RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp

RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2026 APR 23 AM 10:25

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building.**This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification:*In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
Progressive Policy Institute

Travel Dates:
04/06/2026 to 04/11/2026

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$1,610.00	$820.00	$302.00	$0.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

4/23/26
Date

SYDNEY HESS
Printed Name of Traveler

Sydney Hess
Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

4/23/2026
Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

○ Yes ● No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
There were no changes to pre-approved travel expenses.		

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

○ Yes ● No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

○ Yes ● No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

ppi radically pragmatic

February 10, 2026

Sydney Hess
Office of U.S Senator Mark Kelly
SH-516 Hart Senate Office Building

Dear Sydney,

On behalf of the **Progressive Policy Institute**, I'd like to invite you on a staff delegation trip to **Brussels and Munich from April 6 to 11, 2026.**

For over a decade, PPI has hosted congressional delegation trips with elected officials and staff to learn firsthand about some of the most pressing policy issues facing our nation, and the world at large. This bipartisan, high-level trip will feature a select group of senior staff working for members of the House and Senate who are committed to advancing innovative and forward-looking policies.

We're travelling to various space-relevant cities in the European Union to educate staffers about the deep connections between the U.S. and EU space sectors. In particular, this trip will examine the impact that the EU Space Act would have on international cooperation in space and illuminate the extensive benefits of partnering with the EU. As part of this trip, we will meet with EU government officials, EU member state officials, commercial companies working in both jurisdictions, and space agencies.

Key themes of the trip will be:

- Understanding EU-U.S. space collaboration, both between governments and commercial industry players
- Understanding the impact the EU Space Act would have on the EU and U.S. space sectors
- Examining how the commercial industry will continue international collaboration in low-Earth orbit via commercial space stations

PPI is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming on current policy issues and generating radically pragmatic ideas for governing. As such, this trip will comply with House and Senate ethics rules.

Please RSVP no later than Friday, February 27, 2026. I hope you will join us in what promises to be an insightful and educational trip. Space is limited; please contact myself, **Mary Guenther,** at 240-330-0251 or mguenther@ppionline.org or **John Michael Dieng** at 347-949-2741 or jdieng@ppionline.org if you have questions or require further information.

Regards,

Lindsay Lewis
CEO, Progressive Policy Institute

Mary Guenther
Head of Space Policy

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Date/Time Stamp
3/4/26
Amended 3/16/26

Name of Traveler:
SYDNEY HESS

Employing Office/Committee:
KELLY, MARK

Private Sponsor(s):
Progressive Policy Institute

Destination(s):
Brussels, Belgium Munich, Germany

Travel Dates:
04/06/2026 to 04/11/2026
NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

Senator Kelly serves on committees with jurisdiction over national security and emerging space capabilities, and, given his background as a former astronaut, our office regularly engages on issues related to commercial space development, space security, international space cooperation, and U.S. leadership in space. Participation in these discussions enhances my ability to advise the Senator on space policy matters, particularly those involving international cooperation, commercial space innovation, and national security considerations.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

3/4/26
Date

Sydney Hess
Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I Mark Kelly
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize Sydney Hess
(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

☑ (signify "yes" by checking box)

3/16/2026
Date

Mark Kelly
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Progressive Policy Institute: April 2026 - PPI Space StaffDel to Brussels and Munich

SYDNEY HESS

Title:
Legislative Aide

Employing Office/Committee:
KELLY, MARK

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):

Brussels, Belgium
Munich, Germany

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

Senator Kelly serves on committees with jurisdiction over national security and emerging space capabilities, and, given his background as a former astronaut, our office regularly engages on issues related to commercial space development, space security, international space cooperation, and U.S. leadership in space. Participation in these discussions enhances my ability to advise the Senator on space policy matters, particularly those involving international cooperation, commercial space innovation, and national security considerations.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
Progressive Policy Institute

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Public Charity

Address 2 (Optional)
SUITE 300

Phone Number
(347) 949-2741

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
(●) Yes ( ) No

Address
1919 M ST NW

City, State Zip
Washington, District Of Columbia 20036 United States

Organization URL

History of Congressional Travel

The Progressive Policy Institute has sponsored several Congressional staff and member delegations since its founding in 1989. These educational trips have focused on a wide variety of policy areas and they aim to explore how issues moving on Capitol Hill have an impact on the real world. PPI last sponsored Senate travel in April 2025.

