



2018/0236(COD)

02.8.2018

*****I**

DRAFT REPORT

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013, (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision 541/2014/EU (COM(2018)0447 – C8-0258/2018 – 2018/0236(COD))

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Rapporteur: Massimiliano Salini

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
- *** Consent procedure
- ***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- ***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- ***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

Amendments to a draft act

Amendments by Parliament set out in two columns

Deletions are indicated in ***bold italics*** in the left-hand column. Replacements are indicated in ***bold italics*** in both columns. New text is indicated in ***bold italics*** in the right-hand column.

The first and second lines of the header of each amendment identify the relevant part of the draft act under consideration. If an amendment pertains to an existing act that the draft act is seeking to amend, the amendment heading includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend.

Amendments by Parliament in the form of a consolidated text

New text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Deletions are indicated using either the ■ symbol or strikeout. Replacements are indicated by highlighting the new text in ***bold italics*** and by deleting or striking out the text that has been replaced.

By way of exception, purely technical changes made by the drafting departments in preparing the final text are not highlighted.

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DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013, (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision 541/2014/EU (COM(2018)0447 – C8-0258/2018 – 2018/0236(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2018)0447),
 - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 189(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C8-0258/2018),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (A8-0000/2018),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) a space surveillance and tracking system aiming to improve, operate and provide data, information and services related to the surveillance and tracking of active **and inactive** spacecraft, **discarded launchers stages**, debris **and debris fragments** that orbit around the Earth and complemented by observational parameters

Amendment

(d) a space surveillance and tracking system aiming to improve, operate and provide data, information and services related to the surveillance and tracking of active spacecraft **and space** debris that orbit around the Earth and complemented by observational parameters related to space weather events and the risk of near

related to space weather events and the risk of near earth objects ('NEOs') approaching earth monitoring ('SST');

earth objects ('NEOs') approaching earth monitoring ('SST');

Or. en

Justification

The change is in line with the definition on article 2(18)

Amendment 2

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2**

Text proposed by the Commission

Additionally, the Programme shall include measures for ensuring *efficient* access to space *for the Programme and* for fostering an innovative space sector.

Amendment

Additionally, the Programme shall include measures for ensuring *autonomous* access to space, *for tackling cyber threats*, for fostering an innovative *and competitive* space sector *and for supporting space diplomacy*.

Or. en

Justification

Access to space, cyber security, space economy and space diplomacy are important measures that have to be considered in the Space Programme.

Amendment 3

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a**

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) provide, or contribute to the provision of, high-quality and up-to-date and, where appropriate, secure space-related data, information and services without interruption and wherever possible at global level, meeting existing and future needs and able to meet the Union's political priorities, *including as regards climate*

Amendment

(a) provide, or contribute to the provision of, high-quality and up-to-date and, where appropriate, secure space-related data, information and services without interruption and wherever possible at global level, meeting existing and future needs and able to meet the Union's political priorities; *and support evidence-based*

change and security and defence;

*decision making capacity of the Union
and its Member States;*

Or. en

Justification

Moved from point c. Evidence-based decision-making is a more general aspect.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) enhance the security of the Union and its Member States, its ***freedom of action and its*** strategic autonomy, in particular in ***terms of technologies and evidence-based decision-making***;

Amendment

(c) enhance the ***security and the cyber*** security of the Union and its Member States, its strategic autonomy, in particular in ***industrial and technological terms***;

Or. en

Justification

The cyber security of European space infrastructures, both ground and space, is key to ensuring the continuity of the operations of the systems, their effective ability to carry out the tasks continuously and provide the services required.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(d a) strengthen Union's space diplomacy, encourage international cooperation to raise awareness of space, promote Union technology and industry and foster the principle of reciprocity and fair competition at international level;

Or. en

Justification

Foster international competitiveness of European industries by creating the appropriate conditions to ensure a level playing field with the major space competitors.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) for Galileo and EGNOS: to provide **of** state-of-the-art and, where appropriate, secure positioning, navigation and timing services;

Amendment

(a) for Galileo and EGNOS: to provide **on a long-term basis** state-of-the-art and, where appropriate, secure positioning, navigation and timing services;

Or. en

Justification

Like Copernicus, Galileo should be provided on a long-term basis.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) for Copernicus: to deliver accurate and reliable Earth Observation data and information, supplied on a long-term basis, to support the implementation and monitoring of the Union and its Member States' policies ***in the fields of the environment, climate change, agriculture and rural development, civil protection, safety and security, as well as the digital economy***;

Amendment

(b) for Copernicus: to deliver accurate and reliable Earth Observation data and information, supplied on a long-term basis, to support the implementation and monitoring of the Union and its Member States' policies;

Or. en

Justification

The lists are never exhaustive and with "policies" everything is already included.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) to contribute, ***where this is required for the needs of the Programme,*** to an autonomous, secure and cost-efficient capability to access space;

Amendment

(e) to contribute to an autonomous, secure and cost-efficient capability to access space;

Or. en

Justification

Access to space is a priority for the security's the Union.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) ***support and reinforce the competitiveness, entrepreneurship, skills and capacity to innovate of legal and natural persons from the Union active or wishing to become active in that sector, with particular regard to the position and needs of small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups.***

Amendment

(f) ***foster the development of a competitive Union space economy and maximise opportunities for Union enterprises of all sizes, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, new entrants and start-ups, to develop and provide innovative space systems and services;***

