

**Question for written answer P-000008/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Evžen Tošenovský (ECR), Paul Rübig (PPE) and Flavio Zanonato (S&D)

Subject: Negative impact of correction coefficients on staffing of European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency and other EU decentralised agencies

President Juncker, in his political guidelines and his opening statement to Parliament, acknowledged the strategic importance of the space industry and its contribution to growth and high-value jobs, and described space policy as an 'area of promise'.

In addition to Copernicus, the EU is investing in two European global navigation satellite systems, EGNOS and Galileo. The latter should gradually enter its exploitation phase in the next few years. The European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency (GSA), which performs critical tasks, is one of the key stakeholders in determining the timely implementation and future success of Galileo.

However, according to the knowledge gained during the recent visit to the GSA headquarters in Prague by a delegation of Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, it is difficult for the GSA to recruit and retain highly qualified experts. This challenging situation is caused in large part by the correction coefficient, which has led to significant salary cuts for staff over the last few years.

Is the Commission aware of the serious impact of the correction coefficient on GSA staff? Which other decentralised agencies report similar problems?

Is the Commission considering changing the system of correction coefficients applied to salaries horizontally, and/or taking specific action targeted at the GSA, in order to address the staffing issues?