

**Question for written answer E-008711/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski (PPE)

Subject: Use of EU space programmes in the security and defence sector

Many of the provisions of the Space Strategy presented by Commissioners Bieńkowska and Šefčovič on 26 October 2016 confirm that the EU satellite programmes Galileo and Copernicus could be used in defence and the European security sector. Among other things, mention is made of generating greater synergies between the civil and military sectors in the field of space.

The defence sector is also mentioned as one of the priority areas to be bolstered using satellite technology, along with climate change action and development policy. In particular, the strategy states that 'the Commission will upgrade user consultation processes and set up dedicated user platforms to ensure that developments are driven by user needs, including for security-related requirements.'

How will the Commission consult the defence sector on the ways in which the EU satellite systems Copernicus and Galileo can be used to boost defence? What defence bodies does it intend to consult, and what form will the consultations take? When will the outcome of the talks with the defence sector on finding ways to use EU satellite systems to guarantee Europe's security be made known?