



**Resolution 19th EISC  
Plenary Session**

The European Interparliamentary Space Conference:

RECOGNISES space as an area for European leadership, progress and identity;

CONSIDERS the changing environment in the space sector;

APPRAISES the Joint Statement signed in October 2016 between the European Space Agency and the European Commission;

ACKNOWLEDGES ESA's Director General's Proposal to ESA CM16 and EU European Space Strategy;

DESIRES the EISC participants to support the process and efforts for a successful European space endeavour within their Member States;

RECOGNISES that space use has changed in the past decades and continues to change toward more States conducting space activities, toward increasing private activities and toward a greater diversity of space activities;

RECOGNISES that States need to work toward ensuring a sustainable space use and that this can only be achieved in cooperation;

BELIEVES that there is a need for Europe to be proactive in order not to fall behind in this inevitable development and that Europe can build on its strengths including the strong frameworks for cooperation;

TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION that there are more and more occasions where space applications are of direct use to help solve problems on Earth;

The 19<sup>th</sup> European Interparliamentary Space Conference has agreed on:

**A. Space and Entrepreneurship**

APPRECIATES ESA's Digital Agenda for Space;

CALLS upon space industry to adapt to Industry 4.0 and upon Member States to create appropriate and supportive legal frameworks;

BELIEVES that a European approach to innovation in space and on Earth through space applications has a great potential;

BEING AWARE that entrepreneurs from different sectors are seeing new opportunities in space but also on Earth, supported by space use, including developments related to cyberspace;

RECOGNISES the potential of this development but also its risks, as the changing activities and new actors highlight deficiencies in the legal framework for space, as private enterprise necessitates legal certainty and a clear legal framework;

CONSIDERS that the existing international legal framework for space provides a good basis for the use of space for the benefit of mankind, but that this framework should be updated in order to serve the different space reality of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century;

## **B. Maintain and Further Strengthen European Leadership**

UNDERLINES the importance of strengthening space for security and calls the EC, the European Defense Agency, as well as Member States and ESA to intensify their efforts;

CALLS upon the leading actors involved in the space sector to mitigate and remediate space debris;

APPRAISES ESA's initiative for Space Traffic Management;

RECOGNISES ESA's coordinative role with its Member States in the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, paving the ground for European leadership for global benefit;

AFFIRMS that space organisation in Europe consists of different institutions with well-established mandates and proven track records, including experience of cooperation with the private sector and that ESA as well as the European Union both within their respective roles continue to play an essential part for European space development;

INVITES relevant organisations as well as private companies to further explore possibilities for cooperation so that each sector can use its potential in the most profitable manner, avoiding duplication of efforts or harmfully uncoordinated actions;

URGES ESA to take an active role in coordinating discussions among Member States on new space-related issues such as private activities in space, exploitation of resources, space traffic management, "mega-constellations" and other;

RECOGNISES that the existing international space law needs clarification to provide clearer guidance on what is permitted space use and what amounts to prohibited appropriation of space, at a time of space resource development as well as intensive space utilisation through a multitude of space objects:

UNDERLINES the continued and growing risk that is posed by space debris and urges attention to this issue by all space actors;

IDENTIFIES the need for development of national space legislation and incorporate principles of international space law to provide a secure framework for the development of private space activities with clear designated bodies in Member States that provide permission for space activities;

ENCOURAGES Member States to pay attention to ways in which space use can be beneficial on Earth in order to spread the benefits of space use and exploration to the greatest possible extent, in a sustainable and equitable manner;

CALLS upon national parliaments to promote continued and increased European and international cooperation in space as well as to support adoption or amendment of national space legislation.