# **The Mountain and the Science**

The mountains: not only for sports but a special environment for scientific

research

The High Mountain Research Stations of Europe are widely distributed in the mountain regions, in the Alps, the Caucasus, the Carpathians, in Anatolia, in Armenia, always placed in spectacular, breathtaking places.



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# **HMO NETWORK**

High Mountain Research Stations were established in Europe at the beginning of modern science (end of 1800) in order to provide the most adventurist scientists suitable and unique places to carry out research in various fields, from astronomy, to solar physics, to physiology.

In the course of time, the High Mountain Research Stations became important laboratories for the European Scientific Community, witnesses of scientific progress and site of historical data collections.

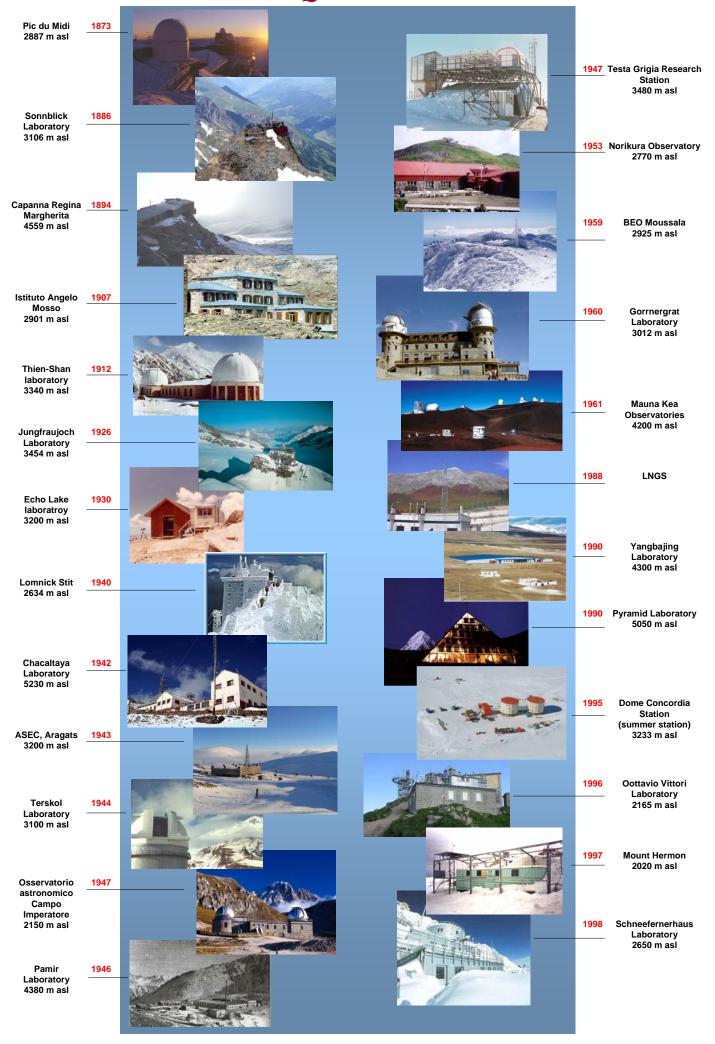
· EFE



## The High Mountain Research Stations : European scientific heritage

High Mountain Research Stations were established in Europe at the beginning of modern science (end of 1800) in order to provide the most adventurist scientists suitable and unique places to carry out research in various fields, from astronomy, to solar physics, to physiology. The strategic role of the High Mountain Research Stations is still today crucial in Earth observation systems, for long term observation and data collection in many scientific fields.

### When? Quando?

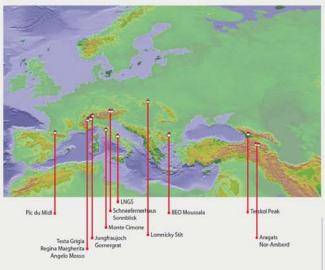


### Where? Dove?

The High Mountain Research Stations are widely distributed in the mountain regions of Europe, in the Alps, in the Caucasus, in the Carpathians, in Anatolia, in Armenia, always placed in spectacular, breathtaking places.

Le Stazioni di Ricerca di Alta Montagna sono situati nelle regioni montuose dell'Europa, sulle Alpi, nel Caucaso, nei Carpazi, in Anatolia, in Armenia, fra paesaggi spettacolari e panorami mozzafiato.

