Question for written answer E-001112/2018 to the Commission Rule 130 Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski (PPE)

Subject: Copernicus

In the Copernicus Market Report published by the Commission in November 2016, the authors of the report draw attention to the advantages of making satellite data available to private entities and public institutions. According to estimates in the report, every euro invested into the system had brought EUR 1.4 of added value to the EU market by the end of 2016. This shows that the Copernicus system is bringing significant added value at even its earliest stages of development, and its potential is undoubtedly much higher.

The section of the report on trends talks about the possibility – or rather the existing practice – of using drones to complement Copernicus activity and add to the imaging of certain areas, but not to replace it.

- 1) In precisely what contexts have drones been used to complement the Copernicus system?
- 2) In the Commission's view, where is this trend going?
- 3) Could the use of drones to complement certain Copernicus functions become a permanent element of future versions of the system?

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