Or. en

Justification

Space economy (services and industry) is a priority for growth and jobs in the European Union. All kind of European enterprises should be able to benefit from the Programme.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) provision of launching services for the ***needs of the*** Programme;

Amendment

(a) provision of ***aggregate*** launching services for the Programme ***and for other entities, at their request, , taking into account the essential security interests of the Union in accordance with Article 25;***

Or. en

Justification

International competitors benefit of a strongly protected institutional domestic market, where they are much bigger thanks to important investments, higher institutional prices and long-term procurement contracts. Therefore, the international competitors may offer launch service to a significantly increased competitive price than the European industry. For security and economic reasons, it would be important to establish a level playing field, guarantee an autonomous access to space and allow the European industries to compete on the international level.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) development activities linked to autonomous, reliable and cost-efficient access to space;

Amendment

(b) development activities linked to autonomous, reliable and cost-efficient access to space ***including alternative launching technologies and innovative systems or services, taking into account the essential security interests of the Union and its Member States, as referred to in Article 25;***

Or. en

Justification

The Commission should support the efforts of Member States, ESA and industry in addressing long-term research and innovation needs, including low-cost access to space for small

satellites; advanced manufacturing; breakthrough concepts (such as re-usability);

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) where this is required for the ***needs*** of the Programme, the necessary ***adaptations*** to the space ground infrastructure.

Amendment

(c) where this is required for the ***objectives*** of the Programme, the necessary ***support*** to the space ground infrastructure.

Or. en

Justification

It is crucial that Europe continues to have modern, efficient and flexible launch infrastructure facilities.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

Actions in support of an innovative Union space sector

Amendment

Actions in support of an innovative ***and competitive*** Union space sector

Or. en

Justification

Competitiveness of European space industry is crucial for reaching the objective of the whole Programme.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) the establishment of space-related innovation partnerships to develop innovative products or services and for the subsequent purchase of the resulting **supply** or services;

Amendment

(b) the establishment of space-related innovation partnerships to develop innovative products or services and for the subsequent purchase of the resulting **products** or services **for the needs of the Programme**;

Or. en

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b a) design, testing, implementation and deployment of interoperable space solutions for public services delivered through data-driven reusable solutions platforms, fostering innovation and establishing common frameworks in order to realise the full potential of the public administrations' services for citizens and businesses;

Or. en

Justification

Public services and public administration should be able to use data and services for the benefits of European citizens and businesses.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) entrepreneurship, from early stage to scaling-up, in accordance with Article 21 and other access to finance provisions

(c) entrepreneurship, **including** from early stage to scaling-up, in accordance with Article 21 and **by relying on** other

as referred to in Article 18 and Chapter I of Title III;

access to finance provisions as referred to in Article 18 and Chapter I of Title III;

Or. en

Justification

It is important that the objectives of the Space Programme should also be addressed through synergies with other European programmes and financial instruments.

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) cooperation ***between undertakings*** in the form of space hubs bringing together, ***at regional and national levels***, actors from the space and digital sectors, as well as users, and providing support to citizens and companies to foster entrepreneurship and skills;

Amendment

(d) cooperation in the form of ***a network of*** space hubs bringing together actors from the space and digital sectors, as well as users, and providing support, ***facilities and services*** to citizens and companies to foster entrepreneurship and skills; ***foster cooperation between the space hubs and the digital innovation hubs established under the Digital Europe Programme;***

Or. en

Justification

Space hubs network will be further explained in the recital. The idea is about creating the right eco-systems at regional level (Space Hubs/clusters) and connecting them into a European wide network. This is a powerful tool to develop a genuine industrial policy, starting at the local, and engaging academia, business, local and regional decision makers into concrete actions in support of space policy.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(d a) the possible development a ‘first contract approach strategy’ with all relevant public and private sector actors to support the development of space start-ups.

Or. en

Justification

The Union should foster the expansion of European space companies to help them succeed, including by supporting them in accessing risk finance in view of the lack, within the Union, of appropriate access to private equity for space start-ups and by creating innovation partnerships.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(e) provision of education and training activities;

(e) provision of education and training activities ***through support for work-place traineeships for students, young entrepreneurs and graduates;***

Or. en

Justification

Creating space awareness amongst the young is the base to ensure a sound space policy in the long term.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point e a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(e a) the development of advanced space skills in areas supported by the

Programme, through the design and delivery of long-term training courses for students and professionals;

Or. en

Justification

Creating space awareness amongst the young is the base to ensure a sound space policy in the long term.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) access to processing and testing facilities;

Amendment

(f) access to processing and testing facilities ***for private and public sector professionals, students and entrepreneurs;***

Or. en

Justification

Creating space awareness amongst the young it at the basis to ensure a sound space policy in the long term.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation

Article 9 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the contracts, agreements or other arrangements relating to the activities referred to in the ***first*** paragraph contain provisions setting out the appropriate ownership regime for those assets and, as regards point (c) that the Union can freely use the PRS receivers in accordance with Decision 1104/2011/EU.

Amendment

3. The Commission shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the contracts, agreements or other arrangements relating to the activities referred to in the ***second*** paragraph contain provisions setting out the appropriate ownership ***and use*** regime for those assets and, as regards point (c) that the Union can freely use ***and grant the use of*** the PRS receivers in accordance

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

Article 10 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The services, data and information provided by the Programme's components shall be provided without any express or implied guarantee as regards their quality, accuracy, availability, reliability, speed and suitability for any purpose. To that aim, the Commission shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the users of those services, data and information are informed, in an appropriate manner, of the absence of any such guarantee.

