

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As EPP rapporteur on SST - Space surveillance and tracking support programme - there are three points that I should like to stress regarding the financing of the SST support programme.

Firstly, there is no explicit budget in the draft legal act. Therefore, an amended has been tabled to insert a maximum amount of EUR 70 million over seven years.

Secondly, the draft legal act itself does not clarify the extent of other programmes contributions. An amendment has been tabled making sure that both EGNOS/Galileo and Copernicus are its primary contributors, while other programmes, such as H2020 and Internal Security Fund, should only be subsidiary. The use of the Horizon 2020 envelope, in particular, should be strictly limited to its own mission - space and security research.

Thirdly, the draft legal act does not lay down precisely the breakdown of the EU funding across the main expected tasks. An amendment has been tabled ensuring three main functions by the SST programme: networking of sensors; data processing; service to the users. For the sake of clarity and accountability, a maximum amount should be broken down into these categories according to the objectives set out in this Regulation.