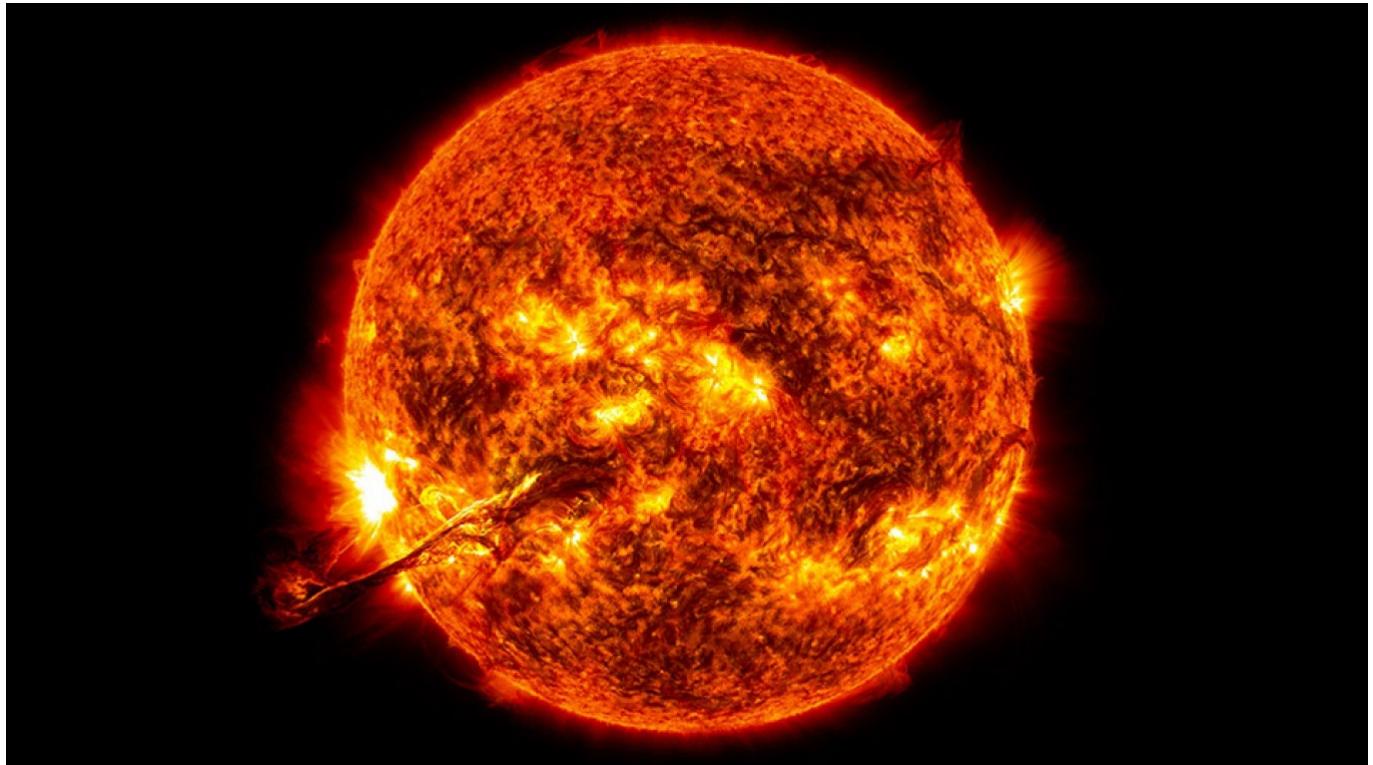


Russia Suspends Mission to the Sun

February 12, 2019



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Russian scientists have again delayed the launch of a research spacecraft to the sun over technical issues, researchers say.

Russia had been scheduled to [send](#) the spacecraft as part of the “Interheliozond” project sometime after 2015, though this was later [postponed](#) to 2022 and then again to a final date of 2026.

Related article: [Russia Announces Plans to Establish Moon Colony by 2040](#)

A Russian Academy of Sciences official told state-run media on Tuesday that work on “Interheliozond” had been suspended in favor of “projects that are ready to launch as well as international cooperation.”

“There were issues related to some excess mass,” Vladimir Kuznetsov, the head of the Institute for Terrestrial Magnetism, Ionosphere and Radio Wave Propagation (IZMIRAN), told

the state-run TASS news agency.

“The conceptual design had to be refined [...] We’ve stopped at this point for now,” Kuznetsov was cited as saying.

Interheliozond is still due to launch from Baikonur in 2026, he said.

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