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SPL0T ARTEMIS GENERATION: DESIGNING FUTURES IN SPACE

PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

SPL0T Artemis Generation is an initiative of SPL0T Institute organized in partnership with the United States Department of State and the United States Embassy in Poland.

October 2024 – June 2025



A WORD FROM SLOT INSTITUTE

At SLOT Institute, we believe that designing futures begins with asking the right questions today. For SLOT Artemis Generation, we invited 18 young creatives to explore not only what we might do in space one day, but also the reasons for travelling there and how that journey could include a diversity of perspectives. The program focused on developing speculative scenarios for the long-term human presence in space, grounded in cross-disciplinary thinking and critical imagination.

Through a series of design sprints, public talks, and workshops, SLOT participants worked in diverse teams inspired and guided by top-class mentors and Polish and American experts. They explored real-world challenges and opportunities arising from the Artemis Accords and visions of inhabiting outer space (particularly the Moon and Mars), while situating these within broader social, economic, and ecological contexts.

Through SLOT Artemis Generation, our goal was to empower a new generation of innovators, designers, thinkers, engineers, researchers, and artists to become co-authors of space futures: futures that are thoughtful, ethical, and grounded in human experience. Ultimately, it not only matters who lives beyond Earth, but also who gets to design our life there.



THE THREE LAYERS OF THE PROGRAM

01



SPL0T Artemis Generation Residency Program

An in-depth six-month program for young creators representing diverse fields, working in three teams. The program included three onsite design sprints in Warsaw, along with online teamwork. The groups concluded the process with a public presentation of their concepts at the final event in Warsaw.

02



Open Program

A series of online and on-site meetings with Polish and American experts representing diverse fields and backgrounds. The Open Program was available to the public, aiming to stimulate interdisciplinary discussion on the future of space exploration within a broader context.

03



SPL0T Showcase/ Exhibition

The “Beyond the Horizons: Designing Futures in Space” exhibition presents the results of the program – prototypes crafted by the teams, along with insights into the creative processes behind them. It emphasizes their speculative nature and diversity of perspectives. The exhibition is designed in a modular form that can be adapted to different contexts. It premiered at Łódź Design Festival 2025 and was also presented at the SPL0T Artemis Generation final event.



SPLIT ARTEMIS GENERATION

IN NUMBERS

93
APPLICATIONS

45
INTERVIEWS

18
PARTICIPANTS

3
TEAMS, MENTORS,
PROTOTYPES

11
PARTNERS

32
EXPERTS

5
HOSTING VENUES

13 000
SHOWCASE VISITORS

6
DESIGN SPRINT
DAYS (ON-SITE)

6
INTERNAL TALKS
& WORKSHOPS

7
OPEN TALKS
& EVENTS

9
CITIES PARTICIPANTS
CAME FROM



IMPACT



- **THREE SPECULATIVE CONCEPTS AND PROTOTYPES** presented to an interdisciplinary panel of experts, sparking extensive discussion and acclaim.



- **WIDE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES** including the exhibition “Beyond Borders: Designing Futures in Space” and a talk at Łódź Design Festival 2025.



- **INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES AND SPECULATIVE METHODOLOGIES** integrated into discussions on space exploration, human space missions, space colonisation, and space resource management.



- **POLISH AND AMERICAN EXPERTS** from diverse disciplines involved, including affiliations with NASA, the SETI Institute, Harvard, and the Smithsonian, delivering talks, discussions, and workshops for the SLOT Artemis Generation cohort and the public.



- **COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS** established with organisations across academia, the space sector, business, design, and culture.



AREAS OF SPECULATION

TOPICS EXPLORED BY THE GROUPS

SLOT Artemis Generation participants critically engaged with three thematic paths inspired by the premises of the Artemis Accords – a set of principles guiding civil space exploration, initiated by the U.S. and signed to date by 55 countries, including Poland.





