

2021 Planetary Defense Conference, April 26-30, 2021 © 2021 California Institute of Technology. Government sponsorship acknowledged.

**EXERCISE ONLY!!** 



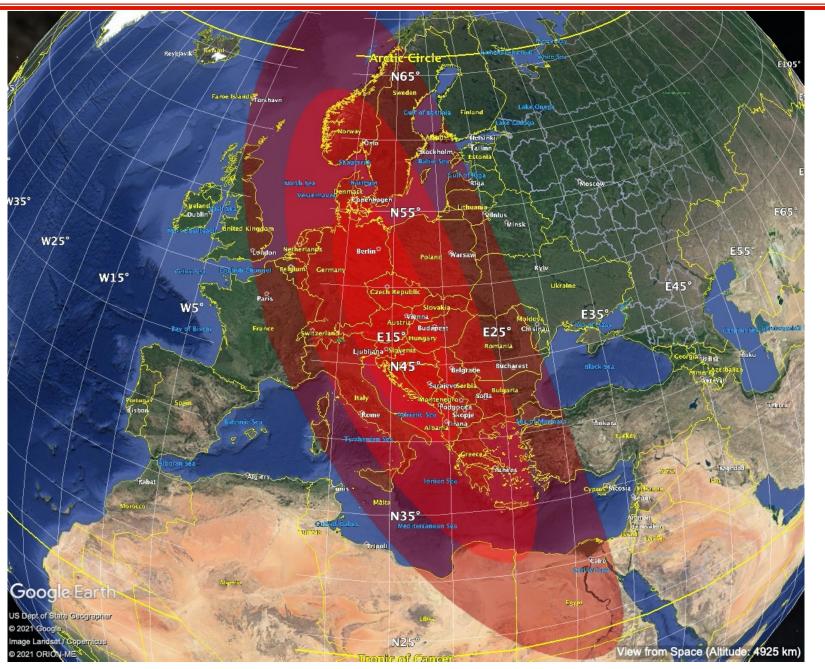
## **2021 PDC Impact Confirmed**

- Newly uncovered observations of 2021 PDC have established that the asteroid will impact in Europe or northern Africa on October 20, 2021 with 100% certainty
- The new data are precovery observations of 2021 PDC found in archival images taken 7 years ago by the Pan-STARRS asteroid survey in Hawaii
  - Noticing that 2021 PDC must have made a distant passage by Earth in 2014, observers
    predicted the region of sky where the asteroid should have been back then, and a
    series of archival images was identified for searching. The asteroid was too faint to be
    discovered, but shifting and stacking the of images resulted in detections
- Lengthened to 7 years, the new data arc produces a much more accurate estimate of the asteroid orbit, leading to a much smaller predicted uncertainty region on October 20. The entire uncertainty region now intersects the Earth
- The general region where 2021 PDC will impact can now be predicted
- The asteroid's size and the impact effects, however, remain highly uncertain
- For more info: https://cneos.jpl.nasa.gov/pd/cs/pdc21/day2.html



## **Predicted Impact Location as of May 2**

Using the 2014 precovery observations



Impact date: Oct. 20, 2021

Probabilities of Impact inside the shaded regions:

Dark red: 40% Mid red: 87% Light red: 99%

**EXERCISE ONLY!!** 



## **CNEOS NEO Deflection App (NDA)**

https://cneos.jpl.nasa.gov/nda/nda.html

