

IAF SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS SYMPOSIUM (D2)  
Safe Transportation Systems for Sustainable Commercial Human Spaceflight / Small Launchers: Concepts  
and Operations (Part II) (9-D6.2)

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THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN SPACE AND SECURITY

**Abstract**

The threats Europe is facing during the last decade have raised the importance of security and brought the issue of “Space and Security” into the centre of high-level dialogue among institutional bodies in Europe. The objective of this paper is to examine and provide a holistic assessment of the role of Parliaments in Space and Security in Europe. The first part of the paper examines the National Parliaments of the Member States of the European Space Agency (ESA). The second part of the paper is focused on the European Inter-Parliamentary Space Conference (EISC). The potential role of EISC in space and security is taken into consideration. The third and last part of the paper focuses on the European Parliament. The study delves into the role of the related committees, the initiatives and decision-making processes of Parliaments in Europe. The main purpose of this paper is to come up with conclusions on whether and how the Parliamentary context in Europe contributes in maintaining and reinforcing Europe’s capabilities, policies and programmes on Space and Security.