Amendment

The services, data and information provided by the Programme's components shall be provided without any express or implied guarantee as regards their quality, accuracy, availability, reliability, speed and suitability for any purpose, ***unless such a guarantee is required by applicable Union law for the provision of the services concerned.*** To that aim, the Commission shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the users of those services, data and information are informed, in an appropriate manner, of the absence of any such guarantee.

Justification

Having coherence with already existing legislation.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 – 2027 shall be EUR [16] billion in current prices.

Amendment

The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 – 2027 shall be EUR [16,7] billion in current prices.

Justification

The European Union should be more ambitious on the two new initiatives SSA and GOVSATCOM. With the budget allocated only few activities are foreseen.

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) for **SSA/GOVSATCOM: EUR [0,5]** billion.

Amendment

(c) for **GOVSATCOM: EUR [0,6]** billion.

Or. en

Justification

The European Union should be more ambitious on the two new initiatives SSA and GOVSATCOM. With the budget allocated only few activities are foreseen.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) for SSA: EUR [0,6] billion.

Or. en

Justification

The European Union should be more ambitious on the two new initiatives SSA and GOVSATCOM. With the budget allocated only few activities are foreseen.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. Cross-cutting activities as foreseen by **Article** 3 shall be financed under the Programme's components.

2. Cross-cutting activities as foreseen by **Articles 3, 5 and 6** shall be financed under the Programme's components.

Or. en

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation

Article 14 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) to promote ***in all Member States***, throughout the supply chain, the widest and most open participation possible of start-ups, new entrants and small and medium sized enterprises ***and other economic operators***, including the requirement of sub-contracting by the tenderers;

(a) to promote ***throughout the Union*** ***and*** throughout the supply chain the widest and most open participation possible of ***all economic operators, and in particular*** start-ups, new entrants and small and medium sized enterprises, including the requirement of sub-contracting by the tenderers;

Or. en

Justification

All the economic operators in Europe should be involved in the development of the Space Programme; particular attention should be paid to start ups, new entrants and SMEs.

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation

Article 14 – paragraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(d) to foster the autonomy of the Union, in particular in technological terms;

(d) to foster the ***strategic*** autonomy of the Union, in particular in ***industrial and*** technological terms;

Or. en

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation Article 17 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The contracting authority shall express the requisite share of the contract to be subcontracted in the form of a range from a minimum to a maximum percentage.

Amendment

2. The contracting authority shall express the requisite share of the contract to be subcontracted, **pursuant to paragraph 1**, in the form of a range from a minimum to a maximum percentage.

Or. en

Justification

All the economic operators in Europe should be involved in the development of the Space Programme; particular attention should be paid to start ups and SMEs.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation Article 17 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. Any derogation from a request in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be justified by the tenderer.

Amendment

3. Any derogation from a request in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be justified by the tenderer **and assessed by the contracting authority**.

Or. en

Justification

All the economic operators in Europe should be involved in the development of the Space Programme; particular attention should be paid to start ups and SMEs.

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation Article 19 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

In the case of a joint call, joint procedures shall be established for selection and evaluation of proposals. The procedures **must** involve a balanced group of experts appointed by each party.

Amendment

In the case of a joint call, joint procedures shall be established for selection and evaluation of proposals. The procedures **shall** involve a balanced group of **independent** experts appointed by each party. ***Such experts shall not evaluate, advise or assist on matters with regard to which they have a conflict of interests.***

Or. en

Justification

We should ensure that experts are independent and should not be involved on matters where they have a conflict of interests.

Amendment 33

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 3 a (new)**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3 a. The Commission shall chair a steering committee, composed of at least four representatives of the Commission, two from the Agency and, where appropriate two from the European Space Agency, in charge of issuing recommendations to the contracting authorities relating to the procurement procedures and decisions relating with the Programme's components.

Or. en

Justification

The Commission has the overall responsibility and the steering committee is draft to better coordinate the major actors involved in the implementation of the Space Programme.

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation

Article 29 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

When necessary for the smooth functioning of the Programme and the smooth provision of the services provided by the Programme's components, the Commission shall, by means of **implementing** acts, determine the **technical and operational specifications required** for the implementation of and evolution of those components and of the services they provide after having consulted users and all the other relevant stakeholders. **When determining those technical and operational specifications**, the Commission shall avoid reducing the general security level and to meet a backward compatibility imperative.

Amendment

When necessary for the smooth functioning of the Programme and the smooth provision of the services provided by the Programme's components, the Commission shall, by means of **delegated** acts, determine the **high level specifications requirement** for the implementation of and evolution of those components and of the services they provide after having consulted users and all the other relevant stakeholders. The Commission shall avoid reducing the general security level and to meet a backward compatibility imperative.

(This amendment applies also to Article 105. Adopting it will necessitate corresponding changes throughout.)

Or. en

Justification

The Commission supervises the Programme, so it has to give high requirement to fulfill the implementation and evolution of the Programme. The technical requirements will be set by the authority in charge of the development of component .

