

EN
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Answer given by Ms Bieńkowska
on behalf of the European Commission
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Galileo is a European Union programme, open to the participation of third countries under conditions established in the applicable EU regulatory framework¹.

The Commission is not excluding United Kingdom companies from contractual opportunities under the Galileo Programme. Further to its sovereign decision to leave the European Union, the United Kingdom will become a third country as from 30 March 2019, thereby subject to the standard rules applicable to third countries. United Kingdom companies can continue participating in Galileo industrial activities, provided they comply with the participating conditions in the Programme and are committed, as appropriate, to ensure compliance with those conditions also after the United Kingdom withdrawal from the Union.

Third countries as well as third country-based companies are not able to participate in the development of security-sensitive activities of the Galileo Programme², as such a participation could compromise the integrity of certain elements of the systems developed under the programme. This would go against the principles on which the Programme relies - security and strategic autonomy of the Union, as stated in the Regulation (EU) 1285/2013³.

¹ Decision 1104/2011/EU, GNSS Regulation No. 1285/2013, CSFP Council Decision 496/2014 (Joint action) and the GSA Regulation No. 912/2010.

² General principles of access to security-sensitive Public regulated service are defined in Article 3 of Decision No 1104/2011/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the rules for access to the public regulated service provided by the global navigation satellite system established under the Galileo programme.

³ Article 18 and Recitals 2, 10 and 38 of the Regulation (EU) 1285/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the implementation & exploitation of European Satellite Navigation Systems.