

**NEWSLETTER** 



Special Edition

## What is World Space Week?

World Space Week is an international celebration of science and technology, and their contribution to the betterment of the human condition. The United Nations General Assembly declared in 1999 that World Space Week will be held each year from October 4-10. These dates commemorate **two events**:

October 4, 1957: Launch of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1, thus opening/the way for space exploration.

October 10, 1967: The signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activites of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

The World Space Week Association (WSWA) began in 1980 as the coordinator of "Spaceweek," a celebration of the first Moon landing, each July 16-24. The first celebration was in Houston In 1981 organizers formed "Spaceweek National Headquarters" to organize a nationwide celebration in the United States. By 1999 Spaceweek had spread to over 15 nations. It was in 1999 that the UN General Assembly declared

> "World Space Week" to be held every year from 4 to 10 October. The organization offered to the UN to serve as global coordinator of World Space Week, and helped organize the first such celebration in 2000. Today, the Association continues to build the size and impact of this annual celebration of space, the largest in the world.





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