Educational Activities

As a non profit 501(c) (3) think-tank, the nature of PPI's work is educational. We release dozens of reports, research , and policy anwyslis work annually. PPI also hosts public forums, congressional briefings, webinars, roundtables, and other events around issue education.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyists.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

Congressional Staff will meet with E.U and German government officials and policy experts to learn about US Space investment in Europe and the US and EU regulatory and collaborative relationship as it relates to the US-EU Space Act.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

PPI has been conducting policy work and facilitating transatlantic dialogue between US policymakers and international partners since 1989. The mission of the this is aligned with PPI's space and competition policy projects and our commitment to building ties between EU and US policymakers.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- [x] The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- [x] The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- [x] No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- [x] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- [ ] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

- Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
04/06/2026 @ 05:30 PM

Trip End Date/Time:
04/11/2026 @ 09:00 AM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

○ Yes ● No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $1,610.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	$1,550.00
Note TOTAL AIRFARE		
Ground Transportation	Coach	$60.00
Note Taxi/Rideshare costs		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $820.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
04/07/2026	04/08/2026	Thon Hotel EU	Brussels		Belgium	1	$145.00	No
04/08/2026	04/11/2026	NH Collection Munchen Bavaria	Munich		Germany	3	$225.00	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $302.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
04/07/2026	$10.00	$15.00	$40.00	$0.00	**$65.00**	Brussels		Belgium	No
04/08/2026	$15.00	$20.00	$0.00	$0.00	**$35.00**	Brussels		Belgium	No
04/08/2026	$0.00	$0.00	$45.00	$0.00	**$45.00**	Munich		Germany	No
04/09/2026	$12.00	$15.00	$40.00	$0.00	**$67.00**	Munich		Germany	No
04/10/2026	$15.00	$25.00	$50.00	$0.00	**$90.00**	Munich		Germany	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes

There are no miscellaneous expenses.

Additional Attachments

Document Name

There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: April 2026 - PPI Space Staffdel to Brussels and Munich

Travel Date(s): April 6 - 11, 2026

Travel Destination(s): Brussels, Belgium. Munich, Germany

Sponsor: The Third Way Foundation (PPI is a project of the Third way Foundation)

Lindsay Lewis — *(printed name of sponsor representative)*

CEO — *(title)*

Lindsay Lewis — *(signature of sponsor representative)*

3/2/2026 — *(date)*

Senate Staff Invitees

PPI April 2026 - Space Staff Del to Brussels and Munich

Austin Girelli
Senior Policy Advisor for Senator Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)
Austin_Girelli@slotkin.senate.gov

Sydney Hess
Legislative Assistant for Senator Mark Kelly (D-AZ)
sydney_hess@kelly.senate.gov

Joey Abeyta
Legislative Aide for Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
joey_abeyta@heinrich.senate.gov

ppi radically pragmatic

PPI Space Del II Europe Program:
April 6 - April 11, 2026

Monday, April 6th, 2026

5:30 PM - 7:15 AM

Depart from Washington, DC (IAD) to Brussels (BRU)
Flight: United Airlines (UA 950)

Tuesday, April 7th, 2026

7:15 AM

Arrival in Brussels

8:30 - 9:00 AM

Taxi to Thon Hotel EU

9:00 AM

Arrive at Hotel, and Get Ready
Location: Thon Hotel EU, Rue de la Loi 75, 1040 Bruxelles, Belgium

10:30 - 11:15 AM

EU Governance and EU Space Act 101 Briefings
Location: Thon Hotel EU

Michael Quigley will provide an overview of European institutions and how they relate to each other to provide context for meetings with various EU policymakers. Then Mary Guenther will provide an overview of the EU Space Act to set up discussion with stakeholders throughout the trip.

