



### **Mariella Spada**

Mariella Spada is Head of Ground Systems Engineering and Innovation at the European Space Agency (ESA). She holds a Master's degree in Computer Science, a Master of Business Administration (MBA), and obtained a Certificate in Global Management from the INSEAD Business School. Mariella has more than 20 years of experience in the space sector. She has spent a large part of her career in engineering, leading the teams who developed and operated ground segments for the most complex Solar System exploration and cosmic observers missions, driving critical technology developments and innovation. Mariella has also been Head of Strategy and Transformation in the ESA Directorate of Operations, with special focus on organizational behavior and innovation. She sits on various international boards and committees, including the CCSDS Management Council and the SpaceOps Executive Committee.