



# Newsletter 2024-1

January 2024

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Dear NVR members,

The new year has started, so it's time for a new newsletter!

In this newsletter you will receive an update of the activities within our association and the developments within the various committees.

If you have any questions, please contact the secretariat ([info@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl](mailto:info@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl))

Happy reading!

## 1. Word from the chair

The new year has started, and it promises to be a particularly beautiful and interesting year for space. After years of delays, the new European rocket Ariane 6 will be launched from the launch site in French Guiana this summer. It is also expected that the launches of VEGA-C will resume in the autumn. Furthermore, it will be an exciting year for the companies involved in the development of the micro launchers. The future of guaranteed European access to space is prominent on the political agenda this year.

In the USA there are plenty of developments with the following launches of Starship (Space-X), New Glenn (Blue Origin), Dream Chaser (Sierra Space), Commercial LEO etc.

Moon and Mars missions are planned and many other scientific satellites / projects with Dutch input (including Hera). China, India, Japan and many other space agencies and commercial companies will be giving a huge boost to further developments. In short, it is going to be a remarkably interesting year!

There are also important new developments in the Netherlands, but we also commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first Dutch satellite ANS, which was launched on August 30, 1974. Together with NRM, NVR will organize an event for this.

Finally, two points of attention from the NVR board:

- As with many other associations, we are struggling with a shortage of people who want to dedicate themselves to supporting the NVR activities. If you want to make an active contribution to the association as a member, you can report to the secretariat ([secretariaat@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl](mailto:secretariaat@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl)). At the moment we are looking for reinforcement for the Web&IT committee, the Communication Committee, the Events committee and also for the new Membership Recruitment committee.
- The board is working on the new strategy plan 2024 – 2026 and hopes to present it during the general assembly (GA) at the end of June. The exact date and location of the GA is still to be announced.

And then finally, the beautiful new space year started with the sad news that our former chairman and honorary member Daan de Hoop passed away on January 6. On January 15, his exceptionally beautiful funeral service was held where the NVR reflected on the particularly vital role Daan de Hoop fulfilled, and he did so for over 30 years, for the NVR. We will publish an article about this in the 2024/1 edition of the magazine Ruimtevaart.

Pieter van Beekhuizen  
Chairman of the NVR

## 2. Update Secretariat / Treasurer

As announced in our previous newsletter, the annual membership fee has been increased as of January 1, 2024. The membership fee for the regular membership has been increased from €35 to €40 per year. In addition, the membership fee for the paid student membership (including the sending of the printed magazine Ruimtevaart) has been increased from €25 to €30, and the membership fee for members abroad from €42.50 to €55.

At the beginning of March 2024, the contribution invoices for this year will be sent, and the amounts will be collected for the members who have issued a direct debit. For the NVR, direct debit is the most convenient in terms of processing. If you have not yet issued a direct debit, you can download an authorization form [HERE](#). We would appreciate it very much if you would authorize us by returning this form to [info@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl](mailto:info@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl)

## 3. Communication

Survey Update: Our communications team has been hard at work analyzing our past strategies, and we're thrilled to announce that the member survey we mentioned in the last newsletter is almost ready to roll out. We're eager to hear your thoughts on NVR, your wishes, and desires. Your input is key to making our communication and services even better.

Fresh Communication Style: Have you noticed a shift in our recent communication? We're all about connecting more with you online through live stories, videos, and blog articles about our events. And guess what? We're keeping that style going strong in 2024 with some new formats. Get ready for more engaging content!

Team Update: Big shoutout to Mari van Alphen, who's been an awesome part of our team for many years. Mari has decided to move on to new projects, and we want to thank him for the smooth handover. At the same time, we're excited to welcome Marien Hofstee to the team. Marien is joining forces with Alexandra to keep you updated on all things NVR through our social media channels and website articles. Welcome, Marien!



Marien Hofstee

## 4. Web & IT

The website & IT committee is focusing on supporting other committees by analyzing the website traffic and other metrics of the association. This will help NVR to better understand what content is most interesting for our members, but also for potential new ones. Furthermore, an initial version of a new landing page was designed to make the website more modern and attractive, and work will continue on this over the coming period.



