




Procedure file

Basic information		
NLE - Non-legislative enactments	2024/0046(NLE)	Procedure completed
EU/USA Agreement: setting forth security procedures for the launch of Galileo satellites from U.S. territory		
Subject 3.30.03.06 Communications by satellite		
Geographical area United States		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Industry, Research and Energy	EPP BUDKA Borys	24/07/2024
		Shadow rapporteur	
		S&D GORI Giorgio	
		P/E GYÜRK András	
		ECR KRUTÍLEK Ondřej	
		Greens/EFA NIINISTÖ Ville	
	Former committee responsible		
	 Industry, Research and Energy		
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
23/02/2024	Preparatory document	COM(2024)0085	Summary
27/03/2024	Legislative proposal published	07058/2024	
22/04/2024	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
13/09/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A10-0001/2024	
19/09/2024	Results of vote in Parliament		
19/09/2024	Decision by Parliament	T10-0011/2024	Summary
10/10/2024	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/10/2024	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2024/0046(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 189
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/10/00345

Documentation gateway					
Document attached to the procedure		COM(2024)0086	23/02/2024	EC	
Preparatory document		COM(2024)0085	23/02/2024	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		07058/2024	27/03/2024	CSL	
Committee draft report		PE763.099	05/09/2024	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A10-0001/2024	13/09/2024	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T10-0011/2024	19/09/2024	EP	Summary

Final act
Decision 2024/2709 OJ OJ L 17.10.2024

EU/USA Agreement: setting forth security procedures for the launch of Galileo satellites from U.S. territory

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, an agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and the United States of America, of the other part, setting forth Security Procedures for the Launch of Galileo Satellites from U.S. territory.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: following the unilateral withdrawal of Russian personnel from the Guiana Space Centre and the cancellation of two Soyuz launches in April and September 2022 as well as the announced delay of Ariane-6, the EU had to find alternatives to resume urgently the launches of Galileo satellites in order to ensure the proper operation of the Galileo system which is part of the Union Space Programme established by Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Union Space Programme Regulation).

After conducting technical feasibility studies on other available launch vehicles, the Commission concluded that the only launch vehicles compatible with Galileo satellites are provided by manufacturers in the United States.

In January 2023, the Commission, together with security experts designated by several Member States, conducted a visit of launch sites in the United States. The visit ascertained the feasibility of launching from those sites in the United States with appropriate security measures in respect of security sensitive material and documentation of the Galileo satellites, including European Union classified information.

In view of ensuring the security of information included in Galileo satellites, a legally binding agreement with the United States is necessary to protect the integrity of the Galileo satellites on United States territory and the confidentiality of EU classified information not releasable to the United States that is contained within the satellites or related to the satellites launch.

Any exchange or provision of classified information between the EU and the United States for the purposes of the launches of Galileo satellites must comply with the requirements set out in the Agreement between the EU and the government of the United States of America on the security of classified information and its security arrangement.

CONTENT: under this proposal, the Commission proposes to the Council to adopt a decision approving the conclusion of the Security

Agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and the United States of the other part, setting forth security procedures for the launch of Galileo satellites from U.S. territory.

This Security Agreement is necessary to enable launches of satellites that will complete the Galileo satellite navigation constellation, which is indispensable in order to perform the task of providing long-term, state-of-the-art and secure positioning, navigation and timing services as required by the Union Space Programme Regulation.

Galileo supports key economic sectors, in particular telecommunications, energy and transport and the protection of critical infrastructures thereof.

The satellite navigation services offered by the Galileo component of the Union Space Programme support a number of EU priorities including the Green Deal, a Europe fit for the Digital Age, an Economy that works for People and a Stronger Europe in the World.

The Galileo satellite navigation services also contribute to peace and security and sustainable development in the world.

EU/USA Agreement: setting forth security procedures for the launch of Galileo satellites from U.S. territory

The European Parliament adopted by 582 votes to 16, with 17 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the United States of America setting forth security procedures for the launch of Galileo satellites from United States territory.

Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the agreement.

As a reminder, the cancellation of two Soyuz launches from the Guiana Space Centre in April and September 2022 and the announced delay of Ariane-6 necessitate that the Union finds alternatives in order to resume urgently the launches of Galileo satellites. This is critical to ensure the proper operation of the Galileo system, which is part of the Union Space Programme established by Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Regulation on the Union Space Programme).

The Union has a longstanding cooperation with the United States on satellite navigation. The agreement on the promotion, provision and use of Galileo and GPS satellite-based navigation systems and related applications between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United States of America , of the other part entered into force on 12 December 2011.

On 23 November 2023, the Council authorised the opening of negotiations on behalf of the Union with a view to concluding an agreement between the Union and the United States laying down security procedures for the launch of Galileo satellites from United States territory.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Union, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

This security agreement is necessary to enable launches of satellites that will complete the Galileo satellite navigation constellation, which is indispensable in order to perform the task of providing long-term, state-of-the-art and secure positioning, navigation and timing services as required by the Union Space Programme Regulation.

The agreement between the European Union and the Government of the United States of America on the security of classified information will apply to EU classified information provided to the United States.