

**Question for oral answer O-000019/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Subject: An EU Approach for Space Traffic Management – An EU contribution addressing a global challenge

The Commission and the Vice President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy adopted their joint communication entitled 'An EU Approach for Space Traffic Management – An EU contribution addressing a global challenge' on 15 February 2022. The joint communication points out a number of planned actions that ultimately aim to ensure safe, secure and autonomous access to, return from and use of space. The communication is against the background of ongoing developments in the space sector and a current absence of regulatory measures. In view of the above, we invite the Commission to answer the following questions:

1. Which regulatory and implementation measures does the Commission plan to adopt in order to address various space traffic management issues, bearing in mind the international dimension of space? Is the Commission willing to make a European law on the use of outer space and space traffic management a priority?
2. How does the Commission intend to address the issue of the very limited budget for space surveillance, tracking and other activities allocated within the space situational awareness component of the Union space programme?
3. How and which techniques will the Commission support for automated collision avoidance, space debris avoidance and mitigation and space debris removal?
4. Which research and innovation actions will the Commission support and with what concrete funding amounts?
5. What actions does the Commission envisage at international level? According to the Commission, what is required for the adoption of an international regulatory framework?

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Lapses: 21.8.2022