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## **International Collaboration: a tool for the implementation of Cosmic Vision 15-25**

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In response to the call for mission proposal issued by ESA the European scientists demonstrated strategic intelligence by contacting a large number of international space organisations to support their mission proposals. It is the first time in the last three decades that all Solar System mission proposals envisage major roles for the major International Partners, namely, JAXA, NASA & Roscosmos. A record participation has been set by JAXA which is present in all the mission proposals selected for an assessment study. This is due to the positive experience on BepiColombo and also to the fact that ESA is seen in Japan as a very reliable partner, capable of understanding and coping with different managerial and technical cultures. NASA is still regarded as an “obvious” partner, particularly when mission deals with major exploration challenges, such as missions to the outer planets, for their, still unequalled, technical capability and their availability to embark on challenging endeavours. Russia is slowly coming back to their glorious standards of the 60’s and 70’s and the Russian space scientists are still today a guarantee of high standards and enthusiasm.