

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-005240/21  
to the Commission**

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(23 November 2021)

*Subject:* EU space-based global secure communication system, its impact on the Space Programme and the role of the EUSPA agency

Regulation (EU) 2021/696 entered into force on 28 April 2021. It provides for funding of EUR 14 880 billion for the Union Space Programme, which consists of Galileo, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS), Copernicus, the Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and the EU Governmental Satellite Communications Programme (GOVSATCOM). Furthermore, the regulation established the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), which replaces the European Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Agency.

In its work programme, the Commission announced that a legislative proposal on a space-based 'secure connectivity' project would be published in the second quarter of 2022.

1. Does the Commission intend to amend the Space Programme Regulation to include secure connectivity, and if so, what would the impact be on the budget allocated for the Programme?
2. Does the Commission expect any risks for the stability of the programme and its individual components?
3. EUSPA will perform the tasks previously performed by the European GNSS. In addition, the Space Programme, the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement and contribution agreements assigned EUSPA a number of own and tasks in key areas such as operations, service provision, service evolution, security, communication, market development, user uptake etc. What is the Commission's plan for secure connectivity and how could the Union best benefit from the expertise of its own agency, EUSPA?

**Supporter <sup>(1)</sup>**

**Answer given by Mr Breton on behalf of the European Commission**

(1 February 2022)

The Letter of Intent of the President of the Commission to the European Parliament and to the Council includes a legislative proposal in the Commission Work Programme 2022 on an EU space-based secure connectivity system.

The Commission is currently preparing the proposal and in this context it is considering different options, as well as reflecting on the potential role the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA) could have in the initiative, taking into account the role of EUSPA as enshrined in the EU Space Programme.

The Commission has the overall responsibility for the implementation of the EU Space Programme within the available budgets allocated by the co-legislators under the EU Space Programme Regulation (EU) 2021/696. An important part of this responsibility also consists in identifying and mitigating risks.

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