

International Moon Day 2023



Annual Report



Table of Contents

About International Moon Day	p 03
IMD 2023 Theme	p 04
International Moon Day Celebration	p 04
IMD 2023: Social Media, AI, VR, Web3	p 05
IMD Global Events: Map and Numbers	p 06
IMD Global Events: a short review	p 07
IMD Multi-Countries Events:	p 08
IMD Single-Country Events:	p 09
IMD 23-24 Management Review	p 12
IMD 2024 Theme	p 12
IMD 2024: Way Forward	p 12
International Moon Day Group (IMD-G)	p 13
ANNEX: Global Events IMD 2023	p 14

About International Moon Day

The International Moon Day

The Moon Village Association submitted a proposal for the proclamation of the International Moon Day during the UN-COPUOS 64th Session in August 2021. The proclamation was approved on December 9, 2021, by the UN General Assembly. MVA was put in charge of its implementation.

The International Moon Day event is held every year since 2022. While the Main Event is scheduled on July 20, the anniversary of the 1969 first human landing with the Apollo 11 mission by the United States of America, most IMD events cover the later part of the month of July internationally, to take into consideration the achievements of all States in the exploration of the Moon.

The IMD is celebrated with the public across the planet, in cooperation with UNOOSA. MVA believes that the International Moon Day is a good opportunity to inspire and educate the public. And to promote and raise each year, at the international level, the awareness on the status and prospects for humanity, of such major issues as sustainable Moon exploration and resource utilization, and the need to act together to regulate activities on and around the Moon.

The IMD fosters increased global cooperation between stakeholders all around the world, as well as promoting increased participation to this goal by the future generation. In 2022-23 alone, over a dozen Lunar Missions were taking place worldwide, and the public needs to be part of this global endeavor.

IMD 2023 Theme

“Beginning the New Lunar Journey for Humanity”

International Moon Day Celebration

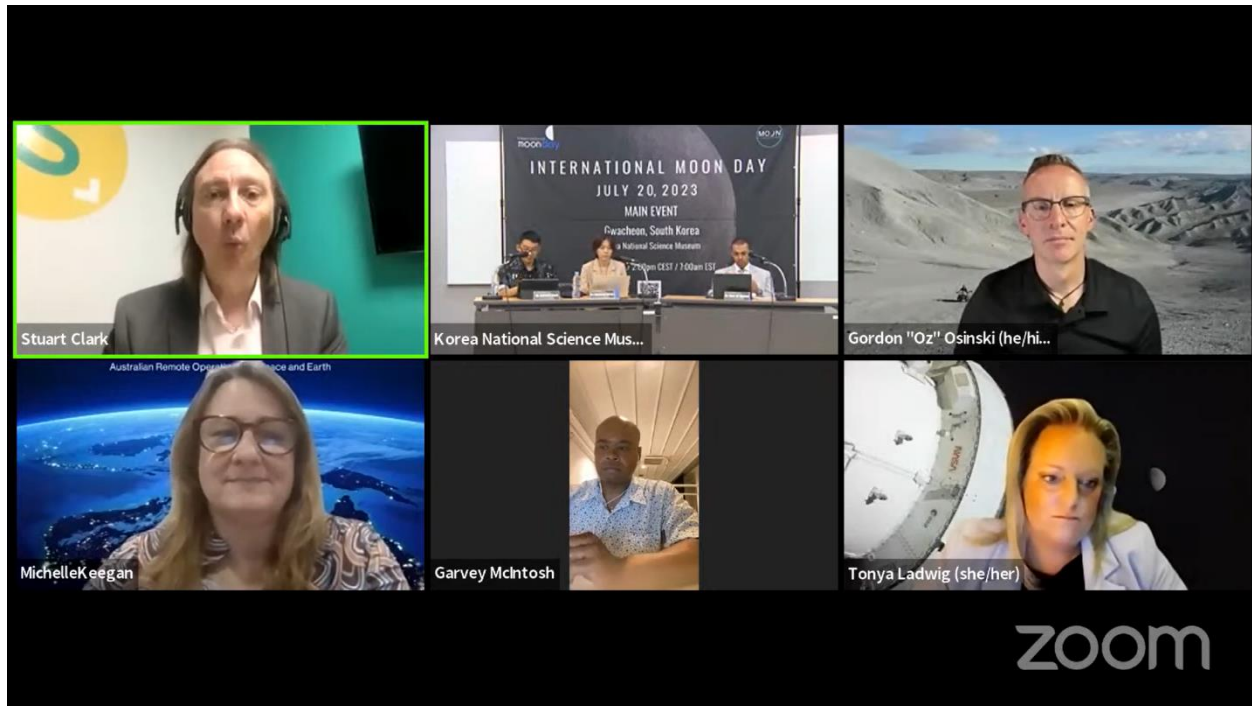
A promotional poster for the International Moon Day 2023 Main Event. The background is a dark, cratered moon surface. The text is centered and reads: "INTERNATIONAL MOON DAY", "JULY 20, 2023", "MAIN EVENT", "Gwacheon, South Korea", "Korea National Science Museum", and "8:00pm KST / 1:00pm CEST / 7:00am EDT". Logos for "international moon day" (top left), "MOON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION" (top right), "LOCKHEED MARTIN" (bottom left), and "National Science Museum Republic of Korea" (bottom right) are included. A QR code is located in the bottom center, and the website "www.internationalmoonday.org" is at the bottom.