This presentation is important to the execution of the trip because it provides a strong base of information, which the staff will need throughout the remainder of the trip.

Briefers: Mary Guenther, PPI's Head of Space Policy, Michael Quigley, PPI's Director of European Office

11:15 - 11:45 AM

Amazon Leo Briefing
Location: Thon Hotel EU

Amazon Leo will brief the staff on the unique policy challenges Amazon Leo faces as a multinational satellite services company as the EU seeks to develop sovereign capabilities. They will also touch on the impact they see EU Space Act having on their operations as part of the briefing.

This presentation is important because industry will be able to provide real-world examples of how regulation impacts them and what it means to operate in multiple jurisdictions.

Briefers: Jordi Casanova, EU Head of Telecoms and Space, Amazon Leo

12:00 - 1:40 PM

EU Space Act Lunch
Location: Paolo's Idea

This working lunch will feature Alvaro Ovejero, one of the leading experts on the EU Space Act. Staff will take what they learned from PPI's briefing and Amazon Leo's briefing and apply it to an engaging conversation on the development of the Act as well as the path forward.

This presentation is important because exposing staff to multiple perspectives on the EU Space Act is vital to allowing them to form their own opinions - and the conversational element will allow them to dig deeper.

Guest: Alvaro Ovejero, Associate Director of Space and Satellite Policy, Access Partnership

2:00 - 3:00 PM

Meeting with Charlotte Bue, Head of US & Canada Division, European External Action Service
Location: Rond-Point Schuman 9A, B-1046 Brussels

This meeting will provide staff with information on the EU-US relationship - and how space plays into it - from the EU's diplomatic perspective.

This is important because staff have some familiarity with the US perspective, but it takes two to tango and many don't realize the extent of the space trading relationship between the two entities.

4:00 - 4:45 PM

Visit & Tour of Parliament
Location: Rue Wiertz 60, 1047 Brussels

This is a guided tour by Matteo Adduci. This will give staff a better understanding of the various EU political parties and how they interact/form coalitions. It will also educate staff on how the Parliament works - augmenting the morning briefing on how EU institutions interact with each other.

This is important because it provides a base of knowledge for the workings of the Parliament and provides context for how the EU Space Act will move through.

Staff: Matteo Adduci, Head of Office/Political Adviser, Office of MEP Brando Benifei

4:45 - 5:30 PM

Meeting with Chief of Staff to Chairman of EP Delegation for Relations with the USA and EPRS staff experts on Space Policy
Location: Rue Wiertz 60, 1047 Brussels

This meeting will provide context on the US-EU relationship broadly speaking from Matteo as well as a strong overview of the EU Space Act from an EU institution. The EP Delegation for Relations with the USA have been engaging with the US government on the EU Space Act and can provide some context on how that legislation is developing.

This is important because it will allow staffers to understand the intent of the EU Space Act and how it plays into the EU-US relationship.

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Dinner and Debrief
Location: Kafenio

This working dinner will feature a robust guided discussion led by PPI's Mary Guenther (Head of Space Policy) and Michael Quigley (Director of European Office) tying together everything the staffers learned about the EU Space Act from various guest speakers during the day and

answering questions staff may have about EU institutions to better equip them for the following day of meetings.

This is important because it will ensure staff are synthesizing everything they are learning and avoid confusion before they are too far into the trip as they will continue engaging with EU institutions and the EU Space Act all week.

Wednesday, April 8th, 2026

8:30 - 9:45 AM

Breakfast Briefing
Location: Thon Hotel EU
Overview of logistics for the day and context on the visits lined up led by Mary Guenther, Head of Space Policy, and John Michael Dieng, Government Relations Manager

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Meeting with EU Special Envoy for Space
Location: Rond-Point Schuman 9A, B-1046 Brussels

This meeting will introduce staff to the leading salesperson for the EU Space Act abroad and glean insights on how nations are reacting to the EU Space Act. This will provide another perspective for staff on the initiative.

