Priority question for written answer P-005240/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: EU space-based global secure communication system, its impact on the Space Programme and the role of the EUSPA agency

Regulation (EU) 2021/696 entered into force on 28 April 2021. It provides for funding of EUR 14 880 billion for the Union Space Programme, which consists of Galileo, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS), Copernicus, the Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and the EU Governmental Satellite Communications Programme (GOVSATCOM). Furthermore, the Regulation established the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), which replaces the European Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Agency.

In its work programme, the Commission announced that a legislative proposal on a space-based ‘secure connectivity’ project would be published in the second quarter of 2022.

1. Does the Commission intend to amend the Space Programme Regulation to include secure connectivity, and if so, what would the impact be on the budget allocated for the Programme?

2. Does the Commission expect any risks for the stability of the programme and its individual components?

3. EUSPA will perform the tasks previously performed by the European GNSS. In addition, the Space Programme, the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement and contribution agreements assigned EUSPA a number of own and tasks in key areas such as operations, service provision, service evolution, security, communication, market development, user uptake etc. What is the Commission’s plan for secure connectivity and how could the Union best benefit from the expertise of its own agency, EUSPA?

Supporter¹

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Damian Boeselager (Verts/ALE)