

**Question for written answer E-001796/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Rules to counter the effect on astronomical observation of the proliferation of satellites

A report by the International Astronomical Union entitled 'Dark and Quiet Skies for Science and Society' warns of the major problems facing astronomers owing to the explosion, in the absence of clear rules, in the number of satellite mega-constellations. It is estimated that no fewer than 100 000 of these spacecraft will be in low and medium orbit by the end of the 2020s. Whereas the night sky was once free of obstacles of that kind, light pollution and radioelectric interference are now affecting telescopes and radio telescopes. As a result, astronomy professionals are calling for rules to be introduced that minimise the impact of satellites and for the guidelines and recommendations in the aforementioned study to be applied to the construction of satellite constellations.

With that in mind:

1. Is the Commission aware of the aforementioned study?
2. Are discussions with other administrations being held at international level with a view to resolving this issue?
3. Has the Commission taken this problem into consideration in the procurement specifications for the Galileo network?