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation

Article 29 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

5. The Commission shall **promote and ensure** the uptake and use of the data and services provided by the Programme's components in the public and private sectors, including by supporting

Amendment

5. The Commission shall **contribute to and supervise the promotion of** the uptake and use of the data and services provided by the Programme's components in the public and private sectors, including

appropriate development of those services and by fostering a stable long-term environment. It shall develop synergies between the applications of the various components of the Programme. It shall ensure complementarity, consistency, synergies and links between the Programme and other Union actions and programmes.

by supporting appropriate development of those services and by fostering a stable long-term environment. It shall develop synergies between the applications of the various components of the Programme. It shall ensure complementarity, consistency, synergies and links between the Programme and other Union actions and programmes.

Or. en

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation

Article 30 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a a) coordinate, through specific activities supported by appropriate resources, the cyber security of the Programme;

Or. en

Justification

The cyber security of European space infrastructures, both ground and space, is key to ensuring the continuity of the operations of the systems, their effective ability to carry out the tasks continuously and provide the services required.

Amendment 37

Proposal for a regulation

Article 30 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) undertake communication and promotion activities, ***and activities relating to the commercialisation of*** the services offered by Galileo ***and*** EGNOS;

(c) undertake communication and promotion activities, ***in particular with regard to*** the services offered by Galileo, EGNOS ***and Copernicus***;

Or. en

Justification

The modification of the GNSS Agency, which becomes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP), represents an important element in the framework of the governance of European space activities. However, the changes proposed by the European Commission are limited for the moment to a "minimum" widening of the EUASP (former GSA) tasks. The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme.

Amendment 38

Proposal for a regulation

Article 30 – paragraph 1 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c a) promote and ensure the uptake and use of the data and services provided by the Programme's components;

Or. en

Justification

The modification of the GNSS Agency, which becomes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP), represents an important element in the framework of the governance of European space activities. However, the changes proposed by the European Commission are limited for the moment to a "minimum" widening of the EUASP (former GSA) tasks. The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme.

Amendment 39

Proposal for a regulation

Article 30 – paragraph 2 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a a) as regards Galileo and EGNOS: ensure systems evolution, development of the ground segment, and, as far as Galileo is concerned, the design and development of the space segment;

Or. en

Justification

The modification of the GNSS Agency, which becomes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP), represents an important element in the framework of the governance of European space activities. However, the changes proposed by the European Commission are limited for the moment to a "minimum" widening of the EUASP (former GSA) tasks. The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme.

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation

Article 30 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The tasks referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be entrusted by the Commission by means of a contribution agreement in accordance with [Article 2(18)] and [Title VI] of the Financial Regulation.

Amendment

4. The tasks referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be entrusted by the Commission by means of a contribution agreement in accordance with [Article 2(18)] and [Title VI] of the Financial Regulation ***and shall be reviewed in accordance with Article 102(6) of this Regulation, in particular regarding Copernicus component.***

Or. en

Justification

The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme. The tasks will be transferred to the Agency in a progressive way to avoid an excessive workload;

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation

Article 30 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4 a. Where it entrusts tasks to the Agency, the Commission shall ensure appropriate funding for the management and execution of those tasks, including adequate human and financial resources.

Justification

If the Agency will be responsible for additional tasks, the European Commission will have to invest in its expansion, with an increased number of officials.

Amendment 42**Proposal for a regulation****Article 30 – paragraph 4 b (new)**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4 b. The Agency may sign partnership agreements or other agreements with national space agencies, a group of national space agencies or other entities for the purpose of fulfilment of its tasks.

Or. en

Justification

The modification of the GNSS Agency, which becomes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP), represents an important element in the framework of the governance of European space activities. However, the changes proposed by the European Commission are limited for the moment to a "minimum" widening of the EUASP (former GSA) tasks. The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme.

Amendment 43**Proposal for a regulation****Article 31 – paragraph 1 – point b**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) as regards Galileo and EGNOS: systems evolution, development of the ground segment and the design and development of satellites;

(b) as regards Galileo and EGNOS: ***technical support to the Agency in the discharge of its delegated tasks referred to in Article 30 and, when so provided in specific sub-delegation agreements concluded between the Agency and the European Space Agency pursuant to the financial framework partnership***

agreement under paragraph 2 of this Article, procurement in the name and on behalf of the Union of systems evolution, development of the ground segment and the design and development of satellites;

Or. en

Justification

The modification of the GNSS Agency, which becomes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP), represents an important element in the framework of the governance of European space activities. However, the changes proposed by the European Commission are limited for the moment to a "minimum" widening of the EUASP (former GSA) tasks. The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation

Article 31 – paragraph 2 – indent 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- clearly define the instruments of coordination and control for the implementation of the Programme components, including the establishment of the rules of procedure for the steering committee referred to in Article 29(3a), taking into consideration the Commission's roles and responsibilities to carry out overall coordination of the Programme components;

Or. en

Justification

The modification of the GNSS Agency, which becomes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP), represents an important element in the framework of the governance of European space activities. However, the changes proposed by the European Commission are limited for the moment to a "minimum" widening of the EUASP (former GSA) tasks. The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme.