This presentation is important because exposing staff to multiple perspectives on the EU Space Act is vital to allowing them to form their own opinions.

Staff: Marjolijin Van Deelen, EU Special Envoy for Space

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Meeting with Celine Begon, Head of ESA Brussels Office
Location: Avenue de Cortenbergh, 52, B-1000 Bruxelles

This meeting will expose staff to the partnerships ESA and NASA undertake, which are important to the EU-US relationship in space. This will also provide insights on how the EU views the US as a space partner after recent partnership cancellations.

This is important to give staff insight into one key mechanism for US-EU space collaboration - and the impact policy decisions have on the relationship.

12:45 - 2:30 PM

Lunch with European Space Attaches
Location: Thon Hotel EU

This working lunch will expose staff to the German and Spanish perspectives on the EU Space Act and the EU-US relationship in space. It will also provide context on how EU member nations engage with Eu institutions in Brussels.

This meeting is important because EU member states hold great sway in Brussels - and are a key component to understanding how initiatives like the EU Space Act come together.

Guests: Dr Christian BOEHM, Attaché Technology and Space, Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union and Marta March, Counsellor for Science, Innovation, and Space, Permanent Representation of Spain to the European Union

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Meeting - US Mission to NATO Briefing on NATO Commercial Space Activities and Tour of NATO
Location: Boulevard Leopold III, 1110 Brussels, Belgium

This meeting and guided tour led by Col. Justin Pendry will expose staff to another key pillar of EU-US space collaboration: NATO. NATO is expanding its space engagements and guides some military collaborations in the space domain between the two entities.

This meeting is important as staff learn about the many interfaces between the EU and US space sectors. This will also help them appreciate why space is so important for national security globally - and how space fits into NATO's overall strategy.

Briefer: Col. Justin Pendry

5:00 PM - 5:15 PM

Transit to the Airport

5:45 PM - 6:45 PM

Dinner/Debrief
Location: Exki Brussels Airport

This working dinner will feature a robust guided discussion led by PPI's Mary Guenther (Head of Space Policy) tying together everything the staffers learned about the EU Space Act from various guest speakers during the day and answering questions staff may have about ESA or NATO.

This is important to avoid any confusion before engagements with industry start the following day and to ensure staffers are getting as much out of the trip as possible.

7:30 PM - 8:50 PM — **Depart from Brussels (BRU) to Munich (MUC)**
Flight: Brussels Airlines (SN 2651)

9:30 PM - 10:00 PM — **Travel to NH Collection Munchen Bavaria/Check In**
Location: Arnulfstraße 2, 80335 München, Germany

Thursday, April 9th, 2026

8:30 - 9:00 AM — **Breakfast Briefing**
Overview of trip visits and logistics for the day led by Mary Guenther, Head of Space Policy and John Michael Dieng, Government Relations Manager

9:10 - 10:00 AM — **Travel Time**

10:00 - 12:30 PM — **Tour and Briefing w/Airbus**
Location: Willy-Messerschmidt-Straße 1, 82024 Taufkirchen
Robert-Koch-Straße 5, 82024 Taufkirchen

This guided tour and briefing led by Marieke Suppa will inform staff about Starlab, the next-generation space station being produced by Airbus, Voyager Technologies, and other companies. As the successor to the ISS, this space station will host international payloads. Airbus will tell staff about their experience of the partnership and how policy decisions like the EU Space Act impact the partnership.

This is important because it will inform staff about how entirely commercial EU-US space collaboration is going -

and how policy decisions either help or hinder those collaborations.