International Moon Day Main Event

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kx8pYAOyuPM>

In **2023**, for its **second year**, the **International Moon Day (IMD)** was celebrated in-person as well as through local events all over the world.

The **Main Event** of the **IMD** was held on **July 20, 2023**, in **Gwacheon, South Korea**, and hosted by the **National Science Museum of the Republic of Korea**, with sponsorship by **Lockheed Martin Corporation**.



IMD 2023: Social Media, AI, VR, Web3

Website: <https://internationalmoonday.org/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@internationalmoonday/streams>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-moon-day/>

IMD uses social media platforms to coordinate teamwork. The responsible use of generative AI was introduced for post-events content analysis and synthesis. The IMD operates as a hybrid between a centralized coordination and a decentralized autonomous organization (DAO) on its way to adopting VR and Web3 technologies.

IMD Global Events: Map and Numbers



The International Moon Day 2023 celebration witnessed 46 local events from 41 countries all over the world. These events included moon lectures, workshops, webinars, and Telerobotics outreach activities as well as panel discussions. Most global events were held within the week of July 20th. 2023 registered 42 participating countries, a growth of 55% compared with 2022:

	Countries Total 2023	Countries Total 2022	Countries Lost From 2022	Countries Gained In 2023	Telerobotics Participants 2023
World	42	27	7	22	16
Latin America and the Caribbeans	6	5	0	1	3
Africa	5	2	1	4	1
Asia	13	9	3	7	8
Oceania	1	2	1	0	0
Europe	15	7	2	10	3
Northern America	2	2	0	0	1

IMD Global Events: a short review

A total of 47 IMD events included 9 multicountry events and 38 single-country events. An inventory is provided in Annex, with single-country events listed by regions (based on the UN definition of geographic regions): 9 events took place in Latin America and the Caribbeans, 2 in Africa, 14 in Asia, 1 in Oceania, 9 in Europe, 3 in Northern America.

	Countries Total 2023	Countries Total 2022	Countries Lost From 2022	Countries Gained In 2023	Telerobotics Participants 2023
World	42	27	7	22	16
Latin America and the Caribbeans	6 Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, México	5 Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, México	0 N/A	1 Bolivia	3 Colombia, Guatemala, México
Africa	5 Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda	2 Benin (Telerobotics event only), Egypt	1 Benin (Telerobotics event only)	4 Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda	1 Ethiopia
Asia	13 Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kingdom of Bahrain, Kuwait, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, South-Korea, Taiwan, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates (Kingdom of Bahrain & Nepal: Telerobotics event only)	9 India, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Turkey	3 Japan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia	7 Bangladesh, Indonesia, Palestine, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates (Telerobotics event only: Kingdom of Bahrain, Nepal)	8 Kingdom of Bahrain, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates
Oceania	1 New Zealand	2 Australia, New Zealand	1 Australia	0	0
Europe	15 Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom	7 Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, Portugal, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom	2 Austria, Portugal	10 Belgium, Cyprus, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, Ukraine	3 Austria, Cyprus, Luxembourg
Northern America	2 Canada, United States	2 Canada, United States	0	0	1 United States

