Objective

Today, Europe is a space power - the space industry, satellite operators and space organisations are major players in their respective fields, which are global in nature. Over the years, European R&D in satellite communications has encompassed a large number of activities spanning many programmes and organisations, however, such initiatives have been restricted in their strategic value, with only limited collaboration and coordination and further exasperated by a lack of the critical mass required to make an impact on the world stage.

The Commission's recently published White Paper on Space states that if Europe is to remain a Space Power it will need a policy to develop and deploy applications and to support the research and development, technology and infrastructures. As a first approach to integrate European research in satellite communications, the SatNEx NoE was established with the broad aims of removing barriers, integrating research and spreading excellence. The follow-on Phase-II project, SatNEx-II, aims to build on the groundbreaking SatNEx programme and, in so doing, achieve the longer-term goals that have been set in motion. The primary goals of the SatNEx-II NoE are to achieve long-lasting integration of European research in satellite communications and to develop a common base of knowledge.

SatNEx-II will establish an innovative satellite communication platform for use by all members of the Network as a means for integrating research, teaching and training. SatNEx-II will disseminate the knowledge and the expertise generated to the international research community through various media at its disposal. SatNEx-II personnel will benefit from opportunities to move between institutions within the Network, to exchange ideas, share best practice and make use of specialist facilities.
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