

## INTRODUCTION

*Solaris Space Settlement* is named after the homonymous sci-fi novel by Stanislaw Lem.

In “Solaris” of Lem, a base on a planet in a binary Solar System is depicted, with extraterrestrial life in the form of a multi-cellular ocean.

One of the central ideas suggested by the novel is that we could be regarded to as multi-cellular life forms in the shape of a complex society, rather than unique individuals.

Another suggested idea, by the title itself, emphasizes the importance of warmth and light for life creation and evolution. When looking for its orbit, Solaris moves closer and closer to the Sun, the center of life in our Solar System, the reason of our evolution.

*Why build a space settlement?* Reasons may vary, but in the end it all comes down to evolution, species perpetuation, and knowledge of life surrounding us. After colonizing Earth and exploring our Solar System, targets will be set higher and higher and new boundaries will be looked forward to.

*Who will build and inhabit space settlements?* Pioneers first. People like Louis Armstrong or “Buzz” Aldrin. Or the astronauts on the ISS. After setting the example, space colonies will be inhabited by all volunteers and candidates to pass the Space Inhabiting Exam.

*When build a space settlement?* A space settlement needs time. Time to be designed. Time for the pre-construction stage, for asteroid mining, and for obtaining resources. Time for construction and inhabitation. Furthermore, space colonies need certain technology, so a first goal would be the development of nanotubes at a large scale, and the creation of Artificial Intelligence.

Finally, all of the above being decided and thoroughly taken into consideration, the development of life outside Earth may begin.

