



STUDY COPERNICUS & DIGITAL EARTH

JUNE 2026
ISSUE NO 9



ERASMUS MUNDUS
JOINT MASTER



COPERNICUS MASTER
IN DIGITAL EARTH



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Palacký University
Olomouc



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ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MASTER

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AQ quality seal 2022-2028

This Erasmus Mundus Joint Master fulfills all necessary requirements for a joint Master of Science. The Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria (AQ Austria) awarded the programme with a quality seal applicable for a period of six years (2022-2028). This is in compliance with the European Approach for the Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes.

Welcome Address

In our newsletter series “**Study Copernicus & Digital Earth**” we highlight the experiences of our **students and alumni**, while also offering insights into our Erasmus Mundus Joint Master (EMJM) a postgraduate programme proudly co-funded by the European Union.



In this periodical, we draw attention to the ‘Global Responsibility Statement’ of the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's programme ‘Copernicus Master in Digital Earth’ (CDE). As members of the CDE community, students are expected to uphold the principles of this declaration, as described in the Student Agreement.

Stefan Lang, Academic Lead, Dean (DAS) Faculty of Digital and Analytical Sciences, University of Salzburg

“Why is it important to us that students commit to upholding the programme’s ethical principles and actively support them?”

In practice, this is equivalent to agreeing to a professional code of conduct or an ethics charter. This does not mean that students are legally bound to specific political positions, but rather that the programme expects academic and professional work to be consistent with the responsible and sustainable use of these technologies.

As experts, we should use geospatial and Earth observation technologies responsibly, consider the wider social and environmental impacts of our work, and above all support the programme’s mission to contribute to sustainable development and a peaceful future.

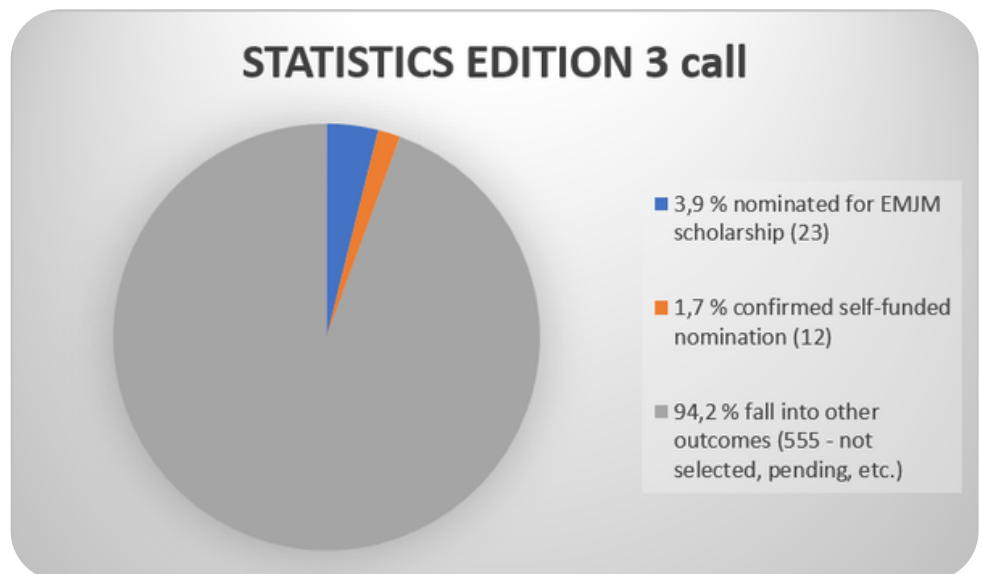
During the orientation week, I always say: *“We are all different, and that is precisely what unites us – particularly when it comes to taking the ethical principles mentioned above into account and putting them into practice in a successful and thoughtful manner.”*

Edition 3 call closed

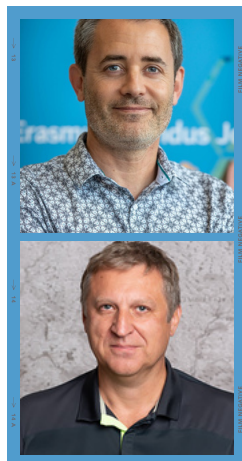
The last open call for applications has been closed on May 30, 2026.