01 SPACE CITIZENSHIP

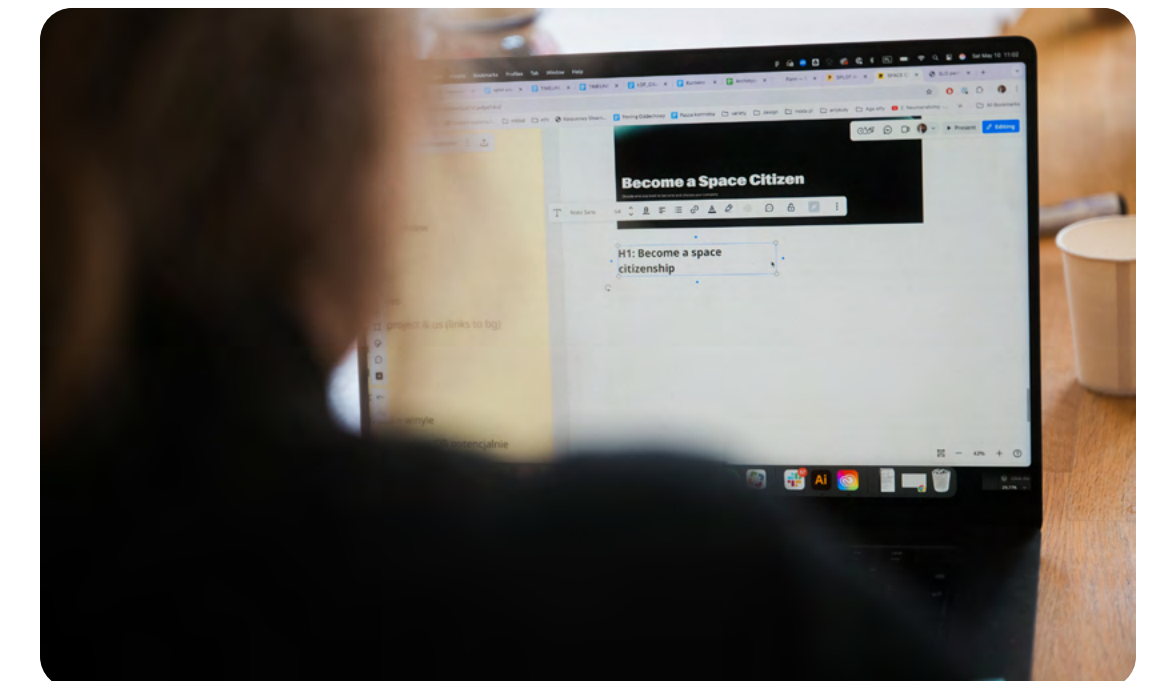
Scope

Explore the dynamics of public participation in space exploration

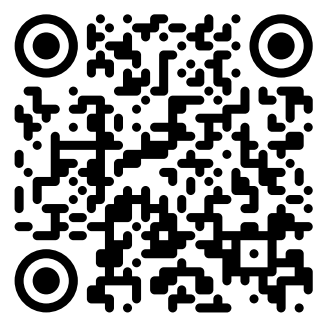
Outcome

Citizenship reimagined – space is not for everyone

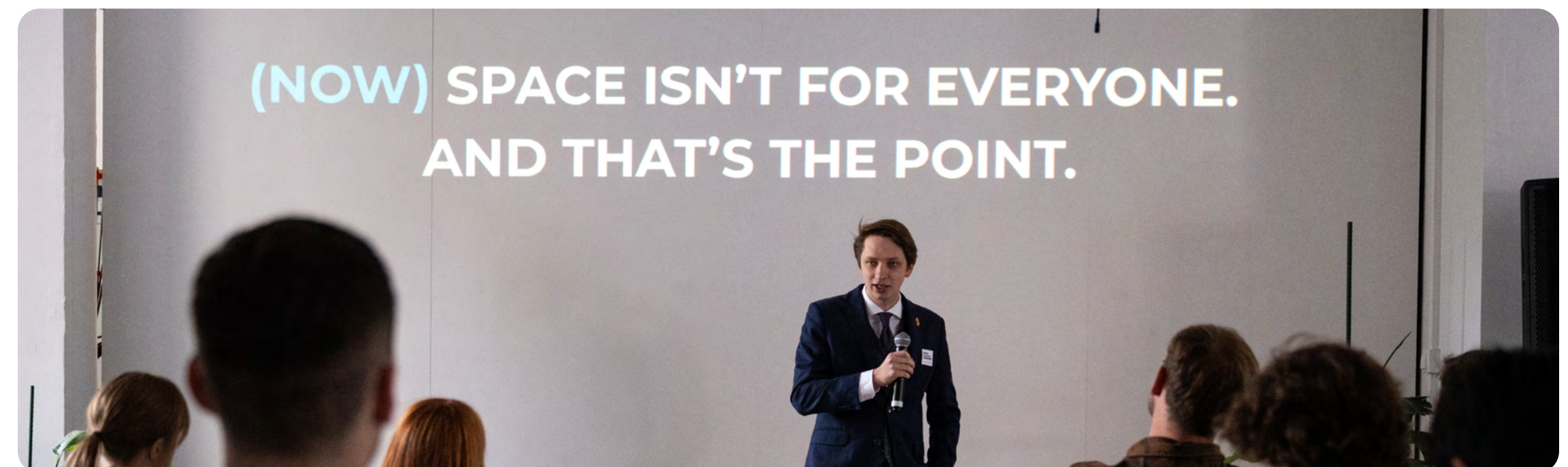
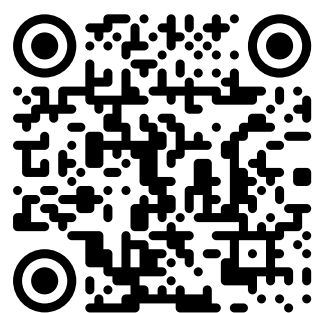
Since the early 2000s, private companies have become key players in the space sector. The team created a speculative scenario that takes this commercialization process further. Framed as a hyperbole, it amplifies current trends to expose potential impacts and tensions between corporate interests and public access. At its centre is the fictional Space Labor Organization (SLO), managing the labor beyond Earth.



