

Present and future Solar System missions in the framework of the ESA Science Programme

Luigi Colangeli

Head of the Coordination Office for the Scientific Programme, Directorate of Science, ESA

The Science Directorate is in charge of developing the “Science Mandatory Programme”. Through the science programme, ESA implements scientific projects to achieve ambitious objectives. On this ground, science challenges and advancement in technologies work together in a synergistic endeavour. Both long-term science planning and mission calls are bottom-up processes, relying on broad community input and peer review. The Cosmic Vision program is since 2005 the implementation tool for the science mandatory programme. I will present an overview of the space missions in operation, under development and for study with particular emphasis on those visiting the Solar System.