"Congratulations to all selected students. We look forward to welcoming you to Salzburg, Vannes and Olomouc."

Out of 590 completed applications forwarded to the Selection Committee for review, 23 students have been nominated for an Erasmus+ Erasmus Mundus Joint Master scholarship-funded study place. To date, further 12 students have accepted their nomination as self-funded students.



"Give your application your full attention, the selection is extremely competitive!"



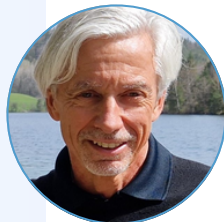
#DYK the next application call will open in November 2026!

"Whether you are based within or outside Europe, if you have a strong academic background, a commitment to excellence, and a desire to work in an international and interdisciplinary environment, we encourage you to apply."

Sébastien Lefèvre & Vít Voženílek, Selection Committee Chairs

Sciencepreneurship workshop

A "Sciencepreneurship Workshop" has been conducted on Wednesday, 6 May 2026 in Salzburg. This informal first opportunity to present student ideas, exchange with peers, and receive feedback from experienced experts in an open and supportive setting which has been initiated by Thomas Blaschke.



"At this early stage, sciencepreneurship does not necessarily mean founding a company or commercialising an idea immediately.

Often, the first step is to further develop a scientific idea, create a demonstrator or prototype, explore potential applications, or identify suitable research and innovation funding opportunities."

Thomas Blaschke, Head of Department of Geoinformatics - Z_GIS, University of Salzburg



"We are also already in dialogue with external partners on how promising ideas can be supported, including in the spirit of a future Geoinnovation Lab."



Thomas Blaschke is pleased to support students with great dedication as they begin establishing their own businesses.



Learn more about our students and graduates, and discover those who have already distinguished themselves through innovations and start-ups.



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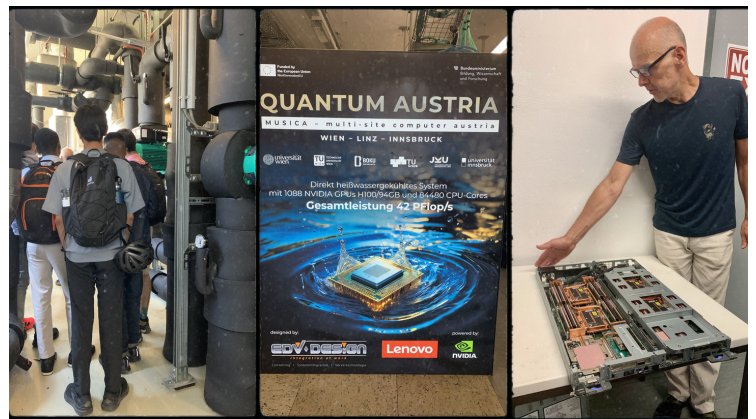
2026 Excursion to EODC & UNOOSA



"With the growing and increasingly widespread use of Earth observation and artificial intelligence, it is essential to experience what lies behind these technologies: energy demands, computing power, cooling systems, and much more. A considerate and sustainable use of these applications can best be understood when standing next to the hardware itself."

Martin Sudmanns, Co-Head of the EO Analytics Lab, Department of Geoinformatics, University of Salzburg.

EODC and the Austrian Scientific Computing (ASC)



premises provided valuable insights into high-performance computing, GPU clusters, and large-scale storage systems.



photo credits: Jedidiah Chibinga

At UNOOSA, discussions covered topics ranging from space policy and space debris to data access as well as insights into UN-SPIDER.

photo credits: PLUS



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STUDENT highlights

While academic studies and fulfilling curriculum requirements should remain the primary focus, the Academic Programme Board recognizes that active engagement in extracurricular activities contributes significantly to the development of leadership, time-management, and interpersonal skills, while also helping students expand their professional networks. Participation in such activities is encouraged both by faculty members and through student-led initiatives.