Website



Case study





02 SPACE (RE)SOURCES

Scope

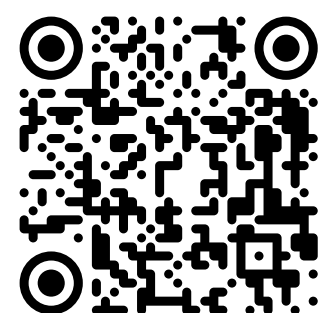
Discover innovative approaches to space ecology that balance technological advancement with environmental stewardship

Outcome

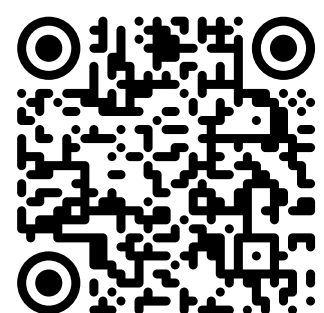
Space Guardian

As space mining becomes a real possibility, we risk repeating mistakes made on Earth: short-sightedness in exploiting people and resources, excessive pollution and degradation of natural environment. The developed concept - Space Guardian, is a speculative role designed to raise awareness and spark dialogue around ethical and environmental responsibility in space exploration before it's too late to mitigate negative consequences of human interference in space environments. The prototype took a form of a research questionnaire exploring public opinion on what a Space Guardian could be and a speculative newspaper "Space Dispatch" presenting hypothetical directions for protecting space landscapes.

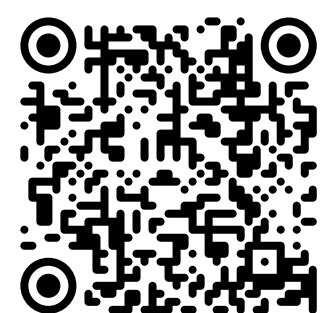
Website



Newspaper



Case study





03 SPACE AS FUTURE HERITAGE

Scope

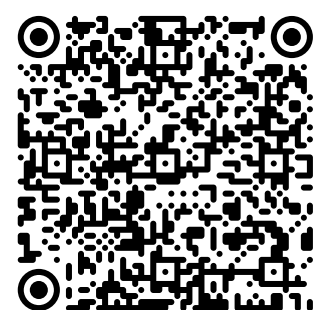
Seek to understand the legacy of human practices in space, focusing on their environmental, cultural, and social impact

Outcome

The Troubadour

The Troubadour is an interactive prototype and an interface that allows users – the members of interplanetary society – to access the collective memories and heritage of humanity living on different celestial bodies. Approach it, hold it, whisper something to it – and you'll hear what the distant stars and their inhabitants have to say.

