The European Solar Telescope: Status Update

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The European Solar Telescope (EST) represents a major leap forward in solar physics, aiming to provide unprecedented insights into the Sun's magnetic and dynamic behavior at small spatial and temporal scales. With a 4-meter aperture and cutting-edge instrumentation optimized for high-resolution spectropolarimetry, EST is designed to address key scientific questions concerning the solar atmosphere and its complex magnetic coupling. In this talk, I will present the current status of the EST project, highlighting recent milestones achieved and the ongoing developments in preparation for the construction phase. Special focus will be given to the progress in telescope design and the development of a broad international collaboration within the framework of the EST Foundation.