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## THE GALILEO PROJECT PROCUREMENT FRAMEWORK OR HOW TO ENSURE AN UNDISTORTED COMPETITION

## Abstract

Galileo is the name given to the European satellite navigation as a joint project of the European Union, ESA and the European aerospace industry.

The project is being realized outside the framework of public-private partnership. It will be explained why such a framework has been considered as irrelevant for a project of this level.

The deployment phase began in 2008. The procurement of the Galileo infrastructure was divided into six main work packages ("lots"), all open to public procurement markets. At first, the Commission selected candidates considered as qualified. Those pre-selected candidates submitted preliminary proposals. Dialogue meetings were organized, afterward candidates had submitted best and final offers. Some "lots " have been already awarded.

The paper aims at describing the procurement framework of this huge project regarding economic aspects. More precisely, it will be recalled that the implementation of this project has to cope with valid procurement principles subject to be reviewed by the European Court of Justice. An emphasis on the concern of ensuring an undistorted competition will be realized.

Finally, the paper will call into question the optimization of this procurement framework