



**Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna  
School of Engineering and Architecture - Forlì**

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# **Landing on a comet and on Mars**



**Andrea Accomazzo**

Flight Operations Manager  
European Space Agency  
Darmstadt - Germany

In recent years, ESA conducted extraordinary spaceflight operations in sending interplanetary probes to a comet and to Mars. Both the Rosetta and the Exomars missions had scientific objectives including soft landing on the surface of these two bodies. The presentation will provide some insight in the preparation and conduct of operations for such space missions challenges. The interplanetary flight, the complex cometary environment and the risky landing of Philae are the elements characterizing the Rosetta mission. Exomars primary scope is to provide a reliable relay orbiter for the arrival of the ESA Rover in 2021; however, the mission was also used as a demonstrator for key technologies to be used for next endeavors. The experience of Schiaparelli, despite not fully successful, is of utmost importance for the next steps in the exploration of our neighbouring planet.

