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THE PROCUREMENT IN THE SPACE SECTOR: A STRATEGIC TOOL FOR INDUSTRIAL POLICY

Abstract

The market perspectives for the global space economy show an increasing demand for products and services from Space. The market should be sufficiently wide to offer areas of consolidation for traditional space actors and to create the conditions for game changer to emerge and grow up. Investments in space are growing, especially on the private side. Space Agencies have a crucial role in supporting a safe and sustainable growth of the space sector, and procurement policy is a tool of paramount importance. The objective of this paper is to focus on the role of the public sector, not only Agencies, on space and space related investments. The implementation of the so-called “Mission Oriented Policies” (Mazzucato, 2018) will be investigated, and how to better adopt this approach to the space context. The paper will take into consideration the peculiarities of the European context, different economies in a single market, with a specific focus on the Italian case, including evidences of innovative procurement policies for Space infrastructures and technologies (with benefits also for the traditional terrestrial sectors. The National Space Economy Strategic Plan will be one of the examples presented in the paper.