URSI Newsletter
2026/Q4

Stimulating and co-ordinating, on an international basis, studies, research, applications, scientific exchange, and communication in the fields of radio science

Quarterly news from the
International Union of Radio Science

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URSI Newsletter Editor
Ondřej Santolík

Welcome

As 2026 draws to a close, we are pleased to bring you the last URSI Newsletter of the year. The autumn following our XXXVIth General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in Kraków has been a busy period for the URSI community: the new Board, Commission officers and Early Career Representatives have taken up their duties, and our Member Committees and Commissions have been as active as ever.

This issue opens with news of a change at the URSI Secretariat, and the editorial baton passes from Peter Van Daele to Ondřej Santolík.

In this issue you will find reports from the Spanish URSI Symposium held in La Laguna, Tenerife, and the URSI-Türkiye Scientific Congress held in Kastamonu, as well as from the 12th VERSIM Workshop and 2nd VERSIM School in Sopron, Hungary, a meeting supported by URSI. You will also find reports from the Women in Radio Science activities in Spain and China, the call for papers for the URSI-France 2027 workshop in Toulouse, information on the GASS 2026 recordings and proceedings, news about our Early Career Representatives, and an important warning about phishing messages that misuse the names of URSI officers.

Our next URSI Flagship meeting, the 5th URSI Atlantic Radio Science Conference (URSI AT-RASC 2027), will be held in Gran Canaria from 23 to 28 May 2027. We look forward to welcoming many of you there.

We remain at your service. Please feel free to contact us or to submit material that you think would be interesting to publish here, and continue to follow URSI on social media, which is the fastest way to spread news in our community.

We wish all of you a peaceful end of the year and a successful 2027!

The URSI Secretariat

In this issue



Spain
La Laguna, Tenerife



Türkiye
Kastamonu

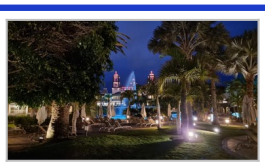


VERSIM 2026
Sopron, Hungary



WIRS
Spain and China

URSI Flagship Meetings



AT-RASC 2027
Gran Canaria
23 – 28 May 2027



AP-RASC 2028
Toyama
20 – 25 August 2028



GASS 2029
Singapore
11 – 18 August 2029



GASS 2032
Ottawa
21 – 28 August 2032

Dates and venues of the URSI flagship meetings in 2030 and 2031 will be announced in due time.

Stimulating and co-ordinating, on an international basis, studies, research, applications, scientific exchange, and communication in the fields of radio science

Change at the URSI Secretariat

Prof. Peter Van Daele has resigned from the position of URSI Secretary General, to which he was re-elected at the XXXVIth General Assembly in Kraków in August 2026.

To ensure continuity in URSI's operations during the transition, the Board has engaged Prof. Paul Lagasse, former URSI Secretary General and Honorary President, as a consultant. Paul assists the Board on a voluntary basis, including with the preparations for URSI AT-RASC 2027 in Gran Canaria.

The Board will work with the URSI Council to fill the vacancy in the office of Secretary General, and Council will be kept informed as plans for the transition develop. The URSI Secretariat remains at your service at info@ursi.org.

URSI Flagship Meetings

URSI AT-RASC 2027 – Gran Canaria, Spain, 23–28 May 2027

The 5th URSI Atlantic Radio Science Conference (URSI AT-RASC 2027) will take place at the ExpoMeloneras Convention Centre, Gran Canaria, from 23 to 28 May 2027, and the call for papers is now open. AT-RASC is one of the URSI flagship conferences, alongside the General Assembly and Scientific Symposium and AP-RASC. It will be an in-person conference with on-site presentations only, featuring convened and open sessions within the domains of all ten URSI Commissions.



ExpoMeloneras Convention Centre, Gran Canaria – venue of URSI AT-RASC 2027.

Preparations for the 5th URSI Atlantic Radio Science Conference are progressing well. Several Spanish institutions play a prominent role in the organisation: Rafaella Fiorelli (IMSE-CNM, CSIC–University of Seville) and María José Madero Ayora (University of Seville) serve as Co-Chairs of the Technical Programme Committee; Cristina García Miró (Spanish National Astronomical Observatory, OAN) contributes to the General Lecture and WIRS programme; and Carlos Molero Jiménez (University of Seville) and Stefan Wijnholds (ASTRON) serve on the Young Scientists Panel. Giuliano Manara (University of Pisa) is General Chair, and Inge Lievens (URSI Secretariat) is responsible for publications.

