



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Space, security and GMES  
**Space Policy and Coordination**

## **SPACE POLICY EXPERT GROUP: ACTIVITY REPORT JULY 2011 - JUNE 2012**

The Space Policy Expert Group has been active since July 2010. Its main purpose is to provide expert advice to the European Commission/DG Enterprise and Industry in the early phase of the development of its policy measures in the area of EU space policy. During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012, the group had three meetings:

### **1. Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

This meeting focused on two key topics: Elements of an EU space industrial policy and Space Situational Awareness (SSA). On space industrial policy, the Commission updated the Member States representatives on its ongoing reflections, particularly on two elements - satellite data policy and commercial spaceflight.

Under SSA, Member States were presented with the results of an external study supporting an SSA impact assessment. The Commission further provided a brief update on recent developments in the area of international space cooperation and progress made on the EU proposal for an international Code of Conduct in Outer space Activities.

### **2. Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

The Commission presented some new elements in its ongoing work on EU space industrial policy. In particular participants discussed the need for a more coherent regulatory framework for space activities at EU level, focusing on production and dissemination of satellite data, data security aspects and (potential) internal market issues. The meeting further addressed the issue of Third Party Liability in space activities, mostly for GNSS (Global Satellite Navigation System) services, as well as for use of satellite data more generally. The agenda included also an item on Hosted Payloads, which referred to the utilisation of spare capacity on commercial satellites to accommodate additional transponders, instruments or other space bound items. Some of the advantages and risks of using Hosted Payloads were discussed.

The Commission provided an update on the progress made with Mandate M/496 addressed to the European standardisation bodies CEN, CENELEC and ETSI to develop standardisation for the space industry.

DG INFOSO informed the meeting about the role and place of satellite communications in the Commission's proposal on the next Multi-annual Financial Framework 2014-2020.

Finally, DG HOME presented the European Programme on Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP), the upcoming review of Directive 2008/114/EC and potential linkages with space infrastructure.

### **3. Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2012**

During this meeting Member States representatives continued discussing the need for a more coherent legal framework for space activities and potential EU regulatory action.

The agenda featured also a discussion on the UNIDROIT Space Assets Protocol to the Capetown Convention adopted by a Diplomatic Conference held in Berlin on 9 March 2012.

On the issue of SSA, the Commission informed the meeting on its latest reflections regarding the governance and data policy aspects of establishing a Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST) services at European level.

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