

Question for written answer E-003982/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Satellite equipment - space defence and European independence

France is preparing to invest EUR 6 billion over seven years in the protection and renewal of its military satellites. The US plans to earmark USD 12 billion per year to the protection of its satellites. At the same time, American companies such as Amazon are investing USD 17 billion in research and development.

We know that the renewal and the protection of national and European satellites are measures which are essential for innovation and for the maintenance and development of communication and transport infrastructure. These satellites also serve to guarantee Europe's independence in this area.

Against this background, can the Commission say what action it plans to take and what funding it plans to make available in the area of space policy and space defence?

Can it say what it has already done and what it plans to do to make Europe a leader in space technology and to guarantee its complete economic and military independence from other global economic powers?