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A8-0405/227

Amendment 227

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on behalf of the EFDD Group

Report

A8-0405/2018

Massimiliano Salini

Establishing the space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme
(COM(2018)0447 – C8-0258/2018 – 2018/0236(COD))

Proposal for a regulation

Article 50 – paragraph 1 – point a – indent 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- *monitoring subsidence in all European regions, especially in areas where fluids are extracted from underground soil and in areas destabilised by anthropogenic activity;*

Or. en

Justification

Subsidence is an ever-increasing phenomenon that is spreading to new geographic regions across Europe, causing serious damage on property, infrastructure and agriculture, let alone health risks due to collapsing buildings, bridges and other structures in populated areas. Subsidence means the downwards displacement of the ground due to natural or anthropogenic reasons. The natural process derives from swelling and shrinking clay in dry and wet weather resulting in rising and falling ground. The prime cause, however, is human activity, notably the inconsiderate use of groundwater and withdrawal of other fluids, as well as subterranean mining and dewatering of peat or organic soils. This issue is not vastly known, because subsidence is usually very slow and gradual and thus difficult to visualise. However, it is potentially destructive and especially alarming in the light of scientific research that shows that climate change will accelerate the subsidence in Europe in the coming years due to the rising average temperatures and more erratic rainfall that alter soil conditions.