For this newsletter we do not provide detailed individual reports, but rather a selected overview of student curricular and extracurricular activities, presented in no particular order and without implying relative importance.

Selected events

- [AI4EO Spring School 2026](#) – UBS in Vannes, April 8-10, 2026.
- [Spring School on Visualization](#) “Emotions and Map: The affective dimension of visualization” - UPOL in Olomouc, April 1-2, 2026.
- [Urban and Climate Risk Data Lab](#), World Bank Office, 2026 National Earth Observation conference, May 21-22, 2026, Paris.
- [Student Led CIVIS Workshop “Earth Observation Sciences”](#) - PLUS in Salzburg, May 27-28, 2026.
- [GEO Mountains Youth Ideathon 2026](#), in collaboration with the Mountain Research Initiative and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), July 2-9, 2026, Austria.
- [UN 64th Graduate Study Programme](#) on “AI and Emerging Technologies: Realities, Risks and Opportunities”, June 29 - July 10, 2026, Geneva.

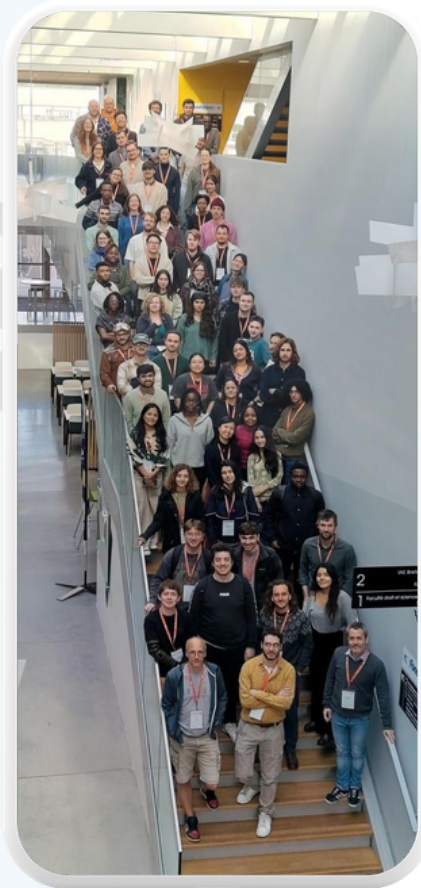


photo credits: UBS



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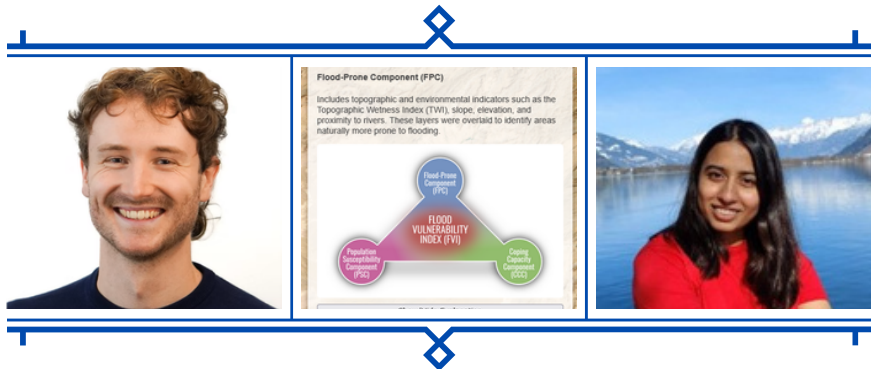


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STUDENT awards

We are always delighted to celebrate the achievements of our award-winning students. The most recent honors and accomplishments are highlighted in this newsletter and the [full award list](#) can be found on our [website](#).



