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*Committee on Foreign Affairs*

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**2013/2092(INI)**

11.07.2013

# DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on EU Space Industrial Policy, releasing the Potential for Growth in the Space Sector  
(2013/2092(INI))

Rapporteur: Tarja Cronberg



## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the Communication by the Commission on EU Space Industrial Policy; is convinced that only a more cost-efficient and consolidated European space industry can be internationally competitive;
2. Stresses the need to clarify first the EU's level of ambition especially with regard to its strategic and geopolitical objectives; notes the fact that the Communication does not define the relationship between EU space industrial policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP); calls on the Commission, the Member States and the HR/VP clearly to define the potential contribution of this sector to CSDP, the nature and degree of civil-military synergies and the relevance for CSDP operations and other EU actions and missions in the field of conflict prevention, arms control, the non-proliferation of WMD technologies, counter-terrorism, migration and border control;
3. Notes the fact mentioned in the Communication that 60 % of electronics on board European satellites are currently imported from the US; calls for an initiative on how to protect sensitive or personal data in this context; also urges the Commission, ESA, EDA and the Member States to identify critical technologies in the context of the joint European non-dependence process; recalls the risk that the US might, in the event of disagreement, close down or block European space infrastructure;
4. Supports the point made by the Commission that many components of space systems are of dual-use or military nature and are hence subject to the Directive on intra-Community transfers, the dual-use export regulation or the Common Position on arms exports;
5. Is deeply concerned at the ongoing militarisation and possible future weaponisation of space, e.g. the emergence of anti-satellite, laser and other kinetic weapons which pose a threat to European space infrastructure and thus to the security and safety of EU citizens; is also concerned with the increasing use of space assets by the military which might reduce and limit civilian use and possible future civilian applications; calls on the Member States and the HR/VP to initiate a review of the outdated 1967 Outer Space Treaty or to initiate a new regulatory framework which takes into account technological progress since the 1960s and effectively prevents an arms race in outer space and ensures the prohibition of harmful interference with space objects.