Authors can opt to submit papers presented at AT-RASC 2027 to IEEE Xplore. There will also be special programmes for young scientists, a student paper competition and programmes for accompanying persons. Detailed information on paper submission, publication options and travel is available at www.atrasc.com.

Important deadlines

- **18 January 2027** – paper submission
- **1 March 2027** – notification of acceptance
- **15 April 2027** – early-bird registration
- **23 May 2027** – conference opening

URSI GASS 2026, Kraków – recordings and proceedings

The opening and awards ceremony, the opening lecture, the Historical Session, the General Lectures and most Commission J sessions of the XXXVIth URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium (GASS 2026) in Kraków were recorded and can be watched on the URSI YouTube channel.

The GASS 2026 Proceedings are now available on the URSI website, both session by session and as a single PDF file. All conference papers can also be downloaded at once as a single ZIP file from the URSI proceedings page (select the ZIP option under 2026 GASS).

Papers selected for indexing will appear in IEEE Xplore with a slight delay, owing to minor technical issues during the transition to a new upload platform. Authors will be notified as soon as their papers are published in IEEE Xplore.

URSI GASS 2032 – Ottawa, Canada

At its meetings in Kraków, the URSI Council selected Ottawa, Canada, to host the XXXVIIIth URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in August 2032. Two invitations had been received, from the Canadian URSI Committee (Ottawa) and from the

Member Committee of China SRS (Taipei), whom the Council thanked for its invitation. According to the Canadian proposal, URSI GASS 2032 will take place at the Rogers Centre Ottawa from 21 to 28 August 2032.

URSI Member Committee Activities

Spain – 41st Spanish URSI Symposium, La Laguna, Tenerife, 2–4 September 2026

The 41st Spanish URSI Symposium was held at the University of La Laguna, Tenerife, from 2 to 4 September 2026. The event brought together almost 300 participants and featured more than 200 scientific contributions. Alongside its scientific programme, the Symposium recognised outstanding papers, early-career talent and distinguished contributions to radio science. The award diplomas were presented during the Gala Dinner.





Left: coffee break and technical exhibition; right: participants at one of the exhibitor stands.

The programme included three keynote lectures; special sessions on radio astronomy, organised in collaboration with the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias (IAC), and on ICT applied to tourism; and a round table entitled "Canary Islands, Gateway to Space: Technology, Business and Digital Sovereignty".

Participants also had the opportunity to visit the IAC laboratories and the Teide Observatory, which, in addition to its solar and optical/infrared telescopes, has more than 35 years of experience in microwave observations of the cosmic microwave background. The Observatory hosts QUIJOTE, an experiment comprising two telescopes and several instruments that measure the polarisation of the microwave sky in frequency bands spanning approximately 10 to 42 GHz, with the aim of studying both the CMB and polarised Galactic foregrounds. The Tenerife Microwave Spectrometer (TMS), currently in the final stage of implementation and planned for installation at the Observatory, will measure the absolute sky spectrum from 10 to 20 GHz and provide an absolute calibration reference for QUIJOTE.

Awards presented at the Gala Dinner

URSI-Spain congratulates all the award recipients and the authors of the recognised papers, and thanks URSI International and every institution and company whose support contributed to the Symposium.

Young Scientists Competition. The €500 first prize in the 2026 URSI-Spain Young Scientists Competition, sponsored by URSI International, was awarded to María García Fernández of the University of Oviedo for "Compressive radar imaging system based on programmable meta-antennas". The paper was co-authored by Guillermo Álvarez Narciandi, also of the University of Oviedo, and Okan Yurduseven of Queen's University Belfast.

