



Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) Recommendations for US – EU Space Dialogue

AIA, representing over 300 companies across the U.S. aerospace supply chain, provides the following recommendations for the upcoming US – EU space dialogue.

AIA Recommendation #1 – Encourage EU counterparts to include US industry stakeholders in the EU’s STM framework, including debris remediation, stakeholder discussions.

Background – In February 2022, the EU established an approach on space traffic management with the goal of developing, “concrete initiatives, including operations and legislation, to promote the safe, secure and sustainable use of space while preserving the EU’s strategic autonomy and industry’s competitiveness.”¹ The EU approach includes, “establishing international partnerships on STM and engaging at a multilateral level.” The EU STM framework implementation plan includes stakeholder engagement beginning with EU-based stakeholders. As is reflected in the announcement of this initiative as well as the recent Council of the EU’s proceedings, the global nature of the space environment requires global relationships as the EU develops its standards for operating in space.² In this spirit, as the EU works to develop its STM framework, the USG should encourage its EU counterparts to begin engaging US industry stakeholders in the development of the framework. A framework built on closer US-EU discussion will support the responsible use of space among a significant segment of space actors and may create beneficial positioning in deliberations with non-US-EU actors, such as China.

AIA Recommendation #2 – Encourage EU counterparts to consider existing or planned US industry communications capabilities and potential collaboration or joint efforts in the development of a planned EU system.

Background – In February 2022, the EU put forward a plan for a EU space-based secure communication system, with a total cost estimated at €6 billion drawn from the EU budget, Member States, European Space Agency contributions, and private sector investments.³ Recent US-EU space history, from the response to the invasion in Ukraine, to the long standing sharing of weather and climate data, evidences the benefits of US-EU government and industry collaboration. As the EU develops this communication system plan, the USG should encourage the EU to consider existing and planned US industry communications capabilities to ensure a future system enables continued collaboration and private sector innovation and investment.

AIA Recommendation #3 – Propose a US-EU joint government and stakeholder discussion on the topics above at the September IAC in Paris or other future venue. AIA is open to sponsor or support such an event.

¹ See https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_921

² Council of the EU, Outcome of Proceedings (General Secretariat of the Council) on 10 June 2022, EU Approach to Space Traffic Management

³ See https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_921