

**Question for written answer E-000337/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Sustainability of ArianeGroup in the ESA's European space strategy

There is no doubt that it is now vital to ensure the competitiveness and sustainability of the European space industry in the face of international competition, particularly from the US, China and Russia.

However, in a recent *Financial Times* article¹, Josef Aschbacher, head of the European Space Agency (ESA), stated that there was 'no guarantee' that France's ArianeGroup would continue to be Europe's rocket launch company of choice, after the ESA agreed to introduce more competition to the market.

1. How will the Commission support ArianeGroup and ensure that Europe is at the forefront of the space sector?
2. How will it help ArianeGroup and other European actors in the space sector to keep their strategic position, foster innovation and maintain independent access to space?
3. How does it intend to work with Member States, the ESA and industrial stakeholders to develop a coordinated strategy that promotes Europe's sovereignty in the space industry, stimulates research and development, and ensures sustainable use of space for the benefit of the EU as a whole?

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¹ <https://www.ft.com/content/58e85e5a-cf6b-4cda-ab06-7acd5c91ffc1>