

**Keilir Conference on Eyjafjallajökull and Aviation**  
**September 15-16, Keflavik Airport, Iceland**  
**Presentation of Conference Chairmen, Panelists and Speakers#**

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**Dr. Fred Prata**  
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Dr Prata is a Senior Scientist with the Atmosphere and Climate Change Department of NILU (the Norwegian Institute for Air Research) leading and contributing to Earth Observation and Climate research using satellite data.

Dr Fred Prata is a specialist in the physics of remote sensing of the atmosphere and has published papers on atmospheric temperature retrievals, the dynamics of travelling waves in the stratosphere, remotely sensed land surface temperatures and infrared retrievals of volcanic aerosols and gases.

Educated at Imperial College, London University and the University of Oxford,

Dr Prata has had more than 20 years experience in utilizing satellite-borne instruments to probe the earth's atmosphere. He has been involved in the satellite programs of Nimbus 5, Nimbus 6, ERS-1 and ERS-2 and more recently with ADEOS-I and -II and the Terra and Aqua platforms.

Dr Prata is a Principal Investigator on several international space related projects including ESA ENVISAT and GMES programmes, NASDA, ADEOS---II, JAXA GOSAT and has been a Co---Investigator on several NASA projects.

Currently his main interests lie in the utilization of high spectral resolution infrared measurements of atmospheric trace gases and aerosols to study and quantify their effects on climate, as well as on---going technology commercialization activities.

He is a PI on a project (SAVAA--Support to Aviation for Volcanic Ash Avoidance) to provide satellite products and algorithms for Volcanic Ash Advisory Centers funded by ESA.

Dr Prata has a strong interest in volcanic ash as a natural hazard, and is involved in 2 large EU FP7 hazards projects (MIA---VITA and SAFER) and has several patents on a hazards detection system based on remote sensing.

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In January 2006, Dr Prata left the CSIRO in Australia to become more involved with the European remote sensing community and is currently working at NILU in Norway. He has published more than 100 papers and holds several patents.

More information on Dr. Prata's background interests may be found on his home webpage (see above).



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