio Orlando** participated in the 2026 Caltech Space Challenge at the California Institute of Technology. There, he contributed to a collaborative environment with his specialized expertise in satellite telecommunication systems, complemented by an exclusive technical tour of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

**Oscar Martínez** is developing a measurable prototype of his 1D steered antenna design to validate the proposed concept. He has submitted his doctoral dissertation to the faculty of electrical engineering of the University of Bundeswehr Munich and is currently awaiting the defense.

Over the past few months, **Alex Evrard** has finalised two antenna prototypes. The first has already been manufactured and is currently awaiting the second prototype before measurements can begin.

During the past months, **Azra Batool** progressed her physical-layer authentication study by developing a dedicated simulator for the proposed PLA technique.

**Dany Mestas** has settled in Thales Alenia Space Madrid while his work has grown more structured with the consolidation of his involvement in the Satellite Network of Experts (SatNEX) research framework, which has culminated in the submission of an invited journal paper.

**Aymeric Cailleux** is finishing the writing of his manuscript and now actively works for ESA.

## Voices of HARMONY



With HARMONY now approaching its final phase, it is wonderful to see the progress that all doctoral candidates have achieved, both in their individual projects as well as in the collective training activities. On 31 March 2026, the HARMONY Industry Day was held in Thales Research Technology. It was a joint event with two other MSCA networks focusing on related technologies - namely ANTERA and GENIUS. During this event, which was attended by representatives of major European space players as well as SMEs (e.g. Eutelsat, Airbus, Celestia, S2P), all doctoral candidates presented their work in a stimulating poster session.

The feedback received was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the significant contribution to knowledge as well as skill and talent achieved in the project. HARMONY has been a very rewarding journey. Wishing all the best to all Harmonists as they embark in their next career steps!

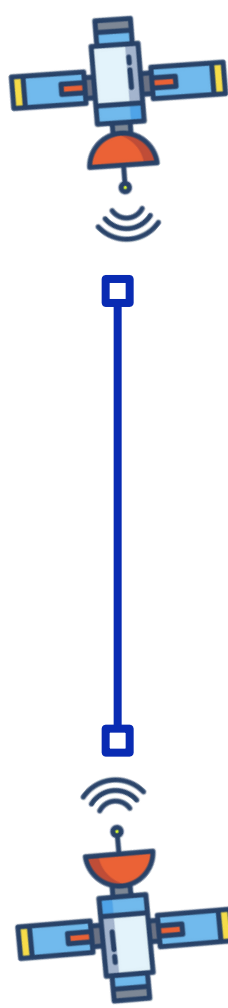
**George Goussetis - Member of the HARMONY supervisory board**



## Commitment

The HARMONY Project supports nine PhD candidates in conducting research aimed at laying the groundwork for next-generation satellite systems and aerospace technologies. In doing so, HARMONY helps build a foundation for future European training programs – most notably the upcoming **SPARE Project** (SPAcE REsponsible), which kicked off in November 2025 and is also funded by the EU's Horizon Europe programme.

From the outset, HARMONY has been committed to training the next generation of engineers and researchers to the highest standard, fostering close collaboration between academic institutions and industry partners. This collaboration with the European space sector translates into concrete solutions to real challenges, helping drive the industry forward.



The European space industry today faces rapid and profound change. Meeting these challenges requires talent, ingenuity, ambition, and bold technological bets.

Ultimately, it is through international and European cooperation that Europe can close the technological gaps needed to remain competitive in the global space race and to seize the opportunities emerging around new satellite technologies in telecommunications and computing. Europe must also remain at the forefront of space exploration, which continues to inspire generations of scientists and citizens alike to believe in something greater than themselves.

"The HARMONY Project remains committed to delivering excellence in training, helping to build and strengthen Europe's space industry through innovation."

## Looking Ahead

Thank you for following the HARMONY Project's newsletter throughout the years.

We hope that they provided you with an insightful view of Europe's dynamic space industry and ambitious international collaborations.

As the harmonists are finishing their PhDs and writing their manuscripts, many scientific publications and contributions are still to come.

See you in June for the next HARMONY Newsletter !

Kind regards,

The HARMONY Team

**Thank you!**