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation

Article 31 – paragraph 2 – indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

– stipulate the conditions of the management of funds entrusted to the European Space Agency, ***particularly with regard to*** public procurement, management procedures, the expected results measured by performance indicators, applicable measures in the event of deficient or fraudulent implementation of the contracts in terms of costs, schedule and results, as well as the communication strategy and the rules regarding ownership of all tangible and intangible assets; these conditions shall be in conformity with Titles III and V of this regulation and the Financial Regulation;

Amendment

– stipulate the conditions of the management of funds entrusted to the European Space Agency, ***including application of Union*** public procurement ***rules, when procuring in the name and on behalf of the Union,*** management procedures, the expected results measured by performance indicators, applicable measures in the event of deficient or fraudulent implementation of the contracts in terms of costs, schedule and results, as well as the communication strategy and the rules regarding ownership of all tangible and intangible assets; these conditions shall be in conformity with Titles III and V of this regulation and the Financial Regulation;

Or. en

Justification

When the ESA operates in the name of the EU, procedures and rules must be consistent with those of the European Union.

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation

Article 31 – paragraph 2 – indent 4

Text proposed by the Commission

– require the participation of the Commission and, ***when relevant,*** the Agency in the Tender Evaluation Board meetings of the European Space Agency with regard to the Programme;

Amendment

– require the participation of the Commission and the Agency in the Tender Evaluation Board meetings of the European Space Agency with regard to the Programme, ***where the latter procures in the name and on behalf of the Union pursuant to paragraphs 1a and 1b;***

Justification

When the ESA operates in the name of the EU, procedures and rules must be consistent with those of the European Union.

Amendment 47**Proposal for a regulation****Article 32 – paragraph 1 – introductory part***Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission may entrust, in full or in part, by means of contribution agreements the implementation of the ***Programme's components*** to entities other than those referred to in Article 30 and 31, ***including*** :

Amendment

1. The Commission may entrust, in full or in part, by means of contribution agreements, the implementation of the ***following tasks*** to entities other than those referred to in Article 30 and 31:

Or. en

Justification

The modification of the GNSS Agency, which becomes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP), represents an important element in the framework of the governance of European space activities. However, the changes proposed by the European Commission are limited for the moment to a "minimum" widening of the EUASP (former GSA) tasks. The rapporteur would propose an increase of the competencies of the Agency, to give more clarity and avoid duplication for the benefit of the Programme.

Amendment 48**Proposal for a regulation****Article 32 – paragraph 2 a (new)***Text proposed by the Commission**Amendment*

2 a. The Commission shall take account of the scientific and technical advice of the Joint Research Centre for the implementation of the Programme.

Or. en

Amendment 49

Proposal for a regulation

Article 33 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

The security of the Programme ***should*** be based on the following principles:

Amendment

The security of the Programme ***shall*** be based on the following principles:

Or. en

Justification

Security shall be based on a clear assessment of the risk.

Amendment 50

Proposal for a regulation

Article 33 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a a) to take account of the experience gained in the operation of the Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus;

Or. en

Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation

Article 34 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

To that end, the Commission shall ***ensure that*** a risk and threat analysis ***is performed for each Programme's component. Based on that*** risk and threat analysis, ***it shall determine, by means of implementing acts, for each component of the Programme, the general security requirements. In doing so, the***

To that end, the Commission shall ***perform*** a risk and threat analysis ***for the Copernicus, SST and GOVSATCOM components and shall ensure that the Agency performs a*** risk and threat analysis ***for the Galileo and EGNOS components***

Commission shall take account of the impact of those requirements on the smooth functioning of that component, in particular in terms of cost, risk management and schedule, and shall ensure not to reduce the general level of security or undermine the functioning of the existing equipment based on that component. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Or. en

Justification

The formulation from the proposal seems confusing. Security is an issue of extreme importance, therefore roles, tasks and responsibilities should be better clarified.

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation

Article 34 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

On the basis of the risk and threat analyses referred to in paragraph 1, the Commission shall determine, by means of implementing acts, for each component of the Programme, the general security requirements. In doing so, it shall take account of the impact of those requirements on the smooth functioning of that component, in particular in terms of cost, risk management and schedule, and shall ensure not to reduce the general level of security or undermine the functioning of the existing equipment based on that component. The general security requirements shall set out the procedures to be followed whenever the security of the Union or its Member States may be affected by the operation of a component. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the

examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Or. en

Justification

The formulation from the proposal seems confusing. Security is an issue of extreme importance, therefore roles, tasks and responsibilities should be better clarified.

Amendment 53

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 34 – paragraph 2**

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The **entity** responsible for **the management of a component** of the **Programme** shall be responsible for managing the security of **that component and shall**, to that end, carry out **risk and threat analysis and** all the necessary activities to ensure and monitor the security of **that component**, in particular setting of technical specifications and operational procedures, and monitor their compliance with the general security requirements referred to in paragraph 1.

Amendment

2. The **Commission shall be** responsible for **managing the security** of the **Copernicus, SST and GOVSATCOM components. The Agency** shall be responsible for managing the security of **the Galileo and EGNOS components**. To that end, **they shall** carry out all the necessary activities to ensure and monitor the security of **the components for which they are responsible**, in particular **the** setting of technical specifications and operational procedures, and **shall** monitor their compliance with the general security requirements referred to in **the third subparagraph of** paragraph 1.

Or. en

Justification

The formulation from the proposal seems confusing. Security is an issue of extreme importance, therefore roles, tasks and responsibilities should be better clarified.

Amendment 54

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 34 – paragraph 3 – point a a (new)**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a a) to ensure the cyber security of the Programme;

Or. en

Justification

The cyber security of European space infrastructures, both ground and space, is key to ensuring the continuity of the operations of the systems, their effective ability to carry out the tasks continuously and provide the services required.

