

## The EU Space Act: Boosting European autonomy in space?

**Wednesday, 17 September 2025**

**12:00 to 14:00 h (CET)**

**Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Europe Office, 11 Avenue de l'Yser, 1040 Brussels**

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The strategic and commercial importance of space is growing rapidly. What was once a domain dominated by a few national agencies is now an arena of global competition—driven by private innovation, geopolitical rivalry, and increasing security threats. For Europe, this shift presents both an opportunity and a challenge: to protect its critical space infrastructure while remaining competitive in a domain where others are moving fast.

The EU Commission has acknowledged this reality by appointing a Commissioner for Defence and Space, Andrius Kubilius, and most recently by proposing the EU Space Act. It seeks to establish a coherent European framework for space activities—improving coordination among member states, enhancing the security and resilience of space assets, and strengthening the global position of European industry. But policy coherence alone is not enough.

If Europe is to compete with major space powers, it must ensure that its regulatory environment supports innovation, incentivizes investment, and builds a secure foundation for the growing space economy. As the EU Space Act moves to the Parliament and Council for consideration, KAS Europe invites you to join us for an in-depth discussion if it this legislation is fit to boost Europe's strategic autonomy in space. This means considering Europe's long-term competitiveness, security, and technological leadership. Is the EU ready to become a credible actor in space and if so, is the EU Space Act the first step towards it?

During our event, we will discuss these and other questions with Zuzana Mazanova Head of Unit Space Single Market at DG Defis, European Commission, Sanna Kuukka from the Team of the Special Envoy for Space at the EEAS, Thomas Mayer from Airbus Defence and Space, and Florian Gleißner from OHB. The discussion will be moderated by Silke Wettach, EU Reporter.

# Program

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Europe Office

## Agenda

from 12:00 h     **Registration and Networking Lunch**

12:30 h     **Welcoming Remarks**

**Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy**  
Director of the Europe Office  
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

12:35 h     **Panel discussion**

**Zuzana Mazanova**  
Head of Unit Space Single Market, DG Defence Industry and Space  
European Commission

**Sanna Kuukka**  
Team Member of Special Envoy for Space  
European External Action Service

**Thomas Mayer**  
Key Account Manager EU Space Business  
Airbus Defence and Space

**Florian Gleißner**  
Head of Political Affairs  
OHB Brussels Office

***Moderated by***

**Silke Wettach**  
EU Reporter

14:00 h     **End of event**

**This event is held under Chatham House Rule.**