

Question for written answer E-000073/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: IRIS²: Starlink and SMEs

Earlier this year, it emerged that Prime Minister Meloni is involved in far-reaching negotiations with SpaceX regarding the purchase of Starlink satellites with a view to building a secure telecommunications infrastructure in Italy. In recent years, however, there has been a strong focus within the Union on strategic autonomy, which seems to be an even higher priority for the current Commission. If Europe wants to remain master of its own (economic) security, it needs to invest in its own capabilities to achieve that goal.

In view of the above:

1. How does the Commission assess the security risks related to the outsourcing of critical infrastructure, especially information and data infrastructure, to companies whose main shareholder often uses disinformation and seeks to interfere in European affairs?
2. What impact does Italy's possible purchase of Starlink equipment have on the further rollout of IRIS²?
3. How will the Commission ensure that SMEs from smaller Member States can also play a role in the roll-out of the IRIS² network and, by extension, in other security and defence projects?

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