Examples of IMD Multicountry Events

Here are snapshots of 3 multicountry events (MCEs) selected from a total of 9:

MCE 1: The 2nd International Moon Symposium held on July 22th-23rd 2023 under the form of a regional event for Spanish and Portuguese speakers, gathered Spain, Guatemala, México, Costa Rica, Bolivia and Brazil. This event was organized by Mario Galvez, Kevin Ramirez, Alvaro Yuste, Suyan Malhadas, Xitlali Chavez, Loretto Sanjines, and Oscar Fernandez. This virtual 2023 event held under the theme "Beginning the New Lunar Journey for Humanity", shared specific information about Moon-focused space programs such as Artemis I and the work of this symposium countries in relation with the Moon.

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/2nd-international-moon-symposium-brazil/> >

MCE 2: The MVA-SGAC joint-event "Benefit Sharing of Lunar Resource Activities for Africa: analyzing the regional and international contexts" held on July 27th 2023, gathered Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, Greece, Canada, UK, USA, and Brazil. A panel was organized with representatives of the Moon Village Association (led by Suyan Cristina Malhadas and Christophe Bosquillon, co-chairs of the MVA Benefit Sharing Project) and the SGAC Space Law and Policy Project Group "Commercialization of Space Resources in Africa" project (led by Jéssyka Maria Nunes Galvão and Nifemi Awe). Presentations by 4 speakers followed by a Q&A covered the theme of « benefit sharing of lunar resource activities for Africa », analysing the regional and international contexts, with focus on expectations, needs and obstacles related to the participation of African countries in space resource activities on the Moon and associated value chains.

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/post-imd-event-benefit-sharing-of-lunar-resource-activities-for-africa/> >

MCE 3: The First MVA Italia Summer School, held on July 19th-21st 2023, gathered Italy, Germany, France, UK, Poland, US, UAE, and Belgium. The MVA Italian associates and institutional partners organized this Space Summer School in Italy to celebrate International Moon Day 2023 and spread Moon matters education and awareness.

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/the-first-italian-mva-space-summer-school-towards-the-humans-return-to-the-moon-2/> >

Examples of IMD Single-Country Events:

Here are snapshots of 7 single-country events (SCEs) selected from a total of 38:

SCE 1: BRAZIL – The 2nd International Moon Day Brazil “*O Início da Nova Jornada Lunar para a Humanidade*”, held on July 20th-22nd 2023, was organized by Suyan Malhadas (Catholic University of Santos/Moon Village Association/CONCIDADANIA NGO) in concert with NGO CONCIDADANIA together with the Space Law Commission of the Brazilian Bar in Santos and the Space Law Research Group of the Catholic University of Santos. The 2nd IMD Brazil brought together representatives of the Brazilian Space Agency, civil society, academia, and industry, to propagate a renewed interest in Moon activities, provide updates about the Brazilian participation and, in particular, hear representatives of the civil society about the importance of the Moon from diverse cultural, artistic and younger generations perspectives, their concerns and expectations. The involvement of the NGO CONCIDADANIA (“Conscience for Active Citizenship” in English translation) in the organization of the IMD increased the participation of civil society and promoted a more inclusive and diverse debate.

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/2nd-international-moon-day-brasil-o-inicio-da-nova-jornada-lunar-para-a-humanidade/> >

SCE 2: NIGERIA – The “MVA Nigeria School Awareness Outreach” IMD event, held on July 20th-21st, 2023. Organized by Chioma Ezeigbo, MVA Nigeria, the purpose of the event was to create awareness amongst secondary school students in Nigeria about lunar exploration and utilization. The outreach was well received by students.

