



**INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL AVIATION
ORGANIZATION**



Agenda Item 9

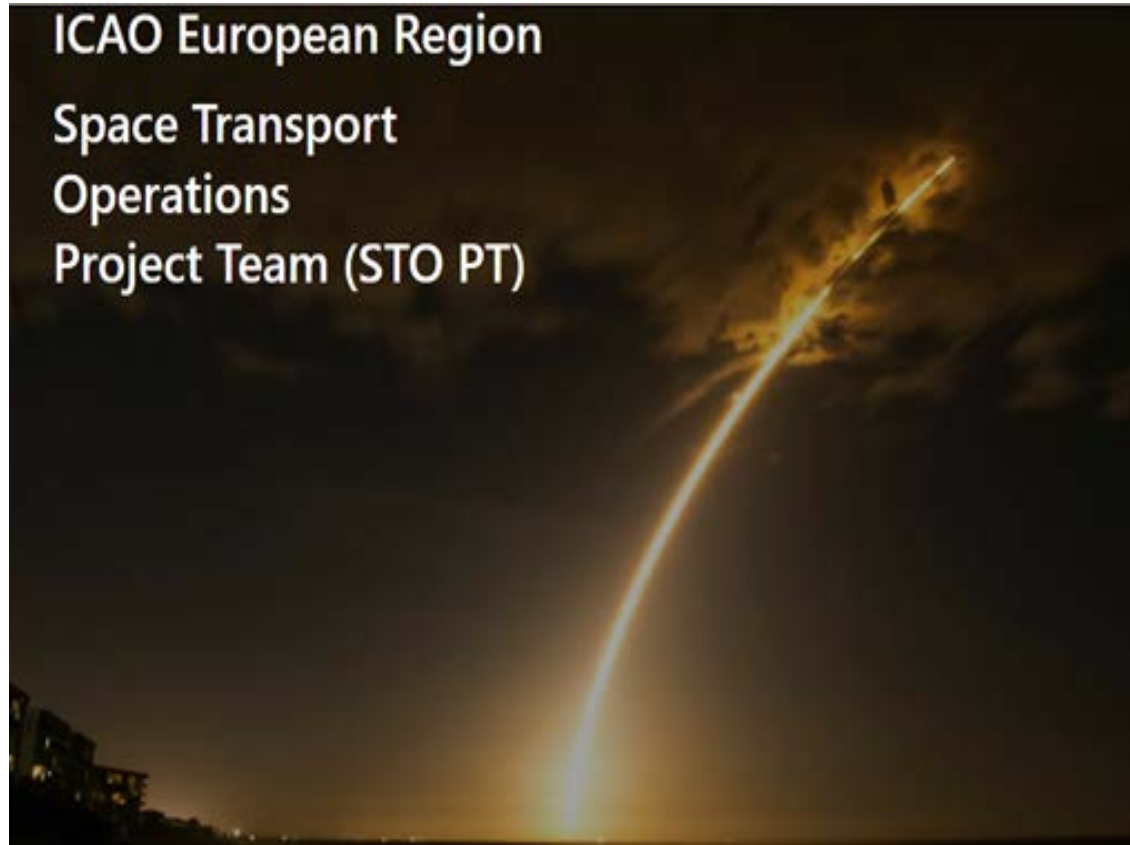
Space Transport Operations

Lt. Col. Stefano PIERACCINI, Italy
Elkhan Nahmadov, ICAO

EUR/NAT-DGCA/2026
Castellaneta, Italy, 9-10 June 2026

STO PT

ICAO European Region
Space Transport
Operations
Project Team (STO PT)



- EASPG agreed to establish a dedicated multidisciplinary Project Team for the development of regional guidance material on Space Transport Operations for the EUR Region (EASPG Decision 6/2)
- Mr. Stefano Pieraccini from Italy is the chairperson of the PT
- Aviation and Space experts from Austria, Croatia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, (United States as an observer), French Guiana Space Center (CNES), EUROCONTROL, and IATA
- PT is expected to finish in June 2026



ICAO

STO EUR Doc guidance material will be consistent with



- ICAO Doc 7300 - International Convention on Civil Aviation
- ICAO Annex 2 - Rules of the Air
- ICAO Annex 11 - Air Traffic Services
- ICAO Annex 13 - Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation
- ICAO Annex 15 - Aeronautical Information Services
- ICAO Annex 19 - Safety Management
- ICAO Doc 4444 - Procedures for Air Navigation Services - ATM
- ICAO Doc 10066 - PANS - AIM
- ICAO Doc 10088 - Manual on civil military cooperation in ATM

- NAT Doc 013 - Operational Guidance Material for Commercial Space Operations
- EUR Doc 032 - Flexible Use of Airspace Concept
- ICAO Asia/Pacific Regional Guidance for Space Object Launch and Re-entry Activities
- CANSO – Considerations for Managing Space Operations

- Additional space law provisions as defined by the UNOOSA treaties/principles and/or UN COPUOS

STO EUR Doc

- The guidance material provides harmonized procedures for the planning and management of airspace to support the safe, efficient and predictable integration of Space Transport Operations (STO), including launch and re-entry events, within the ICAO EUR Region
- It is intended for **STO stakeholders** as defined in the Definitions section and supports coordination at national, cross-border and inter-regional levels while recognizing State sovereignty and the operational requirements of the EUR airspace network
- The guidance complements national laws and operational procedures without superseding State authority. It may also support coordination with neighboring FIRs and States outside the ICAO EUR Region where STO activities affect EUR airspace

STO EUR Doc focus on Airspace Coordination

- The primary focus of this guidance is to support the safe, efficient and harmonized coordination of airspace for STO in a manner that preserves network resilience and ensures equitable access for all airspace users
- Timely engagement, transparent information sharing, and collaborative decision-making (CDM) are essential to balancing the needs of STO operators with those of traditional airspace users
- The flexible use of airspace (FUA) principles, civil-military coordination mechanisms, and cross-border cooperation frameworks are fundamental
- The integration of Space Transport Operations (STO) requires timely exchange of information between space and aviation stakeholders. These may include: the Launch and Re-entry Operator (LRO), the Spaceport Operator, the National Space Regulator (NSR), the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), military authorities (where relevant), Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs), and where applicable the EUROCONTROL Network Manager (NM).

STO EUR Doc some initial key aspects

- AIM considerations, including timely cancellation of NOTAMs
- Aviation Impact and Safety Risk assessments considerations
- During the tactical phase, close coordination, for example through a hotline, is recommended between the relevant space sector stakeholders and the affected ANSPs, in order to keep the latter abreast of the STO progress, including any anomalies requiring urgent action
- The responsibilities of National Space Regulators, Launch and Re-entry operators, Spaceports, Civil Aviation Authorities, and Air Navigation Services Providers may vary by States, and consequently differ from the general aspects as described in the guidance material



Establishment of an ICAO task force on the safe integration of space transport operations into the airspace system

- The guidance material for air navigation services providers related to the integration of space transport operations should address NOTAM dissemination, stakeholder communication associated with specific operations, air traffic flow management, and data-sharing for real-time updates on the status of the airspace, excluding telemetry data of launch vehicles
- SL AN1/72-IND/26/2 of 21 April 2026



ICAO

Draft EUR/NAT DGCA Conclusion 2026# / Space Transport Operations

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, encourage EUR/NAT States to:

- a) engage in the ICAO task force on the safe integration of space transport operations into the airspace system;
- b) continue to share experience regarding STO integration; and
- c) use the EUR STO Guidance material, once approved by EASPG, in support of the safe, secure and efficient integration of Space Transport Operations in civil aviation operations.



ICAO



Thank You