

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002327/26
to the Commission
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(6 June 2026)**

Subject: Permanent NASA base on the moon

1. What is the Commission's assessment from the point of view of international law (Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies) of NASA's announcement that it will establish a permanent base on the Moon and demarcate territory using drones? ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾
2. What measures does the Commission intend to take to prevent the militarisation of space and the unilateral appropriation of space resources?
3. Is the Commission committed to establishing new multilateral mechanisms in this area or to updating existing ones, or does it consider the current agreements to be sufficient?

Submitted: 6.6.2026

**Answer given by Mr Kubilius on behalf of the European Commission
(31 August 2026)**

The Commission is not in a position to comment on the activities of the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as the EU does not engage in Human Spaceflight activities, which are the purview of the intergovernmental European Space Agency.

The Commission recalls, however, that any activities on the Moon must be conducted in accordance with the applicable international legal framework.

In this respect, relevant principles include the non-appropriation of outer space and celestial bodies, their use for peaceful purposes, and the obligation to conduct activities with due regard to the corresponding interests of other States.

The Commission remains fully committed to the peaceful, safe and sustainable use of outer space in full respect of international law. In view of the increasing risks linked to the militarisation of space, the EU is pursuing both regulatory and operational measures.

These include the proposed EU Space Act ⁽¹⁾ aiming at strengthening the safety, resilience and environmental sustainability of space activities and the work of the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking ⁽²⁾ part of the EU Space Programme ⁽³⁾, which has for the past 10 years enhanced the protection of space infrastructures of Member States and the global community at large, free of charge.

The EU strongly supports the rules-based international system, with the UN at its core, and the multilateral approach to international affairs including cooperation on outer space issues.

The UN, through its dedicated bodies, remains the unique international platform for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and space security.

¹ <https://www.faz.net/aktuell/feuilleton/debatten/die-nasa-will-auf-dem-mond-grenzen-feststecken-accg-200875298.html>.

² <https://www.spiegel.de/wissenschaft/weltall/artemis-die-nasa-moechte-einen-drohenschwarm-zum-mond-schicken-a-40168e10-d2e2-402e-96ed-5c7f9906bb86>.

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

⁽²⁾ https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-space/ssa-europes-eyes-space/eu-space-surveillance-and-tracking_en.

⁽³⁾ <https://eu-space.europa.eu/>.