The EUropean Conference for AeroSpace Sciences, EUCASS (www.eucass.eu) is a nonprofit international association established in Belgium. It was founded in July 2006 to stimulate the development of pure and applied aerospace sciences in Europe. The purposes of EUCASS are scientific, technical, and educational.

The association focuses on forefront science and cutting-edge technologies. It is at the service of Academia, Industry, Agencies, and other decision makers, by fostering communication and cooperation among them in order to reduce the time to the market for innovations. The association helps young scientists to find internships outside their countries of origin and supplies information on mobility and job opportunities. Last, it promotes a much-needed dialog between researchers and the governing bodies of Europe.

The base of EUCASS is the European Continent, Russia included. Members from all other countries are welcome. Today, the association counts in excess of 600 members from over 30 different countries. It is a member of the International Astronautical Association (IAF) and is partnering with European disciplinary associations ECCOMAS, ERCOFTAC, EUROMECH, and EUROTURBO and with CEAS, the Council of European Aerospace Societies.

Among its notable activities, the EUCASS team has already organized five major first-ever conferences each attended by over 500 participants:

- Moscow (July 2005) co-organized by ONERA and TsAGI with partial operational support from AAAF and the Russian Academy of Sciences;
- Brussels (July 2007) co-organized by ULB and VKI;
- Versailles (July 2009) organized by the ASTECH Cluster;
- St. Petersburg (July 2011) jointly organized by the N. N. Semenov Institute of Chemical Physics of the Russian Academy of Sciences and TORUS PRESS;
- Munich (July 2013) jointly organized by the Technical University of Munich and Astrium (subsequently merged into Airbus Defence and Space)
  Ottobrun, with support from CIMNE in Barcelona.

Each conference includes several parallel symposia, namely, System Integration, Flight Physics, Flight Dynamics, Structures and Materials, and Propulsion

Physics. In the organization of the above conferences, great attention is always paid to the facilitation of cross-fertilization between multidisciplinary activities and between applications of any given technology to space and to aeronautics.

EUCASS has also launched a series of high-level Aerospace Thematic Workshops dedicated to fundamental topics of promising potential for aerospace applications, like the one on "Fundamentals of flow and combustion control by plasmas". The first of these was held in May 2007 at Varenna, Italy; the second and third editions followed in October 2009 and April 2011 at Les Houches Physics School in France. The most recent one of the series was in Aussois in April 2013.

The association's mission is not limited to organizing its biennial conferences and workshops. One of its fundamental tasks is also to publish high quality monographs in the form of Book Series compiling the best scientific works presented. Since 2007, it has been partnering with TORUS PRESS for these proceedings; it also encourages authors to submit their regular articles to the well-established Journal of Aerospace Engineering Part G of SAGE Publications Ltd.

**EUCASS Honorary President** 

Jean-Pierre Taran