



European Interparliamentary Space Conference (EISC)

Draft Resolution

Europe's contribution to the space economy in times of green transition

HAVING CONSIDERED the importance of the role of space in providing information of the changing climate and Europe's contribution in the field of Earth observation;

NOTING WITH REGRET the increasing number of extreme weather events, the degradation of biodiversity, and the rising impact of climate change on human life, infrastructure, and security;

EMPHASIZING the importance of space-based data in a data-driven and data-intensive society and economy;

FURTHER RECALLING the value of space-based data to monitor climate change, underpin climate science and public policies worldwide;

APPRECIATING the increasing recognition of the value of space data and services in EU Green Deal policies and EU environmental laws as well as other relevant political areas;

RECALLING the importance of space for Europe's independence, economic growth, innovation, job creation as well as for security and defence activities, and the functioning of critical infrastructures;

RECOLLECTING the criticality of space systems to support financial and banking services as well as digital systems in today's global economy;

OBSERVING the increase in space commercialisation and expressing concern regarding the potential weaknesses of the European space sector in this domain;

BEARING IN MIND the space sustainability challenges regarding increasingly competed, congested, and contested orbits;

WELCOMING the statement of the European Space Agency for a Responsible Space Sector as a commitment to the space sector to manage its space activities in a socially and environmentally responsible manner;

REAFFIRMING the commitment to the ideals of the Outer Space Treaty, including the use of space for peaceful purposes;

EXPECTING the next European Space Summit to address and progress on Europe's contribution to the space economy by increasing commercialization through more competition and innovative service based procurement;

The European Interparliamentary Space Conference (EISC)

A) Europe's contributions to an evolving space economy

1. ACKNOWLEDGES that the rising interest in the space domain from governments, civil society, and the industry at large, including non-space users, is an opportunity to extend the size of the space economy;
2. NOTES that digitally driven societies will boost the demand for space services;
3. REMINDS European decision makers to make better use of space-based data and derived analytics in policy and lawmaking, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes, considering that compliance can generate demand and opportunities for the creation of commercial space-based data services;
4. CALLS UPON European States to undertake the necessary research and development efforts to ensure that Europe develops sovereign key enabling technologies necessary for space downstream applications (e.g., Artificial Intelligence, cloud computing, data processing and calculating capabilities, quantum computing, etc.);
5. ENCOURAGES European States to create the conditions to ease the access to in-orbit demonstration missions for space start-ups to develop proofs of concepts in order to facilitate and speed up administrative and business processes as well as market access;
6. FURTHER NOTES that the aforementioned in-orbit demonstrations launched from European spaceports and European launchers could be seen as an additional opportunity to increase the demand in the space upstream sector;
7. WELCOMES the recent increase in national budgets dedicated to space in several European States and the European Space Agency and further encourages additional investments in space technologies to foster economic growth and ensure Europe's strategic autonomy;
8. UNDERLINES the importance of mobilizing both public and private risk capital to develop European space solutions and foster the creation of start-ups and unicorns;
9. RECOMMENDS a shift towards a more service-oriented approach in space, with the government acting increasingly as a customer. States could also benefit much more from innovative solutions and services through anchor contracts. Startups, SMEs and established companies should have equal access to all contracts. Contracts are the most efficient and best form of support for the emerging NewSpace ecosystem in terms of regulatory policy.
10. DRAWS THE ATTENTION to the efficiency of hackathons involving future end-users, the space community, and the policy community in order to develop a space ecosystem and space services in emerging spacefaring nations;
11. CALLS FOR the current discussions in the European Space Agency on a competitive European Launcher procurement and a European preference for launch services in order to foster the European space economy, and at the same time securing a resilient affordable European autonomous access to space;
12. APPRECIATES the European Space Agency's efforts in setting up the High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on human and robotic space exploration and its efforts in highlighting the potential socio-economic impact and spillover effects on the European economy;
13. CONGRATULATES the creation of the European Office of Space Commerce (ECSECO) in Vienna, Austria to foster debates and studies on the space economy and space commercialization in Europe;

B) The European space sector's contribution to sustainable development and the green transition on Earth

1. ENCOURAGES European States to further develop and rely on space-based data tools to better assess the potential for green transition activities and monitor successful implementation;
2. RECOGNIZES the importance of developing space applications and services that provide actionable information and analytics in order to reduce the barrier of access to space-based data for end-users, including policymakers and parliamentarians;
3. WELCOMES the creation of digital twins to better understand and address climate mitigation and climate adaptation to implement the EU Green Deal;
4. REGRETS that digital tools relying on space-based data are often benefit non-European technologies and companies; or rely on non-European technologies;
5. CALLS UPON the European space industry to strengthen research and development efforts to decrease the environmental footprint of the space sector;
6. ACKNOWLEDGES environmental regulations in creating fertile grounds for new markets and space-based data products;
7. STRONGLY ENCOURAGES European entrepreneurs to take advantage of European environmental regulations to develop profitable space start-ups and products;
8. WELCOMES the recently agreed contribution of the UK to Copernicus and URGES the European Commission to find a solution to close the remaining funding gap;
9. FURTHER ENCOURAGES EISC Members to reflect, discuss, and raise awareness on the need of a congruent European framework regarding sustainability issues on Earth and in outer space;
10. SUPPORTS the initiative to establish a Centre of Excellence for Space and Sustainability in Vienna, Austria to further study the contribution of space to sustainability on Earth and in outer space and ensure Europe's interdisciplinary excellence on the matter;
11. FURTHER INVITES EISC Members and their national parliaments to collaborate, exchange, and rely on the expertise to be developed at the upcoming Centre of Excellence for Space and Sustainability;
12. CALLS UPON future EISC presidencies to continue to remain dedicated to the matter of sustainability on Earth and in outer space.

C) Space for security: implications at the intersection of the space economy and climate change

1. HIGHLIGHTS the contribution of commercial space solutions to natural disaster response and extreme weather events and the critical support they provide to civil security actors;
2. INVITES European companies to further develop space solutions to support humanitarian and natural disaster response;

3. FURTHER RECALLS the utility of space-based data as an independent source of evidence to monitor environmental crimes and war crimes;
4. TAKES NOTE of the essential contribution of commercial space solutions to support military operations on Earth, in particular in light of the war in Ukraine;
5. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the rising number of (cyber)attacks against space solutions, which can lead to grave consequences for civilian populations and infrastructures that rely on space-based services;
6. CONSIDERS that the extended use of commercial space solutions in military operations has new political, legal, operational, and economic implications that should be further studied by the space community;

D) Talent, diversity, and sustainable jobs in Europe

1. INSISTS on the need to better promote space to European youth in order to increase the pool of talent in the European space sector and fill in the upcoming shortage of human resources in many space agencies and industries, which expect to see a wave of retirements by the end of the decade;
2. CALLS on European States to pay increased attention in their education/space policies to stop brain drain strengthen resources in doctoral research and early career opportunities in order to retain talents in Europe;
3. ENCOURAGES European States and universities to further conduct research in areas related to space and foster collaboration between European universities to produce knowledge, contribute to research and development activities, and meet the skills' gap in the space sector;
4. ADVISES European States to improve gender equality, diversity, and social inclusion in all areas of the space sector;
5. CALLS UPON EISC Members, the space community and European States to raise awareness and engage in concrete activities to increase the youth's interests, in particular women, in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM);
6. UNDERLINES the importance of human spaceflight as an invaluable source of fascination and inspiration for children, students and young professionals to get involved in the space research and industry;
7. INVITES European States and the space sector to increase dialogue with civil society about the benefits of space to the economy and the monitoring of climate change.