

Matosinhos Manifesto

November 23, 2021

In news- Recently, the European Space Agency (ESA) council approved **a manifesto to accelerate the use of space** in Europe to tackle the urgent and unprecedented societal, economic and security challenges faced by Europe and its citizens.

About the Manifesto-

- At the Intermediate Ministerial Meeting that was held in Matosinhos, Portugal, the Council of Ministers unanimously adopted this resolution.
 - It lays down a vision for the continent in terms of maintaining and expanding its activities in space.
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- **The resolution defines three “accelerators” to further advance Europe’s space ambitions. They are:**
1. **To start working towards the “Space for a Green Future”,** so that people are better able to understand the current state of the planet and to develop scenarios and solutions for sustainable life on Earth.
 2. **Rapid and Resilient Crisis Response-** It aims to support governments to act decisively on crises facing Europe, from flooding and storms to wildfires.
 3. **Protection of Space Assets,** whose objective is to safeguard ESA astronauts and assets from interference by space debris and space weather.
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- First accelerator is in line with achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emission targets by the year 2050.
 - Other than this, **the council recognised two “inspirators”** to reinforce European leadership in science, technology development and inspiration: **an icy moon sample return mission and human space exploration.**

European Space Agency (ESA)-

- It is an intergovernmental organisation of 22 member states dedicated to the exploration of space.
- It was **established in 1975 with the aim of developing Europe's space capabilities.**
- Its **headquarters is in Paris.**
- **Its mission is** to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world.