The CLose UP Imager on the ExoMars rover: searching for morphological biosignatures on Mars

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ExoMars is an astrobiology project to search for evidence of life on Mars, a joint mission of the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Russian space agency Roscosmos. The mission, with a launch date of 2020, will feature a rover equipped with various instruments for investigating the surface and, for the first time, the subsurface of Mars. One of these instruments –a CLose-UP Imager called CLUPI– has been developed at the Space Exploration Institute (Space-X) of Neuchâtel. Tomaso Bontognali will talk about the strategies that will be used during the mission to look for signs of extraterrestrial life, with special emphasis on microbially influenced sedimentary structures that can potentially be identified with the CLUPI instrument.

