

## Comet Interceptor mission: an overview and an expected contribution from Japan

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Comets are pristine small bodies and thus provide key information about the solar system evolution. Remote observations by ground observatories have characterized various comets, while in-situ observations by spacecraft have brought much more detailed information on several comets. However, the direct observations by spacecraft fly-by or rendezvous have been limited to the short-period comets, which neared the sun many times in the past and thus lost some of primitive characteristics. The Comet Interceptor mission, led by ESA, aims at a long period comet or an interstellar object. We, Japanese team, will provide an ultra-small daughter spacecraft, whose closest approach will be less than 1,000 km, allowing the first-ever multi-spacecraft fly-by observations of a comet.