Amendment 55

Proposal for a regulation Article 58 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 58 a

Monitoring of supply and demand for SST

Before 31 December 2024, the Commission shall evaluate the implementation of the SST component, in particular as regards the evolution of the user needs in relation to the ground based and space based sensors capacity. The evaluation shall, in particular, examine the need for additional space and ground infrastructures. The evaluation shall be accompanied, if necessary, by an appropriate proposal for the development of additional space and ground infrastructures under the SST component.

Or. en

Amendment 56

Proposal for a regulation Article 59 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. The space weather function **may** support the following activities:

1. The space weather function **shall** support the following activities:

Or. en

Justification

The European Union should be more ambitious on the two new initiatives SSA and GOVSATCOM. Since we asked for a increased budget, we can foreseen more activities.

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation

Article 60 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. The NEO function **may** support the following activities:

1. The NEO function **shall** support the following activities:

Or. en

Justification

The European Union should be more ambitious on the two new initiatives SSA and GOVSATCOM. Since we asked for a increased budget, we can foreseen more activities.

Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation

Article 60 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. The Commission **may** coordinate the actions of the Union and national public authorities concerned with civil protection in the event a NEO is found to be approaching Earth.

2. The Commission **shall** coordinate the actions of the Union and national public authorities concerned with civil protection in the event a NEO is found to be approaching Earth.

Or. en

Justification

If a NEO is heading to Earth, coordination under the European Commission could increase the security of the European Union.

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation Article 62 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission shall adopt, by means of implementing acts, the service portfolio for services provided under GOVSATCOM, in the form of a list of categories of satellite communication capacities and services and their attributes, including geographic coverage, frequency, bandwidth, user equipment, and security features. Those measures shall be based on the operational and security requirements referred to in paragraph 1 ***and shall prioritise services provided to users at Union level.*** Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Amendment

3. The Commission shall adopt, by means of implementing acts, the service portfolio for services provided under GOVSATCOM, in the form of a list of categories of satellite communication capacities and services and their attributes, including geographic coverage, frequency, bandwidth, user equipment, and security features. Those measures shall be based on the operational and security requirements referred to in paragraph 1. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Or. en

Justification

The European Union should be more ambitious on the two new initiatives SSA and GOVSATCOM. Since we ask for a bigger budget we can foresee more activities.

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation Article 63 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) legal persons duly accredited to provide satellite capacities or services in accordance with the security accreditation procedure in Article 36, ***based on the***

Amendment

(b) legal persons duly accredited to provide satellite capacities or services in accordance with the security accreditation

specific security requirements for the GOVSATCOM component referred to in Article 34 (1).

procedure in Article 36,

Or. en

Justification

see amendment 61

Amendment 61

Proposal for a regulation Article 63 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The providers of satellite communication capacities or services under this component shall comply with the specific security requirements for the GOVSATCOM component determined in accordance with Article 34 (1).

Or. en

Justification

The idea is that this part - namely, compliance with GOVSATCOM security requirements - should apply to whomever provides the capacities and services and this is not specific for commercial providers.

Amendment 62

Proposal for a regulation Article 65 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Pooled satellite communication capacities, services and user equipment shall be shared and prioritised between GOVSATCOM participants on the basis of an analysis of security risks by the users at Union and Member State level. ***This sharing and prioritisation shall prioritise***

1. Pooled satellite communication capacities, services and user equipment shall be shared and prioritised between GOVSATCOM participants on the basis of an analysis of security risks by the users at Union and Member State level.

users at Union level.

Or. en

Justification

The European Union should be more ambitious on the two new initiatives SSA and GOVSATCOM. Since we ask for a bigger budget we can foreseen more activities.

Amendment 63

Proposal for a regulation
Article 71 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The seat of the Agency shall be located in Prague (Czech Republic).

Amendment

The seat of the Agency shall be located in Prague (Czech Republic). ***In accordance with the needs of the Programme, Agency' local offices may be established, as laid down in Article 79(2).***

Or. en

Justification

If the Agency will be responsible for additional tasks the European Commission has to invest in its expansion, with an increased number of officials and the potential creation of new local offices.

Amendment 64

Proposal for a regulation
Article 73 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The members and alternate members of the Administrative Board shall be appointed in light of their knowledge in the field of the Agency's **core** tasks, taking into account relevant managerial, administrative and budgetary skills. The European Parliament, the Commission and the Member States shall endeavour to limit changes of their representatives on the

Amendment

4. The members and alternate members of the Administrative Board shall be appointed in light of their knowledge in the field of the Agency's tasks, taking into account relevant managerial, administrative and budgetary skills. The European Parliament, the Commission and the Member States shall endeavour to limit changes of their representatives on the

Administrative Board, in order to ensure continuity of the Board's activities. All parties shall aim to achieve a balanced representation between men and women on the Administrative Board.

Administrative Board, in order to ensure continuity of the Board's activities. All parties shall aim to achieve a balanced representation between men and women on the Administrative Board.

Or. en

Amendment 65

Proposal for a regulation

Article 77 – paragraph 2 – point -a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(-a) adopt, by the 30 June of the first year of the multiannual financial framework provided for under Article 312 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the multiannual work programme of the Agency for the period covered by that multiannual financial framework after incorporating, without any change, the section drafted by the Security Accreditation Board in accordance with point(a) of Article 80 and after having received the Commission's opinion. The European Parliament shall be consulted on the multiannual work programme with the purpose of exchanging the views and the outcome of that consultation shall not be binding on the Agency.

