

**Question for written answer E-003447/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Filip De Man** (ID)

Subject: Reduction in the ESA's budget

The Commission has put forward plans to cut the ESA's budget by EUR 1.2 billion. The President of the European Council, Charles Michel, himself proposed reducing its budget by up to EUR 3.3 billion.

The ESA is indispensable for many civil and military applications such as space observations, monitoring, meteorology, climate change, telecommunications, business projects, navigation, innovation and research.

1. Is the Commission aware that ESA budget cuts in the amount proposed risk making us even more technologically dependent on other super powers in the ESA's areas of activity?
2. Will the savings shift the focus of ESA, in other words: Will certain projects be stopped or suspended, and if so, which ones?