### European Laboratories Laboratori Europei



Observatory	Location	Country
Pic du Midi	43° 04′ N,0° 09′ E Altitude, m 2887 asl	France
Testa Grigia	45° 56' N,7° 42' E Altitude, m 3480 asl	Italy
Capanna Regina Margherita	45° 56' N,7° 42' E Altitude, m 4559 asl	Italy
Istituto Angelo Mosso	45° 56' N,7° 42' E Altitude, m 2901 asl	Italy
Ottavio Vittori Mt. Cimonte	44° 11' N,10° 42' E Altitude, m 2165 asl	Italy
Laboratori Nazionali Gran Sasso	42° 28' N,13° 33' E Altitude, m 2150 asl	Italy
Jungfraujoch Sphinx	46° 33' N,7° 59' E Altitude, m 3454 asl	Switzerland
Gornergrat	45° 58' N,7° 47' E Altitude, m 3012 asl	Switzerland
Schneefernerhaus	47° 25' N, 10° 59' E Altitude, m 2650 asl	Germany
Sonnblick	47° 25' N,12° 57' E Altitude, m 3106 asl	Austria
Lomnicky Stit	49° 12' N,20° 13' E Altitude, m 2634 asl	Slovakia
BEO Moussala	42° 11' N,25° 35' E Altitude, m 2925 asl	Bulgaria
ASEC Aragats	44° 10' N,40° 30'E Altitude, m 3200 asl	Armenia
Nor Amberd	44° 10' N,40° 30' E Altitude, m 2000 asl	Armenia
Terskol Peak	42° 18' N,42° 42' E Altitude, m 3100 asl	Nord Caucaso Russia

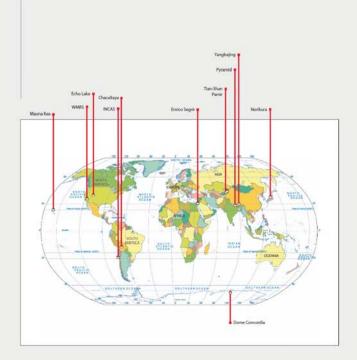
### Laboratories in the World Laboratori nel Mondo

#### **Observatory** Location

WMRS	N37° 35' N, 118° 14' Altitude, m 4340 asl
Echo Lake	38° 50' N, 105° 38' Altitude, m 4312 asl
Mauna Kea	19°49' N, 155° 28' Altitude, m 4200 asl
Chacaltaya	16°29' S, 68° 8' W Altitude, m 5230 asl
NCAS Putre	18°12′ S, 69° 35′ V Altitude, m 3600 asl
Dome Concordia Station	75° 06′ S, 123° 23′ Altitude, m 3280 asl
Enrico Segrè	33° 10' N, 33° 29' E Altitude, m 2025 asl
Tian-shan	42° 30' N, 82° 30' E Altitude, m 3340 asl
Pamir	43° N, 77° E Altitude, m 4380 asl
Pyramid	27° 59' N, 86° 57' E Altitude, m 5050 asl
Yangbajing	30° 7′ N, 90° 32′ E Altitude, m 4300 asl
Norikura	36° 6′ N, 137° 19′ Altitude, m 2770 asl

#### Country

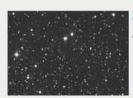
California USA Colorado USA Hawaii USA Bolivia Cile Antarctica Israel Kazakhistan Kyrgyzstan Nepal Tibet P.R. China Japan



Scientific and interdisciplinary exchanges are active with other high altitude laboratories in the world, from Tibet to the Antarctic, from the Andes to the Rocky Mountains, to Hawaii.

Sono in corso scambi scientifici interdisciplinari con i laboratori di alta montagna nel mondo, dal Tibet all'Antartide, dalle Ande alle Rocky Mountain fino alle Hawaii.

