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University of  
Zurich<sup>UZH</sup>

UZH Space Hub

# UZH Space Hub Newsletter



Dear UZH Space Hub Community

In this newsletter you will find news and space-related opportunities in the Swiss landscape and beyond.

Have a nice read,

UZH Space Hub Team

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## News



## **Jelena Rakin joined the UZH Space Hub ecosystem**

We are delighted to welcome Jelena Rakin to the UZH Space Hub network. Rakin is a postdoc at the Department of Film Studies at UZH and is investigating how the cosmos is depicted in film and photography in her research project "Cosmic Images: Astral Aesthetics in Film and Photography". She focuses on the aestheticization of scientific knowledge about the cosmos and the ideological background that produces cosmic images for the cinema. She also investigates how the cinematic representations of the cosmos in turn influence the visualization of scientific measurement data.

[Read more](#)

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## **UZH Space Hub @ Innovation Park Zurich**

In a few months' time, Hall 4 of the Switzerland Innovation Park Zurich at the Dübendorf military airfield will become the base of the UZH Space Hub. The hall has an interesting construction history: the prefabricated building was originally located in southern Germany but had to be dismantled during Germany's demilitarization after its defeat in the Great War and finally ended up in Dübendorf. Today, the hall is a listed building, and its exterior may not be altered: For this reason, a new building is being constructed inside the historical building. The prefabricated timber elements for the new room structure arrived last week.

The UZH Space Hub's Halle 4 at the Switzerland Innovation Park Zurich on the Dübendorf airfield site, will be the place-to-be for established, globally active space companies, SMEs and start-ups from the space and aviation sectors.

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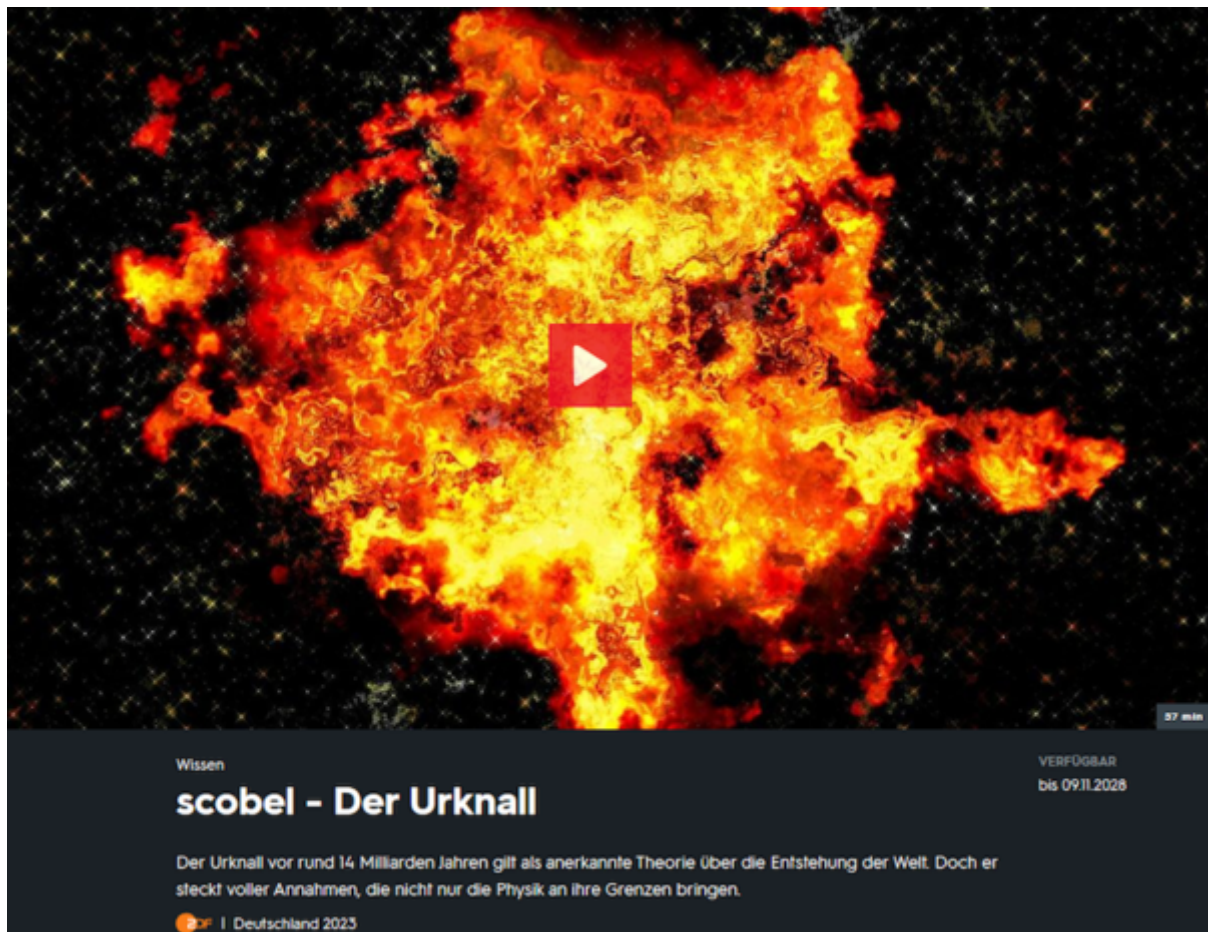
## Great Interest in Space Café Event