The €300 second prize went to Marta Ferreras of the Information Processing and Telecommunications Centre at the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid for "Miniaturizing front-illuminated CMOS terahertz sensors using on-chip PIFA antennas", co-authored by Rubén Sanz-Sánchez and Jesús Grajal. The €200 third prize was presented to Jorge Calatayud Maeso of the same centre for "Analysis and optimisation of non-redundant multi-probe grids in planar near-field measurements", co-authored by Celia Fontá Romero and Manuel Sierra Castañer, and Ana Arboleya Arboleya of Universidad Rey Juan Carlos. The second and third prizes were sponsored by the Canary Islands branch of the Spanish Official Association of Telecommunications Engineers (COIT). A total of 59 papers were submitted to the competition and seven were selected as finalists; the four remaining finalists received honourable mentions.



Symposium participants during the visit to the Teide Observatory (IAC).



Visit to one of the telescopes at the Teide Observatory.



Teide Observatory, with the Teide peak in the background.



Award ceremony of the 41st Spanish URSI Symposium.

INDRA Low Observability Awards. The first INDRA Low Observability Award (€500) went to "AI-driven estimation of near couplings in MLFMA" by Manuel Obelleiro Liz (Barcelona Supercomputing Centre and University of Extremadura), David Modesto (Barcelona Supercomputing Centre), Víctor F. Martín (Universidad Rey Juan Carlos), Luis Landesa and José M. Taboada (University of Extremadura), and Fernando Obelleiro and José L. Rodríguez (University of Vigo). The €400 second prize was awarded to "Computational microwave imaging with enhanced diversity through orbital-angular-momentum waves generated by transmitarrays" by Miguel Ángel Balmaseda Márquez (University of Granada), Guillermo Álvarez-Narciandi and María García-Fernández (University of Oviedo), Carlos Molero Jiménez (University of Seville), William Whittow (Loughborough University) and Okan Yurduseven (Queen's University Belfast). An INDRA honourable mention was presented for "Bistatic RCS of low-reflectivity targets for critical-infrastructure protection using passive radar" by Javier Rosado Sanz, María Pilar Jarabo Amores, David A. de la Mata Moya, Nerea del Rey Maestre and María de Cortes Benito Ortiz (University of Alcalá). Eleven finalist papers were presented across two dedicated special sessions, and every finalist whose paper did not receive a prize received a finalist diploma.

Women in Radio Science Awards. Two WIRS Ambassador Awards were presented during the Symposium, one sponsored by the Fundación Oesía Chair at the Universidade de Vigo and the other by COIT-Canarias. These awards aim to raise the visibility of women in radio science and highlight role models who can inspire younger generations. A Women in Radio Science Honorary Award was also presented to recognise a distinguished career and an outstanding contribution to the field. More details are given in the WIRS section of this Newsletter.

Three Minute Thesis Awards. The €300 URSI-Spain Three Minute Thesis Award, sponsored by the University of La Laguna, was awarded to Álvaro Martín Núñez of the Antennas and Propagation Lab at the Universitat Politècnica de València for "Multiband antennas for millimetre-wave and sub-6 GHz bands using cost-efficient advanced guiding structures". The runner-up distinction went to Sandra Santiago Mesas of Universidad Carlos III de Madrid for "Active sensors for early detection in biomedical applications".

New URSI-Spain Young Members Chapter

Another important development announced during the Symposium was the creation of the URSI-Spain Young Members Chapter. The new Chapter aims to build a nationwide network of students, early-career researchers and professionals in radio science, represent their interests within the Association, and keep the young community active throughout the year. Its forthcoming activities include a series of webinars featuring PhD candidates from Spanish universities and the organisation of the 3MT competition at the 2027 Spanish URSI Symposium in Gijón. The Chapter is open to young members from universities, research centres and companies working across all areas of radio science.

The Spanish radio science community invites everyone to join in celebrating the 5th edition of AT-RASC in Gran Canaria in May 2027 and the 42nd Spanish URSI Symposium in Gijón in September 2027.

(Communicated by Miguel A. G. Laso, President of the Spanish URSI National Committee)

Türkiye – URSI-Türkiye 2026 Scientific Congress and National Committee General Assembly, Kastamonu, 7–9 September 2026

The URSI-Türkiye 2026 Scientific Congress and National Committee General Assembly was held at Kastamonu University, Kastamonu, from 7 to 9 September 2026.

