

Marlene H. Dortch, Esq.
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: Federal Communications Commission Notice for Proposed Rulemaking on licensing rules for space activities – IB Docket No. 18-313

The European External Action Service (EEAS) and the European Commission share the US analysis, it becomes imperative to reduce or even prevent the risks associated with the challenge of coordinating space traffic management and space situational awareness at international level, creation of debris, miscalculation and mistrust, not to mention harmful interferences. The EEAS and the European Commission believe a global set of voluntary norms, addressing security, safety and sustainability of outer space activities, is needed more than ever

In the meantime the next EU space programme will aim at "enhancing the security and the safety of the Union and its Member States, its freedom of action and its strategic autonomy, in particular in terms of technologies and evidence-based decision-making". The overarching aim of the EU and its Member States is to be an autonomous and cooperative space power.

Some elements of the rules proposed by the FCC could be applicable to European entities. The EEAS and the European Commission would therefore like to ensure that the FCC proposed legislation does not place undue burden on the European space industry and fosters a global approach to the global challenge of space debris. The EEAS and the European Commission express their readiness to work with the U.S. government to ensure that the new rules proposed by the FCC are consistent with applicable international rules, including those on the trade of goods and services.

For and on behalf of

The European External Action Service

EEAS Space Task Force
Rond-Point Schuman/Schumanplein 9A
1040 Brussels
Belgium