











Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2022/2078(INI)	Procedure completed
Strategic Compass and EU space-based defence capabilities		
Subject 3.50.03 European space policy 6.10.02 Common security and defence policy (CSDP); WEU, NATO		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Foreign Affairs	 DANJEAN Arnaud Shadow rapporteur  YONCHEVA Elena  GRUDLER Christophe  ALAMETSÄ Alviina  MADISON Jaak  VONDRA Alexandr  DALY Clare	30/06/2022

Key events			
07/07/2022	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/10/2023	Vote in committee		
08/11/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0334/2023	Summary
21/11/2023	Debate in Parliament		
23/11/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
23/11/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0435/2023	Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2022/2078(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/9/09471

Documentation gateway					
Committee draft report		PE734.332	09/06/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE751.579	06/07/2023	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0334/2023	08/11/2023	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0435/2023	23/11/2023	EP	Summary

Strategic Compass and EU space-based defence capabilities

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the own-initiative report by Arnaud DANJEAN (EPP, FR) on the strategic compass and EU space-based defence capabilities.

As a reminder, the EU adopted, on 10 March 2023, its first ever EU Space Strategy for Security and Defence. The Strategy, which is part of the implementation of the EU Strategic Compass that identifies space as a strategic domain, offers an ambitious framework to protect the EU space assets, defend its interests, deter hostile activities in space and strengthen its strategic posture and autonomy.

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine has demonstrated the essential need for and strategic value of geospatial imagery and secure connectivity in military targeting, manoeuvring and defence, but has also revealed challenges that need to be addressed by international governance initiatives focused on space and cyber issues, given the close links existing between the space and cyber domains.

The report focuses on five priority areas:

Protection and resilience of systems

Noting the upsurge in risks from space debris, as well as threats in space and on space systems, Members consider it necessary to bolster the resilience of European space infrastructure, supply chain systems and services.

Members highlighted the need to establish an effective regulatory framework for new space companies based in the EU, with a significant emphasis on protective measures and information security. The Commission is encouraged to include matters of registration, liability and environmental standards in new space legislation.

The committee called for the international regulatory and capacity resources for space traffic management (STM) to be boosted and for the establishment of common reaction thresholds for acts occurring in space, with the aim of better protecting the infrastructure in orbit belonging to the EU, the Member States and private companies.

Stressing that the EU should not rely on third-party space surveillance systems, the EU and its Member States are called on to strengthen their efforts in the field of space surveillance and the tracking of objects in an effort to reduce the risk of collision.

Response to threats

Members highlighted that the EU and its Member States must bolster their capabilities and governance to detect, categorise, attribute and address threats as quickly as possible. Space domain awareness (SDA) is essential to detecting, tracking and attributing a threat and enabling Member States to take appropriate decisions in the event of a space attack.

The report called for more meaningful responses on solidarity mechanisms to be taken at EU level. Members welcomed, in this regard, the commitment to develop a dedicated toolbox, complementary to cyber diplomacy and hybrid toolboxes, that would help to address the different threats in the space domain.

The EU and its Member States should adopt policies on anti-satellite testing, specifically with the aim of banning destructive testing.

Competitiveness and investment

The EU is called on to adopt a genuine industrial policy and to be able to draw upon a competitive industry. The report stated that EU support to enable Member States to develop their capabilities must benefit European industrial players, both long-established groups and innovative SMEs and start-ups.

In addition, Members stressed that, if space capabilities are to be developed, the resources allocated to space in the next multiannual financial

framework must be substantially increased, including in support of EU agencies such as the EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), the EU Satellite Centre (SatCen) and the European Defence Agency.

Governance

The report stressed that EU and Member State resilience and their response to potential hostile actions in space, particularly malicious acts threatening EU space assets such as the testing of anti-satellite weapons, must be underpinned by clear, flexible and responsive governance, thereby addressing shortcomings stemming from the current fragmentation of competences in the EU's approach to space and defence and enhancing accountability for all actors involved in the different components of the EU Space Programme.

Members pointed out that governance must not duplicate existing means or circumvent Member States in areas such as threat attribution, which largely relies on national capabilities.

Cooperation

The EU is called on to assume a more active role as a facilitator in international norm-building in space. The report stressed the need to develop, at UN level, an effective framework for the coordination of space situational awareness and to develop norms and principles for space debris removal. Moreover, the EU and its Member States should reaffirm commitments to transparency and confidence building measures to advance new measures for space security in the light of current threats. In this regard, Members noted the need for an international legal framework regulating the activities of new space companies.

Lastly, Members support the continuation of an enhanced dialogue with the United States but call for deeper cooperation and for alliances to be established with a broader set of EU strategic partners.

Strategic Compass and EU space-based defence capabilities

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Strategic Compass and EU space-based defence capabilities

The European Parliament adopted by 500 votes to 43, with 18 abstentions, a resolution on the strategic compass and EU space-based defence capabilities.

Parliament welcomed the findings and the high level of ambition of the recommendations proposed by the EU's space strategy for security and defence, which meets a strong expectation on the part of European space stakeholders.

The EU Climate Change and Defence Roadmap recognises climate change as a threat multiplier that fundamentally affects our long-term security and sets out concrete actions to address the increasingly important climate and security nexus.

Members stressed the importance of closely monitoring and reporting on climate change using the EU's space capabilities owing to its crucial consequences for EU security, its effect on migration and conflicts in neighbouring regions, and its implications for food security, energy production and international trade.

The resolution focuses on five priority areas:

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Transparency				
GRUDLER Christophe	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	09/11/2023	Ariane Space
GRUDLER Christophe	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	10/10/2023	ARIANEGROUP HOLDING
GRUDLER Christophe	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	04/07/2023	GSOA
DANJEAN Arnaud	Rapporteur	AFET	31/05/2023	SatCen
DANJEAN Arnaud	Rapporteur	AFET	31/05/2023	Airbus
DANJEAN Arnaud	Rapporteur	AFET	31/05/2023	OHB
GRUDLER Christophe	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	30/05/2023	THALES
DANJEAN Arnaud	Rapporteur	AFET	23/05/2023	Avio S.p.A.
DANJEAN Arnaud	Rapporteur	AFET	25/04/2023	SGDSN
DANJEAN Arnaud	Rapporteur	AFET	25/04/2023	Ministère des Armées