Case study



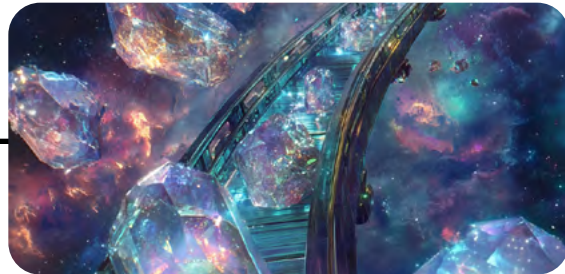


PEOPLE AND COMPETENCES THAT WE BROUGHT TOGETHER



SPACE CITIZENSHIP

- Mateusz Boćko — space systems engineering
- Faustyna Jasek — industrial design, education
- Agnieszka Karolczyk — user experience design
- Dominika Radziejewicz — mechanical design engineering
- Agnieszka Szczotka — psychology
- Michał Jabłoński — philosopher, law, engineering
- Mentor:
Aleksandra Andrzejewska — design, education, activism



SPACE (RE)SOURCES

- Patrycja Kuśmierczyk — designer
- Klaudia Opoka — visual arts, education
- Natalia Plekaniec — project management
- Jan Stępniewski-Janowski — product design
- Tomasz Sułek — space law
- Maciej Szulczewski — mechanical engineering
- Mentor:
Mateusz Józefowicz — space resources



SPACE AS FUTURE HERITAGE

- Piotr Kasprzak — industrial design, music
- Jakub Maliszewski — aerospace engineering
- Natalia Pośnik — conceptual design, storytelling, art direction, film
- Natalia Sokoła — English philology, diplomacy, game design
- Adam Zagrajek — space engineering, business
- Anna Zielazek — space medicine
- Mentor:
Josh Plough — writing, curating



EXPERTS

Agnieszka Skorupa, PhD, University of Silesia in Katowice

Alan Żmuda, Mars Craft Nova

Aleksandra Więcka, Story Design Space

Anna Chrobry, PhD, Airbus

Anna Szylar, Monster Mind Studio

Brad Vick, U.S. Embassy in Warsaw

Erika Nesvold, JustSpace Alliance

Grzegorz Florczyk, NASA JPL

Jan Świerkowski, PhD, Instytut B61

Jędrzej Burszta, PhD, American Studies Center University of Warsaw

Joanna Jurga, PhD, KOTA

Justyna Olszewska, Adam Mickiewicz University, Good Night Collective

Kaja Hopej, Koźmiński University

Dr. hab. Katarzyna Malinowska, Koźmiński University

Laura Godek-Miąsik, LYOF00D

Les Johnson, NASA

Maciej Myśliwiec, Space Agency

Magdalena Pawelec, Mars Craft Nova

Magdalena Łabowska, Mars Craft Nova

Maja Staniewska, Mars Craft Nova

Mariusz Słonina

Martin Elvis, Harvard and Smithsonian

Małgorzata Piskórz, Busola Trends

Melodie Yashar, The Studio of Melodie Yashar

Michał Stokowski, Busola Trends

Michał Ziemiński, Mars Craft Nova

Nikodem Sarna, PhD, Koźmiński University

Dr. hab. Paweł Frelik, American Studies Center University of Warsaw

Radek Grabarek, We Need More Space

Prof. Sherryll Vint, University of California

Tobiasz Piątkowski

Wiktoria Dziaduła, Extremo Technologies





SHARING SPACE AND KNOWLEDGE WITH THE LEADING ACADEMIC CENTERS

Throughout the program, we collaborated with Kozminski University, the Astronomical Observatory and the American Studies Center at the University of Warsaw to host key events, lectures, and public panels.

- The residency was officially launched during the 8th Silesian Science Festival KATOWICE, where we hosted a panel discussion “The Artemis Generation” for the festival’s audience and academic environment of the European City of Science Katowice 2024 that was followed up with an in-person meeting with the participants at spinPLACE.
- The American Studies Center opened the program with expert talks on space politics and culture, including the talks and panel discussion “To Boldly Go Or Not: Human Futures In Space” with Sherryl Vint, Agnieszka Skorupa, and Joanna Jurga.
- Koźmiński University (Centre for Space Studies) hosted one of the design sprints, followed by open sessions, and contributed an expert to SPL0T’s final panel (“Space for Earth, Earth for Space” by Nikodem Sarna and Kaja Hopej).
- The Astronomical Observatory provided a unique, research-based context for space-themed discussions.

