

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001755/26
to the Commission
Giuseppe Antoci (The Left)
(29 April 2026)**

Subject: Risks from uncontrolled re-entry of space debris on EU territory

In recent months, there have been several sightings of things in the skies over Europe, including a recent luminous trail reported over Sicily, which can likely be traced back to space debris re-entering the atmosphere.

According to data from the European Space Agency, the number of objects in orbit is increasing, with potential risks to public safety, the environment and infrastructure. Space debris is a growing form of orbital pollution, with possible impacts also on the territory of the European Union.

Currently, the European regulatory framework appears fragmented, and the EU mainly deals with monitoring and coordination, for example through the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking system, without a fully harmonised regime on prevention, mitigation and liability. However, it is encouraging that the Commission recently presented the proposal for the EU Space Act, which would be a first step towards a more coherent and binding regulatory framework on space activities and orbital sustainability.

In the light of the above:

1. Can the Commission confirm the timeline and state of play of the EU Space Act legislative initiative?
2. Will the Commission include legally binding obligations for the prevention and mitigation of space debris throughout the life cycle of satellites in the future EU Space Act?
3. Will it propose a harmonised EU liability regime for damage caused by space debris on EU territory or to EU infrastructure?

Submitted: 29.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Kubilius on behalf of the European Commission
(1 July 2026)**

The EU Space Act ⁽¹⁾ was tabled by the Commission on the 25 June 2025 to strengthen the competitiveness and resilience of the European space sector by establishing an internal market for space.

The ordinary legislative procedure is currently ongoing and the Commission services are committed to providing all necessary support to both co-legislators.

Given the disparities in national approaches to regulating space activities, the proposal for the EU Space Act lays down harmonised rules for key requirements in safety, resilience and environmental sustainability addressed in the authorisations for space activities.

The safety requirements are envisaged to address the risks posed by the congestion of the orbits caused by the increasing proliferation of satellites constellations.

The Act includes a set of collision avoidance measures, space debris mitigation rules, requirements to the trackability of spacecrafts and lay down key elements regarding the orbital traffic, and the coordination with air and maritime authorities to prevent and mitigate the risk of collision leading to the generation of debris both in space and on Earth.

The proposal for the EU Space Act preserves the national prerogatives of Member States as regards the authorisation and supervision of space activities therefore liability aspects of space activities are outside the scope of the proposal.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025PC0335>.