Or. en

Justification

The multiannual financial framework appears in many articles, but it is never defined.

Amendment 66

Proposal for a regulation

Article 88 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3 a. The Agency Staff shall be remunerated from the Agency's own resources and, where necessary for the discharge of the Agency's delegated tasks, through the use of budget delegated by the Commission.

Or. en

Justification

If the Agency will be responsible for additional tasks, the European Commission will have to invest in its expansion, with an increased number of officials.

Amendment 67

Proposal for a regulation

Article 89 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

On the basis of a proposal from the Commission, taking into account the assessment referred to in the first subparagraph, the Administrative Board may extend the term of office of the Executive Director once for a period of up to **four** years.

On the basis of a proposal from the Commission, taking into account the assessment referred to in the first subparagraph, the Administrative Board may extend the term of office of the Executive Director once for a period of up to **five** years.

Or. en

Amendment 68

Proposal for a regulation

Article 92 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Headquarters agreement and operating conditions

Headquarters **and local offices** agreement and operating conditions

Or. en

Justification

If the Agency will be responsible for additional tasks the European Commission will have to invest in its expansion, with an increased number of officials and geographical widening with the potential creation of new local offices.

Amendment 69

Proposal for a regulation Article 92 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Necessary arrangements concerning the accommodation to be provided for the Agency in the host Member **State** and the facilities to be made available by that Member **State** together with the specific rules applicable in the host Member **State** to the Executive Director, members of the Administrative Board, Agency staff and members of their families shall be laid down in a Headquarters Agreement between the Agency and Member **State** where the *seat is* located, concluded after obtaining the approval of the Administrative Board.

Amendment

1. Necessary arrangements concerning the accommodation to be provided for the Agency in the host Member **States** and the facilities to be made available by that Member **States** together with the specific rules applicable in the host Member **States** to the Executive Director, members of the Administrative Board, Agency staff and members of their families shall be laid down in a Headquarters **and Local Offices** Agreement between the Agency and Member **States** where the *seats are* located, concluded after obtaining the approval of the Administrative Board.

Or. en

Justification

If the Agency will be responsible for additional tasks the European Commission will have to invest in its expansion, with an increased number of officials and the potential creation of new local offices.

Amendment 70

Proposal for a regulation Article 98 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Agency shall be open to the participation of third countries that have entered into agreements with the Union to

Amendment

1. The Agency shall be open to the participation of third countries **and international organisations** that have entered into agreements with the Union to

this effect.

this effect.

Or. en

Amendment 71

Proposal for a regulation Article 102 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The interim evaluation of the Programme shall be performed once there is sufficient information available about the implementation of the programme, but no later than **four** years after the start of the programme implementation.

Amendment

2. The interim evaluation of the Programme shall be performed once there is sufficient information available about the implementation of the programme, but no later than **three** years after the start of the programme implementation.

Or. en

Justification

It is important to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the programme in a shorter period, giving the increase of tasks entrusted to the Agency.

Amendment 72

Proposal for a regulation Article 102 – paragraph 6 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

By 30 June 2024, and every **five** years thereafter, the Commission shall assess the Agency's performance, in relation to its objectives, mandate, tasks and location, in accordance with Commission guidelines. The evaluation shall, **in particular**, address the possible need to modify the mandate of the Agency, and the financial implications of any such modification. It shall also address the Agency's policy on conflicts of interest and the independence and autonomy of the Security Accreditation Board.

Amendment

By 30 June 2024, and every **three** years thereafter, the Commission shall assess the Agency's performance, in relation to its objectives, mandate, tasks and location, in accordance with Commission guidelines. The evaluation shall address the possible need to modify the mandate of the Agency, **in particular regarding the possibility to entrust it with additional tasks, in accordance with Article 30**, and the financial implications of any such modification. It shall also address the Agency's policy on conflicts of interest and the independence and autonomy of the

Justification

It is important to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the programme in a shorter period, giving the increase of tasks entrusted to the Agency.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The European Commission is very ambitious in publishing and adopting the MFF. The Austrian Presidency took the challenge and set a fast and ambitious timeline and the European Parliament is willing to keep the same pace.

The European Commission published the proposal on the 6th of June and your rapporteur is trying to have the confirmation of the plenary to start the inter-institutional agreement in December. Due to this strict and fast timeline, your rapporteur had one month to draft the report that collects two previous programmes and two new initiatives.

Your rapporteur decides to respect the tight schedule. Therefore, the report focuses on the core aspects of the proposal, which are Budget- with reference on SSA, GOVSATCOM and cross-cutting activities, Governance, Industrial competitiveness and Space Diplomacy, Access to Space and Security, particularly, Cybersecurity.

Although the report does not touch neither part of the articles nor the recitals, your rapporteur could still decide to change them through amendments. Due to time constraints, he prefers to table a coherent approach on the main issues.

Space-based services and applications are shaping the current and future well-being and security of European citizens, as well as the competitiveness of its industrial base. It is therefore crucial to foster the Space economy so that all Member States, their citizens and their industries, can fully reap the benefits of this Space Programme whose final beneficiaries are the users.

While recognising the emergence of new communities either public or private, its evolution should be based on the changing requirements of the core users. The different components of the Programme should base themselves on an analysis of options to meet new user needs, including those related to implementation and to monitor Union policies, which require their continuous and effective involvement, particularly regarding the definition and validation of requirements.