Awards

- [Gernot Nikolaus](#), Mapa Roku 2025 (Map of the Year Award) Student category for cartographic works by the Czech Cartographic Society in Prague.
- [Tanya Singh](#), Erasmus+ Ambassador 2025, OeAD - Agentur für Bildung und Internationalisierung.
- [Arunima Sen](#), GEO Youth Community of Practice (CoP) programme co-lead Group on Earth Observations (GEO).
- [Bamidele Clement Oke](#), 2026 Dean's Awards from Palacký University Olomouc, Faculty of Science, Department of Geoinformatics - first place poster session.
- [Amna Azeem](#), [Annabelle Kiefer](#), [Nicole Salazar Cuellar](#), [Suchi Most Sanjida Anjum](#), Project Award - Out of the box 2026, City of Salzburg.

Salzburg mayor
award to
student team on
June 24, 2026!



photo credits: students



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FACULTY news

Congratulations to Jaroslav Burian who has received the [City of Olomouc Award](#) in the category of [Science and Research](#).

He was honoured for his long-term contribution to geoinformatics, science, and applied research. Assoc. Prof. Burian is one of the leading Czech experts in the field and the author or co-author of more than 80 scientific publications.



Jaroslav Burian



Announcements

- [AGIT 2026](#), conference for Geoinformatics in Salzburg from July 8-9, 2026, hosted by the Department of Geoinformatics, Faculty of Digital Analytical Sciences, University of Salzburg.
- [EuroCarto 2026](#), European cartographic conference organized by the Czech Cartographic Society under the patronage of the International Cartographic Association, 9–11 September 2026 in Brno, Czechia.
- Edition 1, final exams and defense, September 28-29, 2026
- Edition 2. start of specialization tracks September 2026
- Edition 3, start of studies, September 30, 2026
- Edition 4, call for applications will open in November 2026



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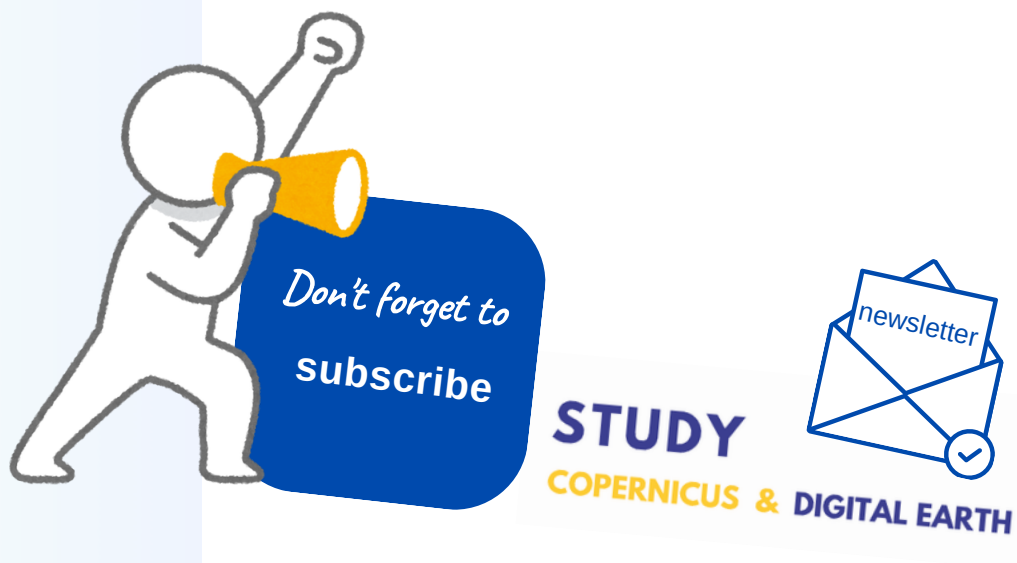
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Erasmus Mundus Joint Master

Copernicus Master in Digital Earth (CDE) is proudly co-funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ programme. For a second period of funding (2023-2029), in total 83 student scholarships can be provided, in addition the programme can support 34 self-paying students with a fee-waiver. For the programme's period 2018-2024 a total of 61 scholarships have been offered to international and European students.