### Which science? Quale scienza?



Astronomy Astronomia

Space weather forecast Previsioni del tempo spaziale Solar Physics Fisica Solare







Astrophysics Astrofisica

> **Cosmic Rays Physics** Fisica dei raggi cosmici

Fisica dell'atmosfera





Atmospheric Chemistry Chimica dell'atmosfera



Atmosphere Science Scienza dell'atmosfera

Scienza della Terra

Earth Science

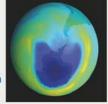


**Clouds** formation Formazione di nubi



Lightning & thunderstorm Fulmini e temporali

Paleoclimatology Paleoclimatologia Ozone depletion Buco dell'ozono





Seismology Sismologia





Geology Geologia

### Which science? Quale scienza?

Climate changes Cambiamenti climatici

**Pollution monitoring** Monitoraggio dell'inquinamento

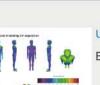
Weather forecast Previsioni del tempo

Meteorology Meteorologia



Climatology Climatologia





**UV** exposure

Esposizione ai raggi UV

Medicine and Biology Medicina e Biologia

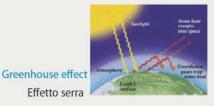


Human life in extreme conditions & Sport Medicine Vita umana in condizioni estreme e medicina sportiva

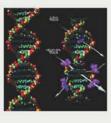
Pollutants effect on life and food chain

Effetto di inquinanti sulla vita e sulla catena alimentare

**Physiology and Biophysics** Fisiologia e Biofisica



Radiobiology Radiobiologia







Telecommunication Telecomunicazioni

**Ecological tourism** Turismo ecologico

Satellite data validation Validazione dei dati da satellite

> Instruments calibration Calibrazione di strumenti







and more... e inoltre...



Science divulgation & Education Divulgazione scientifica & Educazione

> **Environmental protection** Protezione ambientale

### Integration in Earth Observation

The High Mountain Research Stations are integrated in some World-Wide Network Monitoring.

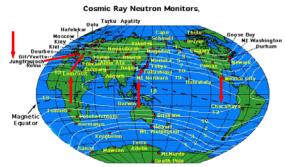


(http://gaw.web.psi.ch/) GAW global atmospheric monitoring stations



Some GAW regional atmosphere monitoring stations

#### **Cosmic Ray Neutron Monitors**



(http://ulysses.sr.unh.edu/NeutronMonitor/images/O\_WorldNeutronMonitors.gif) stations worldwide distributed. Most of them are located at High

Cosmic Rays Neutron Monitors map



Solar Neutron Telescope network map Mappa della rete Solar Neutron Telescope

#### **Atmosphere monitoring**

#### WMO

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO), an intergovernmental organization with a membership of 187 Member States and Territories, is the specialized agency of the United Nations for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences.

Out of growing concern about climate change and air quality issues due to human activities, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)\_has initiated the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) programme.

#### GAW

The Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) programme coordinates the effort of 22 global and some 300 regional atmospheric monitoring stations to produce data that are relevant to climate change.

#### **Cosmic Rays monitoring**

#### **Neutron Monitors**

Primary cosmic rays consist of electromegnetic radiation and energetic charged particles of galactic (GCR),solar (SCR) extragalactic origin (ACR). The primary radiation is constituded by protons (87%), Helium nuclei (12%) heavy ions (1%).

When primary cosmic rays interact with the Earth atmosphere nuclei (Nitrogen and Oxigen). a secondary radiation is produced ( atmospheric shower) costituted by many particles ( protons, electrons, neutrons, muons), whose detection allows to set the value of the primary flux.

The world's neutron monitor network is constituted by almost 50

stations worldwide distributed. Most of them are located at High Mountain Research Stations, were the Neutrons flux is higher, due to the reduced atmospheric layer.

#### **Space Weather Forecast (Solar Neutron Telescope)**

A new type of neutron detector ( Solar Neutron Telescope (SNT). was designed to overcome the limitations of the neutron monitors: The detectors are scintillators completely surrounded by proportional counters allowing the SNT to distinguish between protons or neutrons making use of anticoincidence circuits.

This system is used for the detection of solar flares or magnetic storms, with the aim to providing an early alert; to avoid damages to the instrumentation and risks for the aircrew health during space missions.

#### Solar Neutron Telescope

# In the High Altitude Research Stations there are optimal conditions for scientific research



No light pollution

High UV intesity

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Millenarian glaciers





No anthropogenic pollution

High cosmic ray flux





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### Integration in Earth Observation

The High Mountain Research Stations, worldwide distributed, allow to perform contemporary investigation on the "Earth System" at various altitudes and latitudes, in different conditions of atmospheric shielding and geomagnetic field.

The Laboratories represent essential ground-based facilities, integrated in the system of Earth observation:

•high altitude aircraft for scientific flights ~ 20 Km

•stratospheric ballons ~ 30 km

•Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites ~ 200Km

•International Space Station (ISS) - 386 Km