The opening ceremony took place at the Hoca Ahmet Yesevi Culture Center and was attended by Kastamonu University Vice Rector Prof. Ömer Küçük, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture Prof. İzzet Şener, URSI-Türkiye Committee President Prof. Ayhan Altıntaş, and academics, students and industry representatives. The participation of URSI President Prof. Kazuya Kobayashi was a very special honour.

In his opening address, Prof. Altıntaş emphasised the congress's contribution to the development of radio science and electromagnetics research in Türkiye and its role in bringing academia and industry together. Congress Chair Prof. Özgür Öztürk noted the importance of the congress topics, expressed the hope that it would foster new scientific collaborations, and thanked the members of the local organising committee, in particular Dr. Seçil Karatay and Dr. Faruk Erken.

Prof. Kobayashi thanked Turkish academics for their contributions to URSI activities, stressed the importance of greater involvement of young scientists through programmes such as the Young Scientist Awards and student paper competitions, and announced that a special collection related to the congress will be published in Radio Science, inviting researchers to submit their work.



Participants of the URSI-Türkiye 2026 Scientific Congress at Kastamonu University.

The congress attracted 131 paper submissions; in total, 125 oral presentations were delivered to 169 participants. Five internationally renowned speakers from various URSI Commissions gave invited talks:

- **Prof. Erdal Arıkan (Bilkent University)** – Polar Codes: From Theory to Practice
- **Dr. Raquel C. Conceição (University of Lisbon)** – Medical Microwave Imaging to Aid Detection of Breast Cancer and Metastasised Axillary Lymph Nodes
- **Prof. Ali Bozbey (TOBB ETÜ University)** – Building and Scaling Quantum Computers from a Microwave Engineering Perspective
- **Prof. Kazuya Kobayashi (URSI President)** – Radar Cross Section Analysis of Two Canonical, Parallel-Plate Waveguide Cavities with Material Loading
- **Prof. Altunkan Hızal (ASELSAN-REHİS)** – A Phased Array Synthesis to Generate Steerable Hybrid Frequency-Diverse Array and Vortex-Wave Beams Simultaneously, Based on the Field Equivalence Principle



URSI President Prof. Kazuya Kobayashi during his invited talk.

Leading telecommunications and defence companies of Türkiye sponsored the congress, and their representatives shared their perspectives on the future of electromagnetics and communication technologies.

Ten papers were shortlisted in the URSI-Türkiye 2026 Student Paper Competition. The winners were Mehmet Emre Eralp (Middle East Technical University), Busenur Keskin (İstanbul Technical University) and Güliz Sili (İstanbul Technical University). In the Student Antenna Design session, the best design award, presented by the IEEE AP/MTT/EMC/ED Chapter in Türkiye, went to Abdulkadir Uzun (Sabancı University).

Alongside the congress, the URSI-Türkiye National Committee General Assembly established the committee's new term and discussed future strategic planning. Prof. Ayhan Altıntaş was re-elected President of the URSI-Türkiye National Committee for the next two years.

The social programme included an excursion to Horma Canyon on 9 September 2026, which gave participants the opportunity to explore the region's natural landscape together.



Award ceremony of the Student Paper Competition and Student Antenna Design session.

(Communicated by Seçil Karatay, Chair of the Organising Committee, Kastamonu University)

France – URSI-France Workshop JS 27: Hardware and Wireless Communications Cybersecurity, Toulouse, 16–18 March 2027

The annual URSI-France workshop (JS 27) will take place at LAAS-CNRS in Toulouse, France, from 16 to 18 March 2027, on the topic "Hardware and Wireless Communications Cybersecurity: Threats, vulnerabilities and protections". The workshop will bring together the radio science, microelectronics, telecommunications and systems security communities to compare approaches, from metrology to countermeasures, and to foster interdisciplinary collaborations.

Conference topics include:

- Hardware attacks and countermeasures (side-channel attacks, fault injection, hardware reverse engineering, PUFs)
- Communication and propagation security (physical-layer security, RF fingerprinting, GNSS jamming, IoT/5G/6G security, spectrum monitoring, software-defined radio, radar)
- Extreme electromagnetic and radiation environments (IEMI, radiation effects, security of satellite links)
- Regulatory framework (RED cybersecurity directive, Cyber Resilience Act)
- Medical devices, electromagnetism and health

Open sessions will allow scientists to present work on any topic within radio science, and a "CyberSecurity in Action" session will feature 5-minute demonstrations. A selection of papers will be proposed for extended publication in the Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Sciences – Physique. Papers and presentations may be in English. The French Women in Radio Science committee warmly encourages both young and experienced female researchers to take part in the workshop.

