

EYES ON THE SKY

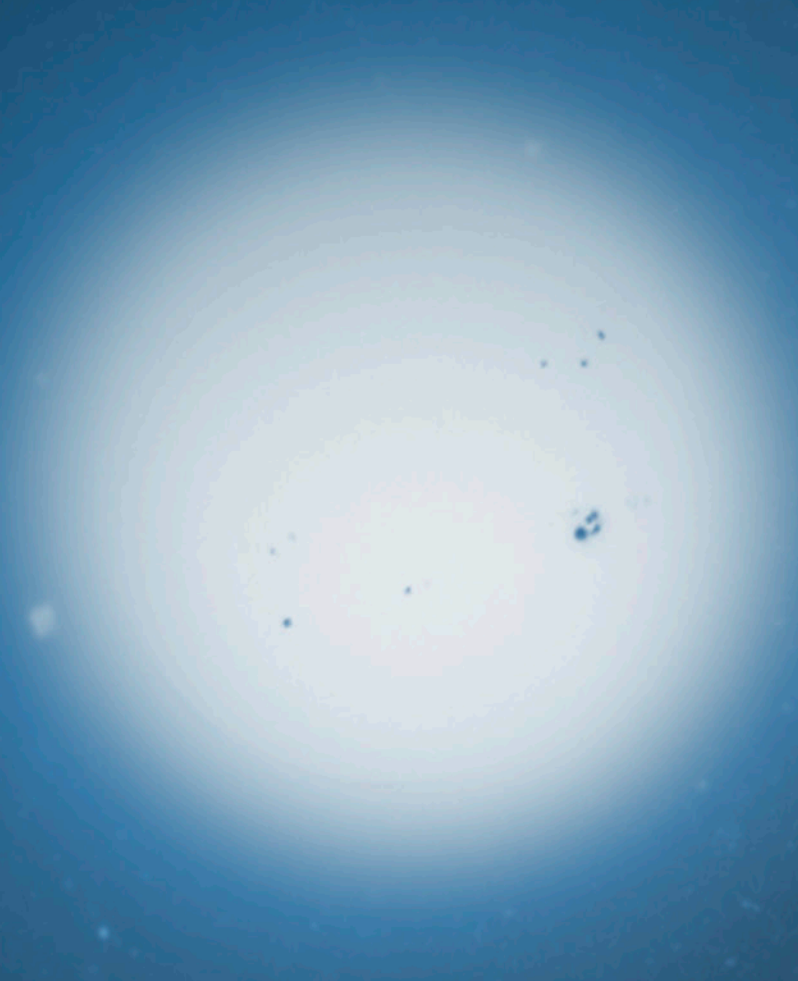
Enabling breakthrough discoveries

ESO stands as a testament to the possibilities and achievements of European collaboration and is a cornerstone of the European astronomy community.

Our mission is to enable major scientific discoveries by constructing and operating world-leading observatories. We help scientific and technical communities flourish, develop world-leading capability and promote scientific excellence in Europe and beyond.

Europe is now poised to take the lead in building and operating the next generation of 25–40-metre-class optical and infrared telescopes that will produce breakthrough discoveries.

Amongst the discoveries we expect to enable in the next decades are: direct imaging of the surface of Earth-like planets orbiting other Sun-like stars; determining whether the asteroid Apophis will ever hit us; and measuring the acceleration of the Universe in real time. Some of the most exciting discoveries, however, cannot even be imagined today!



FEET ON THE GROUND



60
years