

EISC Resolution

17th European Interparliamentary Space Conference

Spain, Madrid, September 21st-22nd, 2015

The European Interparliamentary Space Conference,

EMPHASISING the vital need for solidarity and cooperation in Europe which is currently facing significant socioeconomic strain and the long-term necessity for Member States to build on Europe's strengths while taking actions to provide adequate solutions,

BEING AWARE that European cooperation in space has contributed in developing a common European identity and has been used for decision and policy makers as a tool for problem solving and can further assist in developing, implementing and monitoring national and European policies,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that in Europe there are several multilateral structures like EU, ESA and EUMETSAT, where respective Member States can jointly bring together their competences and share joint challenges and aspirations,

On the topic of a coordinated space governance in Europe the XVII EISC

ACKNOWLEDGES that space in Europe is governed by three major actors: the Member States, the European Space Agency and the European Union and the European space sector can only benefit from dedicated coordination among those actors,

UNDERLINES the need for Europe to adapt towards a changing environment by ensuring efficient and reliable organisation models,

HIGHLIGHTS public awareness and citizens' involvement as key points for a sound European space governance, contributing to the development of a European identity,

CONSIDERS that space activities in Europe would benefit from a strengthened cooperation amongst the main actors with a better definition of roles, no duplications of responsibilities and an effective use of public resources,

INVITES public and private organisations to strengthen and further create synergies with shared benefit and responsibilities, with the goal of making further use of space for economic growth, jobs and thus competitiveness,

ENCOURAGES the European Space Agency to present and develop new inspiring and challenging programmes for Europe that would drive the innovation in the space sector as well as other sectors, thereby taking into consideration the individual capabilities and needs of the Member States,

RECOGNISES the important role of the EU in Space, defined in the Lisbon Treaty, as essential to develop and maintain strategic space flagships, notably Copernicus, Galileo and SST, for the benefit of Member States and the importance of ensuring appropriate relations with ESA.

As regard to the industrial and data policy in European Programmes the XVII EISC

HIGHLIGHTS that the transverse nature of space allows its use in serving a number of European and National policy areas (e.g. migration monitoring, border control, environment and climate change, agriculture, energy, resources, fisheries, regional development, maritime, foreign policy, security and defence amongst others),

URGES decision and policy makers to integrate space solutions further in the development, the implementation and monitoring of national and European policies,

CALLS UPON all actors to develop a comprehensive European space industrial policy that respects the needs of the Union and the Member States based on transparency, flexibility and a balanced distribution of capacities throughout Europe, while taking into account the situation and trends on global markets,

CALLS UPON national parliaments to coordinate efforts on how space data is handled in the respective Member States and to exchange on practices on how to best serve the interest of space applications in public use as well as in commercialisation.

Concerning European and national legislation related to space the XVII EISC

ENCOURAGES Members of Parliament to support the space sector inside the Parliaments in view of the strategic nature of Space activities for the future of Europe,

RECOGNISES the need to support public institutions (agencies, research establishments, universities) as well as industry in their efforts to create knowledge and industrial benefit and to provide a climate for new creative engagement in particular of start-ups,

IDENTIFIES the following areas where national Parliaments might contribute to:

- Securing frequency bands allocated to space services and science
- Use of Earth observation data
- Authorisation of space activities of private actors in order to safeguard public interest for safety and to regulate third-party liability, which rests with the Member State
- Regulation of future private human space flight and tourism in particular with regard to all security considerations amongst others
- Creation of an updated register of objects launched to space
- Appropriate conditions for export of space-space related goods and services taking into consideration that are often closely linked with dual use and thus face a delicate political and regulatory regime regarding export
- Prevention of the growing risk of space debris
- Support the work on an international regulation for space traffic management
- Creation of the conditions for young scientific students and professionals to choose a career in the space sector that will face a shortage within the coming years¹

¹ As highlighted in the XV EISC Resolution