These venues enabled participants to engage with knowledge from multiple disciplines and present their ideas to diverse audiences.

PARTNERSHIP IMPACT:

- Connected the program with leading academic and scientific institutions
- Added thematic depth and expertise in fields such as space science, policy, and cultural studies
- Facilitated public engagement through a combination of internal sessions and open lectures

UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW



EXPANDING FUTURES THINKING WITH BUSOLA TRENDS

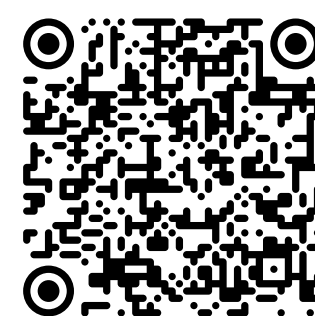


Busola Trends is a foresight and trend research studio that helps organizations navigate the future through strategic insight. During the second design sprint, we partnered with Busola Trends to deliver a speculative design workshop grounded in trend analysis and foresight methods. This collaboration introduced participants to tools and methodologies that expanded their capacity to imagine and design for long-term space futures.

PARTNERSHIP IMPACT:

- Strengthened the conceptual foundations of the projects
- Provided accessible and practical tools for futures thinking and scenario building
- Enabled participants to confidently apply speculative design methods across disciplines
- Enhanced program visibility through post-event publication

Article





ENDLESSLY CURIOUS AT ŁÓDŹ DESIGN FESTIVAL



Łódź Design Festival is a major platform for emerging trends in design, known for highlighting innovation and future-oriented thinking. The 2025 edition was held under the theme “un_end.” SPLIT Artemis Generation was invited to present its outcomes at the festival, where participants showcased their speculative prototypes in a public exhibition and delivered a live presentation of their work. This collaboration brought the program into a high-profile creative context, expanding its audience and fostering critical dialogue.

PARTNERSHIP IMPACT:

- Embedded the program within one of Poland’s leading international design events
- Enabled public exhibition of project outcomes and direct engagement with participants
- Facilitated discourse on speculative futures within the wider design ecosystem





TASTING SPACE CUISINE WITH LYOF00D

LYO®

LYOF00D develops high-quality freeze-dried meals for extreme conditions, from alpine summits to outer space. During one of the design sprints, LYOF00D provided participants with freeze-dried meals developed for real-world expeditions. At the final event, they delivered a talk on the psychology of taste in extreme environments and hosted a food tasting featuring meals taken to space by Polish astronaut Sławosz Uznański-Wiśniewski.

PARTNERSHIP IMPACT:

- Provided meals during one of the design sprints organised as part of the program
- Contributed expert insights on food, comfort, and human needs in extreme environments
- Hosted a tasting of space-tested meals and shared astronaut-approved recipes at the final event





WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY:



“

[My main takeaway from the program is] understanding how differently people perceive, describe, and make sense of specific things.



“

[My main takeaway from the program is] the vast amount of ‘space’ knowledge I gained and my growing interest in the topic, which I hope to put to use someday.



“

The program gave me the opportunity to see what the design process can look like within a non-design group, which turned out to be a highly creative experience. It opened me up to different perspectives and gave me greater trust in the initial chaos that inevitably arises in such situations.



WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY:

“

The lectures were one of the best parts, especially because the experts came from such diverse fields. That was truly valuable.



“

It was an interesting experience with many diverse participants, which was probably the greatest added value. The way we were guided through the entire project, from start to finish, was also well-structured and effective.



“

Collaborating with people from different backgrounds, attending the excellently conducted workshops with Busola, and meeting various experts [...] allowed me to explore the topic from multiple perspectives and access information that would have been hard to find on my own.





THANK YOU!



At SPL0T Institute we empower cross-disciplinary thinking to bring unconventional ideas to life. For the future to have meaning again, it must be open-ended, embodied and intertwined. By working together, we can breathe life back into it - we are open for collaborations and partnerships. If you have a project or an initiative in which we can join efforts, please feel free to reach out to us.

SPL0T

SPL0T Institute

www.splot.institute

contact@splot.institute



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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PARTNERS



**ASTRONOMICAL
OBSERVATORY**
UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW



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BUSOLA TRENDS



UNIVERSITY OF SILESIA
IN KATOWICE



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