A Young Scientist grant of €300 and free registration will be awarded to the lead author and presenter of the best candidate paper, provided they are under 35 on 18 March 2027 and affiliated with a European laboratory outside France. The URSI-France PhD Thesis Prize in Radio Science and the URSI-France Annual Medal will also be presented at the workshop.

Submission deadline: 16 December 2026 (full paper ≥ 3 pages, or short abstract ≤ 1 page). Notification to authors: 29 January 2027. Website: https://ursifr-2027.sciencesconf.org

(Communicated by Alain Sibille, Secretary General of URSI-France)

Meetings with financial support by URSI

12th VERSIM Workshop and 2nd VERSIM School, Sopron, Hungary, 7–11 September 2026



Participants of the 2nd VERSIM School at the Nagycenk Geophysical Observatory.



Participants of the VERSIM 2026 workshop at the Eszterházy Palace in Fertőd.

The 12th VERSIM Workshop was held in Sopron, Hungary, on 7–11 September 2026, hosted by the HUN-REN Institute of Earth Physics and Space Science. The workshop brought together approximately 50 researchers from Europe, Asia, the Americas and Africa, with 43 scientific contributions presented in six oral sessions and one poster session. The programme covered a broad range of topics in VLF/ELF remote sensing, plasma waves, wave–particle interactions, radiation-belt dynamics, ionospheric and magnetospheric processes, and new space missions.

The workshop was preceded by the 2nd VERSIM School, attended by 15 students from six countries. The School combined lectures, hands-on training and an observatory visit, supporting the development of the next generation of VERSIM researchers. Financial support from URSI, SCOSTEP, IAGA and ISEE substantially improved accessibility by providing fee waivers, accommodation and travel support for selected students and early-career researchers. The next VERSIM Workshop is planned for 2028 in Sendai, Japan.

(Communicated by János Lichtenberger, Eötvös University, Budapest)

URSI WIRS – Women in Radio Science

URSI-Spain WIRS Chapter at the 41st Spanish URSI Symposium, La Laguna, Tenerife

The Spanish Chapter of Women in Radio Science (WIRS) held a dedicated session on 2 September 2026 during the 41st Spanish URSI Symposium at the University of La Laguna, Tenerife. The session was chaired by Elena Abdo Sánchez, co-chair of the Chapter, and Neus Vidal (University of Barcelona), a member of the Chapter. It reviewed the Chapter's activities over the past year, celebrated the achievements of women in radio science and engineering, and highlighted WIRS initiatives promoting equality, visibility and opportunities for women in these fields.

WIRS webinar with Catherine Cesarsky

Among the Chapter's activities was the second edition of the WIRS webinar, which combined an inspirational talk by Catherine Cesarsky with presentations by five young female PhD candidates on their research. Dr Cesarsky, an internationally renowned astrophysicist, was Director General of the European Southern Observatory (ESO) from 1999 to 2007 and, from 2006 to 2009, the first woman to serve as President of the International Astronomical Union. She chaired the SKA Organisation Board and subsequently the SKAO Council until February 2025, and is a science adviser at the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA). Her messages – "believe in yourself", "make your voice heard" and "break the glass ceiling" – resonated particularly strongly with the young researchers. The webinar was sponsored by the Fundación Oesía Chair at the University of Vigo.

WIRS Ambassador Awards

After several successful editions of the Premio Fomenta WIRS for the best project promoting female scientific and technical vocations in radio science,

the Chapter has established an annual award programme whose categories may evolve over time. In 2026 the focus moved to the WIRS Ambassador Awards (Premio «Embajadora WIRS»), which recognise outstanding professional careers, inspiring leadership and commitment to the WIRS mission. The recipients were introduced, through recorded presentations, during the WIRS session, and the awards were presented at the Gala Dinner:

- **Lourdes Verdes-Montenegro Atalaya**, Research Professor at the Institute of Astrophysics of Andalusia (IAA-CSIC), received the award funded by COIT (Spanish Official Association of Telecommunication Engineers) for her contributions to radio astronomy and major scientific infrastructures. She coordinates Spain's participation in the Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO) and promotes Open Science as a driver of equality and inclusion.
- **Ana García Armada**, Full Professor at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid and IEEE Fellow, received the award funded by the Fundación Oesía Chair at the University of Vigo. Her highly cited work on phase-noise and nonlinear-distortion compensation in multicarrier modulation supported the adoption of OFDM in wireless LANs and in 4G and 5G mobile communications. As Vice President of the IEEE Communications Society she promotes activities supporting young women researchers, and she contributes to the «Una ingeniera en cada cole» initiative in Madrid.