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/mva-nigeria-school-awareness-outreach/> >

SCE 3: INDIA – Held on July 17th and 20th, the India IMD 2023 Celebrations were organized by Moon Village Association South Asia Regional Coordinator Nidhi, National Coordinator of India Dhanusshya Raghu, and National Coordinator of India Keerthi Gopi, around six sessions: *Let's Pitch the Moon, Sustainable Moon Workshop, Designathon, Keynote Speech, Make your space utopia, and Market your content.*

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/international-moon-day-2023-celebrations/> >

SCE 4: TÜRKIYE – As one of the 3 IMD events held in Türkiye, “*Moon Landing 2.0: Why go Back to the Moon?*” took place on July 28th, 2023. Organized by MVA National Coordinator for Türkiye, Itir Toksoz, it featured Francisco del Canto Viterale from the University of North Dakota. Francisco provided a compelling historical presentation of humanity’s activities in relation with Moon exploration. The presentation offered a variety of perspectives moving forward for humanity cooperating on the Moon, including through an international relations prism.

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/moon-landing-2-0-why-go-back-to-the-moon/> >

SCE 5: United Arab Emirates – The IMD 2023 event “*Lunar Luminary: UAE's Celebrating The international Moon Day*” held on July 20th, 2023, was organized and hosted by the University of Dubai, as part of global events to educate and create awareness about the UAE interest to explore the moon. Participants were reminded of the UAE Space program context, having initiated a moon mission through Rashid Explorer which

was supposed to land on the moon on 25th of April 2023 for the purpose of studying the moon atmosphere to contribute to the scientific knowledge and understanding about the Moon. Unfortunately, communication was lost at the last 2 seconds before the lander touched the Moon surface, and it was assumed a crash had occurred. UAE now has initiated another mission to the Moon in 2024 called Rashid explorer 2 and will continue endeavor to try to land a rover on the moon. UAE works with the international community and with other space agencies to cooperate in space exploration including the Moon and Mars as part of scientific exploration. Celebrating International Moon Day remains of strategic importance to UAE, with the purpose of spreading knowledge and create awareness to inspire young generations to think about Space and to advance the space industry in the UAE.

< <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/lunar-luminary-uaes-celebrating-the-international-moon-day/> >

SCE 6: UKRAINE – The IMD 2023 event for Ukraine, organized jointly by Yuzhnoye and MVA, took place in Kyiv as the 2nd PromoMoon Initiative Closing Session. The event bore a symbolic significance, as due to on-going events in Ukraine, previous attempts by organizers were cancelled. IMD 2022 couldn't take place, but IMD 2023 succeeded.

< <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/2nd-promomoon-initiative-closing-session/> >

SCE 7: USA – *“Current Space Industry Developments and Initiatives in the Tri-State (PA, WV & OH) Region”*, held on July 18th, 2023, was one of three USA IMD 2023 events. Organized by Mark S. Sundahl, Global Space Law Center, and the Greater Cleveland International Lawyers Group, including participants such as ASTROBOTIC, the event was a testament to the dynamism of the Region in space and lunar affairs.

Link: < <https://internationalmoonday.org/event/current-space-industry-developments-and-initiatives-in-the-tri-state-pa-wv-oh-region/> >

IMD 23-24 Management Review

A Management Review took place to streamline and professionalize participation and processes, to make the IMD value proposition compelling and attractive for sponsors.

IMD 2024 Theme: “Illuminating the Shadows”

“Illuminating the Shadows” : as more missions arrive at the Lunar South Pole, so does the mystery unravels and the shadows will be forever illuminated, thus, paving the way for mankind's exploration and harvest of the Moon.

IMD 2024: Way Forward

The IMD 2023 demonstrated an acceleration of the event with a registered growth of over 50% in participation. The global reach and achievement level experienced increased public implication, access, and information sharing. The IMD is growing stronger in ESC Emerging Space Countries & the Global South. The IMD is rising awareness in lunar affairs across Geography, Gender, Generation. The IMD Way Forward to 2024 means to expand and consolidate outreach and manage growth. That requires to streamline and professionalize IMD participation and processes, to make the IMD value proposition compelling and attractive for sponsors. In 2022 and 2023, the MVA served as an agent of implementation of the IMD, executing the foundational UNOOSA decision. This has led to a spin-off of a semi-autonomous IMD organization, with its own website now distinct from the MVA website. In the next stage, the IMD should become a strategically autonomous organization. While it will continue to cooperate with the MVA, it will do so on a relatively independent basis, with its own funding, policy management, resources, and appeal to sponsors.