## 5. Young Professionals

In 2023, the Young Professionals Committee joined forces with several young professional initiatives, including [SpaceNed YP](#) and [SGAC](#). A joint event was organized during The Space Week called 'Young (Space) Professionals'. This inspiring day started with a tour at ESA-ESTEC, followed by presentations by interdisciplinary professionals: Tanja Masson-Zwaan (space law), Amal Tourabi & Monique Schumans (lobby/public affairs), Alessandro Atzei (JUICE mission) and Erdinc Sacan (AI). The afternoon ended with a panel discussion with the audience and a networking drink in the Space Expo.

For 2024, there are already plans in the making for a follow-up to this collaboration for 2024, more information will be revealed soon...

Follow the [NVR LinkedIn page](#) to stay up-to-date for more updates and events for young professionals.



## 6. Events

In the second half of 2023, the NVR's events committee once again organized a series of activities, which involved members in the fascinating world of space travel in various ways. A highlight was the successful return of The **Space Drinks**, an informal gathering of members every second Thursday of the months of May to September. It turned out to be a great success again, and we are currently investigating the possibility of organizing this series again next year. During The **Hague Space Diplomacy Symposium**, which took place around the summer, the NVR showed its involvement in important space discussions. There was also a lot of enthusiasm for the **Galaxy Gala**, a fun combination of a stylish dinner followed by a dance party under the full moon. Moreover, the Galaxy Gala coincided with Space Week, where we made many new contacts during the **ESTEC Open Day** in Noordwijk. A

highlight was the recent company visit to the **Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI)**, where members were given a unique look behind the scenes. We were also actively involved in the **Full Moon Art Competition**, in which the NVR awarded a telescope as a special prize, and in collaboration with the VSV Leonardo da Vinci, SpaceNed, LDE Universities and NL Space Campus, we organized the 9th edition of **'Discover Your Space'**; the annual space career event where students, young and experienced professionals can orient themselves for internship and career opportunities within the space industry.



These initiatives reinforce our focus on bringing members together in special places and exploring diverse fields within space travel. This coming year we plan to organize even more unique events. We will continue to focus on bringing together all space enthusiasts in the Netherlands, not only within the space sector, but also by making connections with adjacent fields. More info to follow!

Furthermore, the NRM (Netherlands Space Museum), in collaboration with the NVR, organizes very interesting lectures on space-related topics every first Saturday of the month. On January 5, the topic was '50 years of Ariane'. This lecture was given by Ronald Klompe. A very well-prepared presentation followed by a lively discussion.

The next lecture is scheduled for February 3 with the title "'Hello, is anyone there" Searching for life in the universe'. This lecture is about the question if we are the only ones in the universe and the research into exoplanets. This lecture will be given by Prof Henny Lamers and is highly recommended.

For more information about the public lectures of the National Space Museum, see the website: [www.nationaalruimtevaartmuseum.nl](http://www.nationaalruimtevaartmuseum.nl).

An overview of the NVR events can be found on our [website](#).



From left to right - Zeholy Pronk (NRM), Ronald Klompe (speaker), Pieter van Beekhuizen (NVR)

## 7. Legal Affairs

As recently announced, the NVR has updated her Privacy Policy, which has become in place from January 10, 2024. You can find the updated privacy policy on our [website](#). This update does not affect the way in which the NVR handles the data of its members.

The changes are related to:

- data that may be collected from future surveys sent by the NVR.
- sending information about NVR committees to the NVR members that are interested in becoming a committee member. This is valid for those who become NVR members after the updated policy is in place.
- the use of cookies on the NVR website.

In case of any questions or remarks, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl](mailto:info@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl).

## 8. Editor Magazine Aerospace

The editors of the magazine 'Ruimtevaart' have made four beautiful issues again in 2023, the fourth issue went to the printer in January. We are currently working the first issue of 2024. For the magazine Ruimtevaart we depend on volunteers who provide interesting ideas or as authors of articles and therefore, as always, call on anyone with a good idea for an article to contact a well-known member of the editorial board or via the e-mail address: [redactie@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl](mailto:redactie@ruimtevaart-nvr.nl).