WIRS Honorary Award

The WIRS Honorary Award was presented to Magdalena Salazar Palma in recognition of her distinguished career and outstanding contributions to the field. In an informal conversation led by Neus Vidal, she reflected on her professional experience, in particular her strong involvement in IEEE committees and in activities for women in engineering, and on the importance of professional networks, mentorship and active participation in scientific societies.

WIRS Café

After the session, participants gathered for the WIRS

Café, sponsored by the Fundación Oesía Chair at the University of Vigo, to exchange experiences and strengthen connections among those interested in advancing women's participation in radio science. WIRS-themed hand fans, sponsored by URSI International, were distributed to attendees.

The Spanish WIRS Chapter thanks URSI International, COIT and the Fundación Oesía Chair at the University of Vigo for their support. More information on the Chapter's activities is available at ursi.es/mujeres-en-radio-ciencia.

(Communicated by the URSI-Spain WIRS Chapter, via Miguel A. G. Laso)







Left: the WIRS session (from left: Magdalena Salazar Palma, Neus Vidal and Elena Abdo Sánchez). Centre: presentation of the WIRS Honorary Award to Magdalena Salazar Palma at the Gala Dinner. Right: participants with WIRS hand fans at the WIRS Café.

China – URSI-China WIRS Forum and Young Scientist Forum, Haikou, 24 October 2026

On 24 October 2026, the Women in Radio Science (WIRS) Forum and the Young Scientist Forum of the Chinese National Committee of URSI (URSI-China) were held in Haikou, Hainan, during the 15th International Symposium on Antennas, Propagation and EM Theory (ISAPE 2026). Organised by the URSI-China WIRS and Young Scientist Working Groups with support from URSI and the IEEE Communications Society Young Professionals, the hybrid event highlighted exchanges across radio science, international standardisation and scientific community building.

Under the theme "Let's Find Her Frequency!", the WIRS Forum was chaired by Prof. Haiyang Fu (Fudan University), with Assoc. Prof. Jing Chen (Kunming University of Science and Technology) and Assoc. Prof. Yun Sui (Shanghai University) as vice-chairs. The Young Scientist Forum was convened by Prof. Ruisi He (Beijing Jiaotong

University), Chair of the URSI-China Young Scientist Working Group. The WIRS Forum opened with video messages from Prof. Yaqiu Jin, Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and URSI Vice President, and from Prof. Sana Salous, Chair of URSI WIRS, who encouraged broader participation in international scientific communities and underlined the importance of supporting women in radio science.

Plenary and keynote talks

The plenary talk, "Antenna with High Gain and Low RCS", was delivered online by Prof. Ying Liu (Xidian University), who presented recent progress towards simultaneously achieving high radiation gain and low radar cross-section. Prof. Jianhua Zhang (Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications) then spoke on 6G space–air–ground–sea channel measurement, modelling and ITU-R standardisation, and Prof. Zeren Zhima (National Institute of Natural Hazards) reviewed the status, latest results and follow-up plans of the China Seismo-Electromagnetic Satellite (CSES / Zhangheng-1) mission. The keynote speakers were honoured by Prof. Ari Sihvola, URSI Past President, and Dr Marion Berbineau, Research Director at Université Gustave Eiffel.

Early-career women scientists and young scientists

The WIRS technical session featured six presentations by early-career women scientists, on topics ranging from ITU tropospheric propagation and 5G terminal antennas to metasurfaces, reconfigurable intelligent surfaces, ionospheric data assimilation and electromagnetic metamaterials for embodied AI. The Young Scientist Forum featured eight early-career researchers recommended by URSI Commissions, covering topics from deep-space timing and electromagnetic computation to 6G communications, space environment studies and agricultural applications.