International Moon Day Group (IMD-G)



Nasr A. Al-Sahhaf, PhD
IMD Chair



Bernadette Detera
Former Global Network
Coordinator



Christophe Bosquillon
IMD Rapporteur and
Executive Secretary



Glafki Antoniou
Outreach and Media
Coordinator

Sponsors and Partners

LOCKHEED MARTIN



ANNEX: Global Events IMD 2023

REGION / COUNTRY	EVENT	ORGANIZERS
	MULTICOUNTRY EVENTS IMD 2023	
SPAIN, GUATEMALA, MÉXICO, COSTA RICA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL	2nd International Moon Symposium	Mario Galvez, Kevin Ramirez, Alvaro Yuste, Suyan Malhadas, Xitlali Chavez, Loretto Sanjines, Oscar Fernandez
UGANDA, KENYA, NIGERIA, GREECE, CANADA, UK, USA, BRAZIL	Benefit Sharing of Lunar Resource Activities for Africa: analysing the regional and international contexts	Chris Bosquillon- MVA, Suyan Malhadas- MVA, Jéssyka Maria Nunes Galvão- MVA/SGAC, Nifemi Awe- SGAC
INDIA, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, SLOVAKIA, ROMANIA, TANZANIA, BRAZIL, ITALY	United Moon Forum	LIFE-To & Beyond, India and SpaceCrew Working Group, InnovaSpace, UK

REGION / COUNTRY	EVENT	ORGANIZERS
INDIA AND PAKISTAN	IMD 2023 South Asia Region Event	MVA RC South Asia: Nidhi Sandeep Vasaikar NC Pakistan: Rayan Khan
ITALY, GERMANY, FRANCE, UK, POLAND, US, UAE, BELGIUM	First MVA Italia Summer School	MVA Italia
ITALY, GERMANY, FRANCE, PAKISTAN, UNITED KINGDOM	MVA Germany-Italy, IMD Collaboration	MVA Italia and MVA Germany
SERBIA, PAKISTAN, USA (GLOBAL / VR)	"Lunar Horizons: Exploring the Future of Moon Science"	ExoTesla in collaboration with Cosmic Tribe
USA, SWEDEN, TÜRKIYE	What will a Lunar settlement look like in 50 years if we start now?	Moon Society, Moonbase Lapträsk Foundation, Lunar Homestead
USA (HAWAII), CANADA, GERMANY	International Moon Day Tele-Robotics	Rob Mueller, Moon Village Association Analogues Working Group
REGION / COUNTRY	SINGLE-COUNTRY EVENTS IMD 2023	
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEANS		
BOLIVIA	See Above Multi-Countries Events	

REGION / COUNTRY	EVENT	ORGANIZERS
BRAZIL	Event 1 : 5° Encontro de Astronomia e Astronáutica de Cabo Frio IMD	Wagner Sena, Marlon Barbosa, Caroline Lanzieri, Luciana belo
	Event 2: 2nd International Moon Day Brasil: O Início da Nova Jornada Lunar para a Humanidade	Suyan Cristina Malhadas (Catholic University of Santos / Moon Village Association / CONCIDADANIA NGO) + NGO CONCIDADANIA + Space Law Commission of the Brazilian Bar in Santos + Space Law Research
	Event 3: Simpósio "A Lua à Luz dos Direitos da Natureza"	Flávia Alvim de Carvalho / EJUSP - Escola Superior de Ecologia Integral Justiça e Paz Social
CHILE	EVENT 1: "Moon, Apollo and Artemis"; EVENT 2: specialized presentations about new missions to the moon	Chilean Space Association Chilean Space Association
COSTA RICA	MAIN EVENT: Science Fair - Space environment and its importance + Hybrid space exhibition events	Kevin Sánchez Ramírez (National Coordinator)
GUATEMALA	Foro Nacional de Exploración Espacial en la Luna	Guatemalan Association of Space Sciences and Engineering (AGICE), Moon Village Association, Instituto de Investigación de Ciencias de la Tierra y Astronomía (IICTA).

