

The PRESTO Program

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The Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP) is an interdisciplinary body of the International Council for Science (ICSU). SCOSTEP promotes ICSU's mission to strengthen international science for the benefit of society. SCOSTEP runs international interdisciplinary scientific programs and promotes solar-terrestrial physics research by providing the necessary scientific framework for international collaboration and dissemination of the derived scientific knowledge in collaboration with other ICSU bodies. SCOSTEP is a permanent observer at the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS).

The latest program of SCOSTEP is called PRESTO (Predictability of Variable Solar-Terrestrial Coupling) and it will run from 2020 through 2024 [1]. PRESTO has three scientific pillars. Pillar 1 is Sun, interplanetary space and geospace. Pillar 2 is Space weather and the Earth's atmosphere. And Pillar 3 is Solar activity and its influence on the climate of the Earth System. Each of these pillars has a set of scientific questions around which working groups are being organized.

In this presentation we will discuss the details of the PRESTO scientific pillars, the science questions driving the work in each pillar, and the overall goals of the program. We will also discuss how scientists from around the world can get involved in PRESTO-supported activities and apply for support from SCOSTEP to connect ongoing research to PRESTO goals.

References

[1] R. E. Lopez, K. Matthes, and J. Zhang, "Introducing PRESTO – Predictability of the Variable Solar-Terrestrial Coupling," *SCOSTEP/PRESTO newsletter*, vol. 22, January 2020, available at https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/research/sites/institute-for-scientific-research/research/SCOSTEP .html