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Answer given by Mr Kubilius
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.6.2025)

The Commission acknowledges the importance of ensuring that the EU's critical communication infrastructure remains sovereign and resilient.

The Regulation establishing the EU Space Programme and the EU Agency for the Space Programme¹ and the Regulation establishing the EU Secure Connectivity Programme² provide that the Commission applies eligibility and participation conditions if it deems that this is necessary and appropriate to preserve the security, integrity and resilience of the operational EU systems.

In particular, they require that economic operators providing critical components and services are fulfilling the following eligibility and participation conditions:

- a) the eligible legal entity is established in a Member State and its executive management structures are established in that Member State;
- b) the eligible legal entity commits to carry out all relevant activities in one or more Member States; and
- c) the eligible legal entity is not to be subject to control by a third country or by a third country entity.

It therefore ensures that critical technologies required to deploy and operate IRIS² are under EU control.

¹ OJ L 170, 12.5.2021 p.69, ELI, Article 24: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/696/oj>.

² OJ L 79, 17.3.2023 p.1, ELI, Article 22: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/588/oj>.