REGION / COUNTRY	EVENT	ORGANIZERS
MEXICO	Día Internacional de la Luna 2023	Sociedad Astronómica de Quintana Roo, A.C.
AFRICA		
EGYPT	Future of Moon	AASTONOMY club
NIGERIA	MVA Nigeria School Awareness Outreach	Chioma Ezeigbo - MVA Nigeria
KENYA, TANZANIA, UGANDA	See Above Multi-Countries Events	
ASIA		
BANGLADESH	Lunar Spectra: Unveiling the Cosmos - International Moon Day Celebrations in Bangladesh	Adamjee Cantonment Public School Astronomy & Space Research Club
INDIA	Moon & Beyond	S-Matrix Explorers - The Sky Explorers
	International Moon Day 2023 Celebrations	Moon Village Association South Asia Regional Coordinator Nidhi, National Coordinator of India Dhanusshya Raghu and National Coordinator of India Keerthi Gopi.
INDONESIA	Thesis Lecture: The Utilization of Lunar Natural Resources by Countries	Farah Law School (FLS)

REGION / COUNTRY	EVENT	ORGANIZERS
JORDAN	International Moon Day 2023: JSRI Lunar Experience by Orange in Jordan	Jordan Space Research Initiative (JSRI)
KUWAIT	Analog Missions and Arts	Advance Space Civilization Initiative
PAKISTAN	MVA Pakistan IMD 2023	MVA Pakistan
PALESTINE	International Moon Day event for Palestine	Niveen Alkhozondar and Sufyan Tayeh
SOUTH-KOREA	Korea Moon Day	Korea National Science Museum
TAIWAN	度小月 / Du Hsiao Yueh / Consider Small Moon	Taiwan Institute of Planetary Science and System Engineering (TIPSSE)
TÜRKIYE	Event 1: Future opportunities right to Moon exploration (FOR ME) 2023 Event 2: Ankara Bar Association Air and Space Law Board 2nd International Moon Day Celebration Event 3: Moon Landing 2.0: Why go Back to the Moon?	Altair Unmanned Vehicle Systems, Space & Law Association Ankara Bar Association Air and Space Law Board MVA Turkey, Itir Toksoz, with University of North Dakota, Francisco del Canto Viterale

REGION / COUNTRY	EVENT	ORGANIZERS
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Lunar Luminary: UAE's Celebrating The international Moon Day	University of Dubai
OCEANIA		
NEW ZEALAND	Fly Me to the Moon	SpaceBase Limited
EUROPE	(Belgium, France, Italy, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden: see Above Multi-Countries Events)	
CYPRUS	International Moon Day – Cyprus	Cyprus Space Exploration Organisation (CSEO)
CZECH REPUBLIC	International Moon Day	Brno Observatory and Planetarium
GERMANY	Neurospace IMD event	NeuroSpace
GREECE	The significance of the UN International Moon Day	Cyprus Space Exploration Organisation (CSEO), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
ROMANIA	International Moon Day 2023 at the Astronomical Institute of the Romanian Academy	Astronomical Institute of the Romanian Academy

REGION / COUNTRY	EVENT	ORGANIZERS
SPAIN	Event 1: Lunar Horizons: Celebrating Moon Exploration and Beyond with Lunar Ventures (Spain)	Jordi Sandalinas, Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology (CDTI - Spain)
	Event 2: Lunar Odyssey Spain: Exploring the Moon and Beyond	Jordi Sandalinas
UKRAINE	PromoMoon Closing Session	Yuzhnoye, MVA
UNITED KINGDOM	"When the Moon was White": the author reads from his novel, set during the Sixties, the decade of the Space Race	Jeff Probst
NORTHERN AMERICA	(Canada: See Above Multi-Countries Events)	
UNITED STATES	Current Space Industry Developments and Initiatives in the Tri-State (PA, WV & OH) Region	Global Space Law Center & Greater Cleveland Int'l Lawyers Group
	International Moon Day Celebration in Huntsville	Drake State Community & Technical College
	1st Flight-LEAPFROG Lunar Lander Prototype	USC ISI/SERC

For any inquiries on global events and their contact information, please reach out to:

Christophe Bosquillon at < christophe.bosquillon@moonvillageassociation.org >