

MEDIA ALERT: ESPI AT ARIANE 6 FLIGHT VA267

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1. PRACTICAL LAUNCH INFORMATION

On **12 February**, Europe's most powerful rocket to date is set for liftoff. **Ariane 6 flight VA267** will mark the **first launch of Ariane 6 in its four-booster configuration**, placing **32 of Amazon's Leo (formerly known as Project Kuiper) constellation** into orbit.

Liftoff is scheduled between **16:45–17:13 GMT (17:45–18:13 CET)**, with live coverage starting 30 minutes ahead of launch on **ESA Web TV**.

2. ESPI: AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE

H. Ludwig Moeller, Director of the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), will attend the launch in Kourou and is available for **on-site and remote media interviews** before and after liftoff.

While institutional actors are expected to focus on launch performance and programme delivery, ESPI can provide **independent analysis** on:

- The strategic implications of launching Amazon's broadband constellation from Europe
- How scale, cadence, and launch availability are reshaping power and competitiveness in the global economy
- What the growing role of large commercial constellations means for the development of digital technologies, from the Internet-of-Things to space-based data centres and beyond.

Quote from ESPI Director, H. Ludwig Moeller:

“Europe's access to space underpins its security and digital sovereignty. The inaugural Ariane 64 launch is further testimony of Europe's ability to build-up that autonomy, while delivering into a global and increasingly contested launch market. The development of a strong internal market of space services, commercial and institutional will be key to Europe's long-term success.”

For interview requests with **H. Ludwig Moeller**, please contact:

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