



PRESS RELEASE  
MVA 2020/5  
August 3, 2020

## Ukraine has joined the Moon Village Association



Vienna, Austria - (August 3, 2020) –

The State Space Agency of Ukraine (SSAU) has officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Moon Village Association (MVA) and will further participate in development of various projects to implement sustainable habitation on the Moon.

Ukraine has already participated in the 3rd International Moon Village Workshop & Symposium in December 2019, which took place in Tokyo, where Japan, the United States, India and China also presented their projects. Experts from Yuzhnoye State Design Office have developed a design concept for the lunar industrial and research base, including lunar base configuration, surface vehicles, space transport systems to ferry crew and cargo to the Moon and back.

“Joining the MVA gives us not only the access to the international lunar research database, but also a chance to take an active part in the advanced space projects. The next step for humanity is not conquering Mars but creating the basis for sustainable life activities in space. If we learn to do all this around the Moon orbital stations then we will be able to do this on Mars, on Jupiter moons or anywhere else,” emphasizes Volodymyr Usov, Chairman of the State Space Agency.

“Ukraine Space Agency cooperation with the Moon Village Association is increasing the number of important stakeholders, like Space Agencies, participating in the organization. This will increase foster global cooperation.



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The participation in the exploration and settlement of the Moon is a right for all countries and for the public at large. This cooperation agreement, just signed, will help to promote the Ukraine space industry capability and foster the involvement of the public with outreach inspirational activities planned in Ukraine”

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#### **About the State Space Agency of Ukraine**

The State Space Agency (SSAU) is a governmental organisation that implements space projects and is responsible for the development of the space industry of Ukraine. The agency was founded in 1992 and under its leadership governs design bureaus, scientific organisations and institutions as well as industrial enterprises of Ukraine, which are directly involved in space activities. Nowadays, the organization is actively involved in international projects to build and develop on its space heritage in accordance with the current world standards and open space access policies as well as developing “new space” ecosystems to implement partnerships between governmental and private enterprises. Also, the new legislation on space activities in Ukraine allows the agency to open up a new sector of the space economy and benefit from international cooperation for all parties involved.

#### **About the Moon Village Association**

The Moon Village Association (MVA) is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Vienna, founded in 2017. Its goal is the creation of a permanent global informal forum for stakeholders like governments, industry, academia and the general public interested in the development of the Moon Village. The MVA is the assembling of all efforts from private industry, governments and others aimed to explore and use the Moon in a sustainable manner. Therefore, it is not a literal village on the Moon, it is not an ‘International Space Station on the Moon’, and it is not a single science facility. The MVA fosters cooperation for existing or planned Moon exploration programs, be they public or private initiatives. It comprises approximately 220 individual and 22 institutional members from more than 46 countries, representing a diverse array of technical, scientific, cultural and interdisciplinary fields. The MVA partners with non-space organizations to promote international discussions and formulation of plans to foster the development of the Moon Village, and is creating international, national and regional networks to engage civil society around the world. The Moon Village Association’s mission is unique, bridging together both spacefaring and non-spacefaring nations offering them the opportunity to play a role in its realization. There is no other organization on the international scene having such a mission.

MVA video 2020 is available: <https://youtu.be/6o-EJ7rTTSc>