



**THE SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

8TH TERM

690th

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 24th session held on 19th July 2012

on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, and the Committee of the Regions, on the establishment of an Intergovernmental Agreement for the operations of the European Earth Monitoring Programme (GMES) from 2014 to 2020

/Senate Press no. K 163/08/

The Senate

I.

Supports

in accordance with the long-term position of the Senate, as stated for example in resolutions No. 366 and No. 367 of 13th October 2011 on the Communication from the Commission Towards a space strategy for the European Union that benefits its citizens, the European Earth Monitoring Programme as an important element of EU space strategy, which will provide reliable information on the environment, transport, climate change and cross-border security;

II.

1. Does not consider

the proposed form of financing of the GMES programme after 2014 as appropriate, as it could endanger its implementation, an opinion the Senate already expressed in its Resolution No. 558 of 15th March 2012 on the Communication from the Commission on the European Earth monitoring programme (GMES) and its operations (from 2014 onwards);

2. Is of the opinion

that the European Commission has not sufficiently justified why it constantly suggests pulling funds for the GMES programme outside of the EU budget;

3. Assumes

that the proposed form of financing of the GMES programme after 2014 may be in conflict with the principles stated in the impact assessment of the Proposal for a

Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Earth monitoring programme (GMES) and its initial operations 2011–2013;

4. Recalls

in this context the opinion of the Council's legal service, which warns that the proposed solution may result in a breach of primary law of the EU;

5. Points out to the fact

that also the European Parliament and the professional community expressed their disagreement with the proposed form of financing of the GMES programme after 2014;

6. Recommends

therefore to include the resources for GMES Fund after 2014 in the EU budget, however, this must not be at the expense of cohesion policy;

7. Does not agree

with the proposed voting procedure in the Council of GMES Fund, which moves important issues to simple majority voting, which does not allow for the interests of all Member States to be properly taken into account;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and about further initiatives;

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission.

Milan Štěch
sign manual
President of the Senate

Soňa Paukrtová
sign manual
Senate Verifier