

Kosmas Gazeas

Astrophysicist

Department of Physics

Section of Astrophysics, Astronomy and Mechanics

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

e-mail: kgaze@phys.uoa.gr

web page: <http://users.uoa.gr/~kgaze>



Dr. Kosmas Gazeas studied Physics at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) and he got his MSc and PhD degree in Observational Astrophysics from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA).

His post-doctoral research in astrophysics was conducted at Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA), USA, where he worked with images taken from Hubble Space Telescope (NASA). He worked at the European Space Agency - ESA, Netherlands where he specialized in space technology and optics.

In parallel to his research activity, his passion about space exploration led him to participate at the Astronaut Selection Process at ESA in 2008. He managed to be shortlisted among the top 500 candidates in the world.

In 2023 the International Astronomical Union (IAU) named the asteroid "30278 Gazeas" (2000 HN56) after Dr. Kosmas Gazeas, honoring him for his contribution to the study of the most ancient asteroids as well as for the outreach and public engagement activities relevant to solar system science.

Today Dr. Gazeas works on Observational Astrophysics at Physics Department (NKUA). His educational and research activities are focused on the study of eclipsing binary stars, primordial asteroid families, supernovae, blazars, black holes and other exotic objects in our Universe, while he works in parallel with asteroseismology, on various space technology topics, applied optics and astronomical instrumentation.

His rich research work is reflected on a large number of research and academic assignments on various astronomical subjects, while his interest in public outreach led him to get involved with science communication. During the past years he gave numerous talks in schools, universities and other institutes, while he is an active organizing member in Athens Science Festival.

He is a member of the International Astronomical Union (IAU), the European Astronomical Society (EAS), and of the Hellenic Astronomical Society (HELAS).

He is the initiator and coordinator of the very successful "Planets In Your Hand" educational program, while he has also created and leads the research programs "Ancient Asteroids", "Contact Binaries Towards Merging - CoBiToM" and "Blazar Optical Sky Survey - BOSS".