The proposal of the European Commission merges in a single Programme the existing Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus and adds two new initiatives, which are SSA and GOVSATCOM. As encouraged in the Space Policy for Europe, a fully integrated Space Programme will exploit synergies between the components, increasing effectiveness and cost efficiency. A single and coherent framework will encourage future investments, increase visibility and offer more flexibility.

Your rapporteur welcomes a substantial increase in funding for the Space Programme to assure the continuity of Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus. It is important that the budget support a state-of-the-art and innovative Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus initiatives, to reap all the benefits brought by navigation and earth observation. Exploitation, uptake and use of data and services, in particular for the downstream sector, will benefit users and the European industry, enabling growth and jobs' creation in the Union.

Your rapporteur regrets a lack of ambitions in the new SSA and GOVSATCOM initiatives. The European Union and the Member States invest in many critical infrastructures

that must be protected. The possibility of a threat that “comes from above” will increase in the next years. The growing number of constellations with a very high number of satellites in orbit helps to create a situation of "traffic", which is added to the high number of space debris. This endangers the safety of operations with a risk of collision between spacecraft or between spacecraft and space debris. Moreover, another risk posed by space weather consists of different types of unforeseen events. Extreme and major space weather events may threaten the safety of citizens and disrupt the operations of space-based and ground-based infrastructures.

Europe must be able to provide for its needs and security in such a strategic sector autonomously and to be considerate as a reliable interlocutor at the international level.

Secure and guaranteed access to satellite communications is an indispensable tool for security actors. Pooling and sharing of this key security resource at Union level strengthens a Union that protects its citizens. The budget allocated for GOVSATCOM seems not enough to cover the potential request as well as the management of the operations and the provision of a European infrastructure.

The Cyber security of both space and ground infrastructures is key to ensuring the continuity of the systems' operations, their effective ability to carry out the tasks continuously and provide the services required.

It is therefore necessary to plan a specific crosscutting activity and identify the responsible entity in charge to supervise the cyber security aspects in an integrated way. While safeguarding specific needs, in line with the general indications defined by the European bodies that oversee the aspects of cyber security and with the involvement with other stakeholders, it is important to define policies, operating procedures, and verify their coherent implementation in the various components.

Europe is one of the top world leaders in space, but in order to keep and develop its capabilities, an effort is required. In an increasingly uncertain geopolitical environment, investing in space must remain an institutional priority to preserve Europe's leadership, competitiveness, sustainability and autonomy in this strategic domain in the future.

This becomes of major importance in a context where traditional space powers remain very active and, at the same time, new players who increasingly challenge the competitiveness of the European space sector come in.

The Space Programme proposed by the European Commission recognises the important role of the European industry, but does not support enough the means to maintain and develop a strong, innovative, competitive and diversified industrial base in Europe. It is important to promote the widest and most open participation possible of start-ups, new entrants, small and medium sized enterprises in all Member States in the upstream as well as in the downstream market, throughout the supply chain and in the application and services sector.

International competitiveness of European industries has to be fostered by creating the appropriate conditions to ensure a level playing field with the major space competitors. In order to open up new business opportunities for the European space industry, your rapporteur strongly encourages the Commission to use economic diplomacy to pursue international

cooperation and the rise of space awareness worldwide.

The industry should have the possibility to compete for the realization of activities that are able to perform with the same levels of reliability and safety of the public, but with greater economic efficiency. Whenever this happens, the industry should be able to offer its expertise in a fair competition context, without market distortion, to save public resources and use the most efficient solution.

Furthermore, the European space programme should foster an autonomous Access to Space through the aggregation of launches, the development of alternative launching technologies, and support the ground infrastructures.

International competitors, countries with the capacity to access to space, namely US, Russia and China, benefit of a strongly protected institutional domestic market with higher institutional prices and long-term procurement contracts.

Therefore, the international competitors may offer launch service to a significantly increased competitive price than the European industry. For security and economic reasons, it would be important to establish the level playing field, guarantee an autonomous access to space and allow the European industries to compete on the international level.

The objectives of the Space Programme will also be addressed through synergies with other European Programme and financial instruments. The proposal will improve access for space start-ups to risk finance. At the same time, the Commission will explore the creation of a dedicated equity instrument through the InvestEU programme. The new space programme will create innovation partnerships to develop and purchase innovative products and services, facilitate access to testing and processing facilities, promote certification and standardisation. The programme will foster coherence and synergies with Horizon Europe, ensuring collaboration between space-related research and innovation actions. Your rapporteur regrets the lack of a specific budget for space research in Horizon Europe in order to give certainty to the investors and to assure the competitiveness and the leadership of European industries in this important sector.

At the basis of a smooth functioning of the programme, there is the right Governance, the division of tasks and roles and the relations between the main actors, namely the European Commission, the renamed European Union Agency for the Space Programme (the Agency) and the European Space Agency (ESA). The governance should also take into account the involvement of Member States and their agencies, and other international European players.

The European Commission has the overall responsibility for the programme, its security, and it coordinates the activities of entities involved in the Programme.

The Agency increased its competencies over the years and is ready to complete more tasks. If the Agency will be responsible for the security accreditation, possibly for the cybersecurity and the promotion of the services and the downstream applications of the Programme, the European Commission has to invest in its expansion, with an increased number of officials and geographical widening with the potential creation of new local offices.

ESA's role is fundamental for technical and operational support of the EU for the realization of well-identified components of the Space Programme, operating in accordance with

procedures and rules consistent with those of the European Union.