The sessions concluded with comments by Prof. Ari Sihvola, Dr Marion Berbineau and Prof. Jian Wu, President of URSI-China, on research quality, international collaboration and career development. The forum also recognised leadership and organisational contributions to the URSI-China WIRS community in 2024–2026, as well as travel support for outstanding students provided by URSI WIRS and IEEE Young Professionals. In her closing remarks, Prof. Haiyang Fu presented the development and future direction of URSI-China WIRS, reaffirming its commitment to supporting early-career women researchers and strengthening international engagement.

(Communicated by Haiyang Fu, Ruisi He, Jing Chen and Yun Sui, URSI-China, via Sana Salous)



Left: recognition of the WIRS Forum keynote speakers, with Prof. Ari Sihvola, URSI Past President. Centre: participants of the 2026 URSI-China WIRS Forum and Young Scientist Forum in Haikou. Right: Prof. Ari Sihvola during the expert comments and open dialogue.

URSI Early Career Representatives



Young Scientist Awardees at the YSA Party during URSI GASS 2026, Kraków, 21 August 2026. Photo: URSI-GASS 2026 organisers.

Following discussions at URSI GASS 2026 in Kraków on strengthening the engagement of Early Career Researchers (ECRs), the newly elected Commission ECRs have started to develop new activities, described on the URSI Commissions web page. We are pleased to announce that Ricardo A. M. Pereira (University of Aveiro, Portugal) has volunteered to serve as the new Editor of the ECR column of the URSI Newsletter, taking over from Ricardo Figueiredo, whom we thank for his excellent work.

Among the ideas currently being discussed are short recorded presentations in which the ECRs introduce their Commissions and their own research, to be published on the URSI YouTube channel, and a modernisation of the URSI website from an early-career perspective. Further suggestions are very welcome – please contact the URSI Secretariat or your Commission ECRs.

Finally, we congratulate the Young Scientist Awardees of URSI GASS 2026, listed on the URSI Young Scientists web page, as well as the winners of the Student Paper Competition. We highlight Quanfeng Wang of the Technical University of Munich (Germany), who received the 1st Prize for his outstanding and innovative paper "Ray-Tracing Assisted Phase Correction for Inverse Source Reconstruction Based Through-Wall Passive Radar Imaging".

(Ricardo A. M. Pereira, ECR column editor)

Beware of phishing messages

In recent weeks, several members of the URSI community have received fraudulent e-mails sent in the name of URSI officers, including our President. These messages typically come from private e-mail addresses (e.g. Hotmail or Gmail accounts), appeal for urgent financial help for a colleague, and promise to provide bank details on request.

Please be aware that URSI officers and the URSI Secretariat will never ask you for donations, money transfers, gift cards or personal banking information by e-mail. If you receive a suspicious message that appears to come from URSI, do not reply, do not click on any links and do not send any money. Please forward it to the URSI Secretariat at info@ursi.org so that we can alert the community.



Upcoming meetings

Dates	Meeting	Venue
16–18 March 2027	**URSI-France Workshop JS 27 (submission deadline 16 December 2026)**	Toulouse, France
23–28 May 2027	**URSI AT-RASC 2027 (paper submission deadline 18 January 2027)**	Gran Canaria, Spain
September 2027	**42nd Spanish URSI Symposium**	Gijón, Spain
20–25 August 2028	**URSI AP-RASC 2028**	Toyama, Japan
2028	**Next VERSIM Workshop**	Sendai, Japan
11–18 August 2029	**URSI GASS 2029**	Singapore
2030	**URSI AT-RASC 2030**	to be announced
2031	**URSI AP-RASC 2031**	to be announced
21–28 August 2032	**URSI GASS 2032**	Ottawa, Canada

URSI Toons *generated by Claude, who knows URSI well*



URSI Toons No. 1 – "Purely imaginary". More in the next issues.

URSI on Social Media

Follow URSI on X, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube, and visit our website www.ursi.org for the latest news from the URSI community.

Comments and contributions for the next issue of the URSI Newsletter (2027-Q1) can be sent to info@ursi.org. The deadline for contributions to the next issue (2027-Q1) is **31 January 2027**.