Last Monday, Nov. 27th 2023, Vincent Botella-Soler gave an inspiring talk at the Space Café event titled “How to sell your PhD in industry”. The event met great interest among the PhD students and young researchers; more than 100 people attended the event live or via Zoom.

The Space Café format was developed within the UZH Space Hub network and is now in its third year, currently sponsored by the Institute for Computational Sciences and (for the latest event) by PlanetS. The events are organized by a committee of PhD students, supported by the UZH Space Hub. Stay tuned for more events to come up.

[Stay informed](#)

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## Andreas Losch as guest in the German TV Show Scobel on 3sat, discussing the big bang

In the Science-Talk Scobel (German language), 3 guests discuss the theory of the big bang 14 billion years ago, a theory which is widely accepted, but still raises open questions. Andreas Losch is a theologian, teaching at UZH and part of the UZH Space Hub network. His research focuses on ethics of planetary sustainability, and he has specialized on the dialog between theology, natural sciences and philosophy.

[Find the recordings here](#)

# UZH Space Hub Research on Spinal Health



## 83<sup>rd</sup> ESA Parabolic Flight Campaign

Picture: Novespace /Airborne films

### UZH Research on 83<sup>rd</sup> ESA Parabolic Flight Campaign

Jaap Swanenburg from the UZH Space Hub network is doing measurements on the human spine of healthy test persons during parabolic flights on board the AIRBUS A310 ZERO G airplane this week.

The research project aims to deepen our understanding of how altered loads of the spine relate to the risk of herniated (slipped) discs, which are a widespread cause of back pain. With his team of 14 persons, Jaap is participating in the 83<sup>rd</sup> ESA parabolic flight campaign in Bordeaux, France. Among the team members are technicians, engineers, data scientists and test persons for the measurements.

[Read more here](#)

[and follow our thread on X](#)

## Opportunities



## Structure Call of the DIZH Innovation Program open!

The Digitalisation Initiative of the Canton of Zurich (DIZH) aims to strengthen the competitiveness of the Canton of Zurich as a location for research and development. The DIZH Innovation Program launches the second Structure Call and supports long-term innovation structures over a period of up to 5 years. These structures should represent innovative, flexible, and future-oriented formats that can respond to change and promote collaboration between universities and societal actors. The deadline is 1 April 2024. The information event takes place on 14th December 2023 at 2pm.

[More information](#)

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## ESA Academy opportunities

Are you a student and would like to get some insights into the ESA world? Did you know that you can join a diversity of ESA Academy opportunities to get a first taste of the space world? Check out the ESA Academy website and join hands-on initiatives such as “how to fly your satellite!” or “fly a rocket!” or training sessions for instance on “Technology Transfer, Application & Innovation” or “space law”.

[Check out the open opportunities](#)

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