Briefers: Mareike Suppa, Chief of Staff, Airbus Space Exploration

12:45 - 3:00 PM

Working Lunch Followed by Tour of Arianespace
Location: Robert-Koch-Straße 1, 82024 Taufkirchen, Germany

This visit will consist of a working lunch, featuring conversation about how European launchers like Arianespace operate in the USA and how they will be impacted by the EU Space Act, followed by a tour of the factory where the rockets are produced. This tour will give staff insights into how European factories differ from American ones - and what that means for cross-border collaboration.

This is important because it will inform staff about how EU-US collaboration is going from an industry perspective - and what policy choices mean for that relationship.

Briefers: David Cavaillolès, CEO, Arianespace

3:00 - 3:45 PM

Travel Time

3:45 - 5:00 PM

Tour of OHB
Location: Manfred-Fuchs-Straße 1, 82234 Weßling, Germany

This visit will give staff another perspective on US-EU collaboration in space. OHB does substantial work with US entities, from commercial space station providers to launch vehicles.

The guided tour led by Katharina Will, is important because it will help staff understand what these collaborations usually look like - which make for space systems that have EU and US components in them - and how policies like export control and tariffs impact them.

Briefers: Katharine Will, Head of OHB Berlin

7:00 - 9:00 PM	**Salon Dinner featuring Special Guest PM Markus Söder** *Location: Pasto Munchen, Arnulfstr. 16/18, 80335 Munich, Bavaria Germany* This salon dinner will bring together local political leader, PM Markus Söder, the industry representatives the staff delegation will visit with, and the staff for a lively discussion of US-EU space collaboration and the EU Space Act. This conversation is important because it will give staff a chance to see and participate in conversations about the important topics they're learning about alongside political leaders and industry.
Friday, April 10th, 2026	
9:00 - 9:45 AM	**Travel Time**
9:45 - 12:15 PM	**Tour of DLR** *Location: Münchener Str. 20, 82234 Weßling, Germany* This guided tour led by Felix Huber will give staff a sense of how EU member state space agencies collaborate with their US counterparts like NASA. We will tour the German Space Operations Center and Institute for Robotics and Mechatronics, both of which will highlight NASA collaborations. This is important because while ESA collaborations are important, they don't show the full picture of what collaboration between the EU and US look like as member states have independent relationships. *Briefers: Felix Huber, Head of German Space Operations Center, DLR and Dr. Lioba Suchenwirth, Public Relations Lead for the Institute for Robotics and Mechatronics*
12:15 - 12:30 PM	**Travel Time**
12:30 - 2:45 PM	**Working Lunch Meeting + Tour at The Exploration Company (TEC)**

Location: Galileostraße 502, 82131 Gauting

The working lunch will feature conversation on what challenges TEC experiences working in both the EU and US and what policy changes like the EU Space Act mean for those operations. This will be followed by a guided tour of the factory by Victor Maier, giving staff a sense of what a reentry spacecraft does for both entities' space programs.

This is important because it will inform staff about how EU-US collaboration is going from an industry perspective - and what policy choices mean for that relationship.

Briefer: Victor Maier, Lead Germany and Central Europe Business, TEC

2:45 - 3:05 PM **Travel Time**

3:05 - 4:35 PM **Tour of Mynaric**
Location: Bertha-Kipfmüller-Straße 2-8, 81249 München, Germany

This visit will give staff another perspective on US-EU collaboration in space. Mynaric does substantial work with US satellite manufacturers - and is being acquired by US-NZ company Rocket Lab.

The guided tour led by Joachim is important because it will help staff understand what these collaborations usually look like - which make for space systems that have EU and US components in them - and how policies like export control and tariffs impact them. It will also provide context on the European attitude towards US investment.

Briefer: Joachim Horwath, CTO, Mynaric and Martin Haunschild, Business Development Manager

4:35 - 5:00 PM **Travel back to Hotel**

5:00 - 6:45 PM **Executive Time**

7:00 - 9:00 PM **Dinner**

Location: Arnulfstraße 2, 80335 München, Germany

Tuesday, April 11th, 2026

9:00 AM **Trip Program Ends. *Trip Extension Begins***