

MARÍA DE MAEZTU UNIT OF EXCELLENCE

Kick-off Event

Department of Aerospace Engineering · Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Date

21 September 2026

Time

16:00–18:15

Venue

Salon de Grado
Leganés Campus

Programme

Welcome and institutional framing

- 16:00
- O. Flores (Director of the Department of Aerospace Engineering, UC3M)
B. Fernández-Revuelta (Deputy Director for Research at the Community of Madrid)
B. Galiana Blanco (Deputy Vice-Rector for Research and Knowledge Transfer)

The Unit of Excellence: strategic plan

- 16:10
- S. Discetti (Scientific Director of the Unit of Excellence, UC3M)

SPACE RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS

- 16:35
- Plasma propulsion physics and air-breathing electric propulsion
 - Propulsion technologies: simulators, testing and qualification
 - New Space platforms, CSAT and robust aerospace control
 - Space tethers and novel renewable energy configurations

AERONAUTICS RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS

- 17:00
- Bio-inspired solutions for micro-air-vehicles
 - UAV design and AI-assisted green aircraft design
 - Flow physics and AI-based flow control
 - Sustainable aviation, climate-aware operations and weather

ROUND TABLE — Challenges and opportunities in aerospace research

17:25

Closing remarks

- 18:05
- L. E. García Muñoz (Vice-Rector for Research and Knowledge Transfer)

Cocktail

18:10

The Department of Aerospace Engineering at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid has been accredited as a Unit of Excellence “María de Maeztu”, a distinction awarded by the Spanish State Research Agency for the period 01/01/2026-31/12/2031.

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