



Earth from Space

European Union

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European Space Agency
Agence spatiale européenne



Earth from Space

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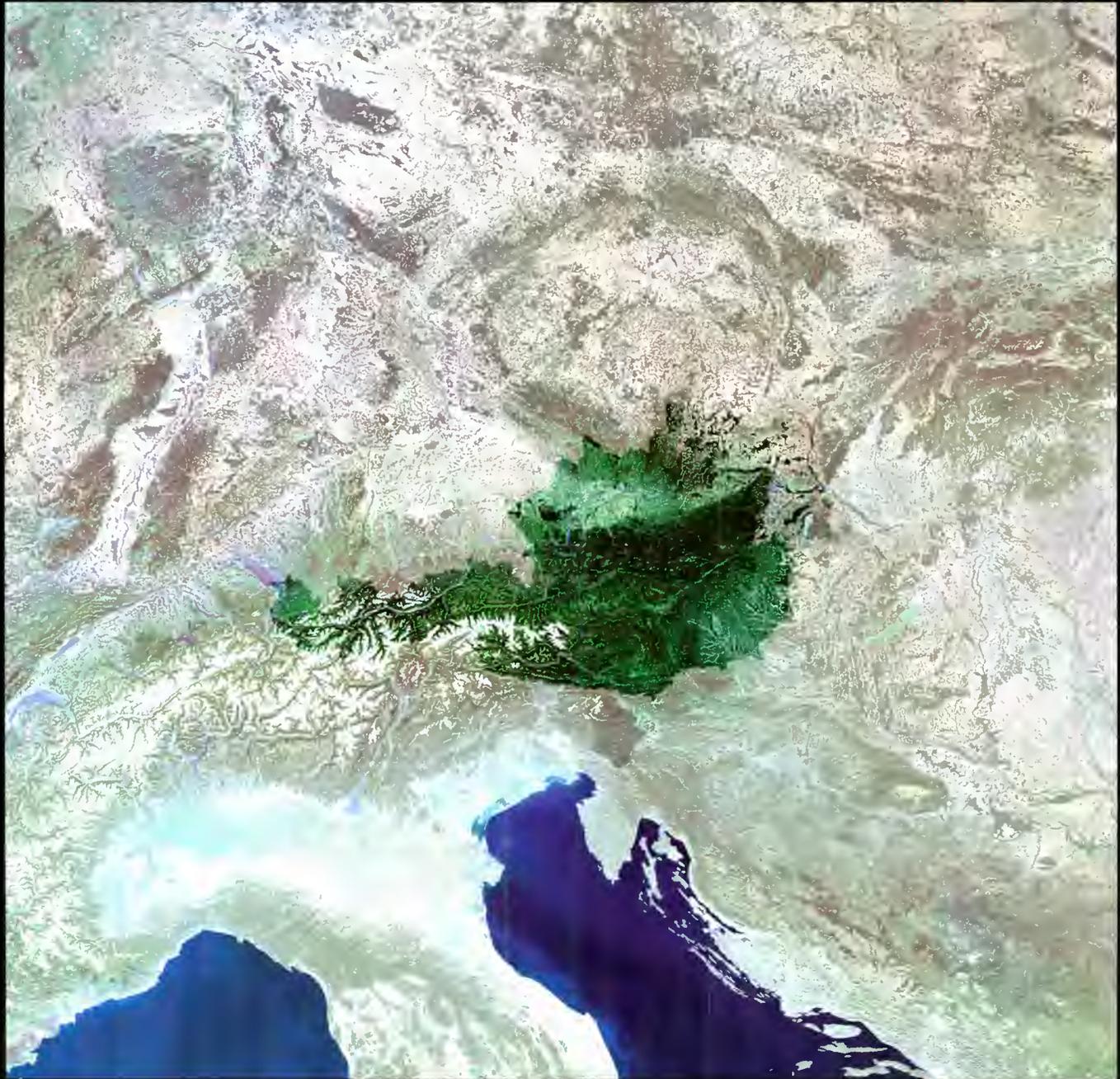
*European
Union*



Europe

EUROPEAN UNION





Belgium

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Czech Republic

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France

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Greece



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Germany



ENVISAT meris - full resolution mosaic



Luxembourg



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Poland



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Spain

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The Netherlands

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UNDERSTAND

From a vantage point high above our planet, satellites are able to provide a truly **global picture** of the **Earth**. This space-borne information can be used to monitor and measure even small changes in our **Land, Sea and Atmosphere**.

Satellites can provide us with a wealth of information on some of the most remote and inaccessible areas of the Earth, for example **the Antarctic**, where the ability of some instruments to work independently of cloud-cover and poor light conditions has distinct advantages.

BENEFIT

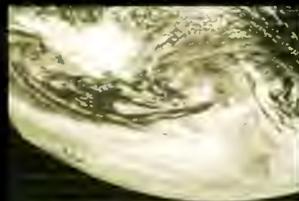
In the short term, data gathered in near-real time can provide the timely and precise information needed to effectively pinpoint and manage many natural disasters, for example tracking the path of a **hurricane**, the damage extent of an **earthquake**, or the "hot spots" of a **forest fire**.

In the long term, continuous and objective satellite monitoring helps identify and assess environmental trends evolving over longer time periods, for example changes in our **ozone layer**, a rise in our **sea levels** or any gradual ground **subsidence** in our cities.

Satellite data can provide independent, operational and relevant information to support a range of policies serving sustainable development, thus making a valuable contribution to our quality of life by ensuring a better **understanding** for the **security** and **benefit** of our planet.



SECURE



UNDERSTAND



BENEFIT



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