



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety*

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**2011/2148(INI)**

27.10.2011

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

towards a space strategy for the European Union that benefits its citizens  
(2011/2148(INI))

Rapporteur: Salvatore Tatarella

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Recalls that the Lisbon Treaty introduces a new article (Article 189) that provides for the drawing-up of a European space policy, with the aim of promoting scientific and technical progress and industrial competitiveness via research activities, technological development and exploration; considers that EU space policy must not promote militarisation of space;
2. Considers that the adequate use of space programmes would lead to significant savings for the sectors involved and downstream benefits to regions and local communities;
3. Underlines the importance of the space programmes Galileo and EGNOS, which are key to optimising the application of the space policy to benefit European citizens; calls for a speedy development of these programmes;
4. Reaffirms the importance of GMES, the Earth observation system, as an essential tool in combating climate change and environmental degradation; notes that, through the acquisition and analysis of information at national, regional and global level, GMES will allow the extraction of precise and useful data for: atmospheric, marine and land monitoring, civil protection, risk prevention, early warning systems, emergency management and recovery operations following environmental, natural or man-made disasters, maritime and coastal surveillance, agricultural development, water and soil management and regional planning, making use of innovative environmental assessment and reporting technology capable of combining spatial and in-situ data; underlines the importance of GMES's contribution to achieving Europe 2020 objectives and to supporting growth and the green economy, as well as long-term investments in technology and infrastructure, which are the priorities of the European Union and all Member States strongly committed to environmental policy;
5. Regrets the complete exclusion of the GMES programme from the Commission's proposed Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020, and believes that asking the Member States to continue to cover the costs of the launch and annual maintenance of the programme would lead to long-term greater costs, disparity of access to resulting information and benefits for European citizens, a likely temporary suspension of the programme itself, subsequent interruption in data provision, and ultimately a dependence on non-European space infrastructure, placing the sector-related industries in a precarious economic situation;
6. Underlines that the costs relating to GMES are already covered until 2013, totalling EUR 3 billion (approximately EUR 2.3 billion for the satellites and EUR 700 million for related services) and that it is estimated that the programme's operational costs for the period 2014-2020 will average EUR 850 million per year; calls on the Commission to promote public-private partnership and attract more private-sector capital;
7. Reiterates that inclusion of GMES funding in the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial

Framework would avoid wasting investment to date in the Seventh Framework Programme of Research in the field of services and information;

8. Acknowledges the social benefits to users of GMES services, for whom continuity and sustainability are of the essence if they are to derive maximum advantage from the observation infrastructures offered by the programme;
9. Reiterates that the GMES programme is a priority of the European space policy and as such should be included in the European budget, hereby enabling Europe to keep its '2020' commitments while combating climate change;

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	26.10.2011
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 57 -: 2 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	János Áder, Elena Oana Antonescu, Kriton Arsenis, Sophie Auconie, Pilar Ayuso, Paolo Bartolozzi, Sergio Berlato, Martin Callanan, Nessa Childers, Chris Davies, Bairbre de Brún, Esther de Lange, Anne Delvaux, Bas Eickhout, Edite Estrela, Jill Evans, Karl-Heinz Florenz, Elisabetta Gardini, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Françoise Grossetête, Satu Hassi, Jolanta Emilia Hibner, Dan Jørgensen, Karin Kadenbach, Christa Kläß, Holger Krahmer, Jo Leinen, Peter Liese, Linda McAvan, Radvilė Morkūnaitė-Mikulėnienė, Miroslav Ouzký, Gilles Pargneaux, Antonia Parvanova, Andres Perello Rodriguez, Mario Pirillo, Pavel Poc, Anna Rosbach, Oreste Rossi, Daciana Octavia Sârbu, Carl Schlyter, Horst Schnellhardt, Richard Seeber, Theodoros Skylakakis, Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu, Salvatore Tatarella, Anja Weisgerber, Åsa Westlund, Glenis Willmott, Sabine Wils, Marina Yannakoudakis
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Inés Ayala Sender, Matthias Groote, Romana Jordan Cizelj, Philippe Juvin, Riikka Manner, Jiří Maštálka, Michail Tremopoulos, Andrea Zanzi
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Peter Šťastný