

Regulatory Briefing – January 2020

United Kingdom

Ofcom consults on increasing access to Extremely High Frequency spectrum

On 17 January 2020, Ofcom published a [proposal](#) to enable access to over 18 GHz of additional Extremely High Frequency (EHF) spectrum across three frequency bands: 116-122 GHz; 174.8-182 GHz; and 185-190 GHz, using lower power licence-exempt devices or increased power devices under a new ‘Spectrum Access: EHF frequencies’ licence on an uncoordinated shared basis.

These three EHF frequency bands are currently allocated for primary use to Earth Exploration-Satellite (passive), Inter-Satellite and Space Research (passive).

The closing date for this consultation is 20 March 2020.

Germany

Germany’s new national space laws and regulations to be submitted to Bundestag at the end of 2020

The German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology has been drafting a national Space Act aimed at providing a clear and comprehensive legal framework for commercial space activities which could be submitted to the Bundestag (German parliament) for ratification as soon as the end of 2020.

Ukraine

Ukraine passes its national space law allowing commercial space activities

In 2019, the Ukrainian parliament passed national legislation entitled “On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on the State Regulation of Space Activities” to commercialise space activities in Ukraine.

The new legislation sets out a regulatory framework for submitting declarations and obtaining permits to conduct commercial space activities in Ukraine.

Most provisions in the new legislation are expected to come into force on 29 January 2020 with the remaining provisions coming into effect by the end of October 2020.

Europe

EASA to publish its Draft Opinion on U-Space regulations

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) has postponed the publication of its Draft Opinion on the U-Space regulatory framework to the end of February 2020, which will then be available for comment by EU Member States and aviation stakeholders.

According to [EASA’s regulatory framework timeline for drones](#), the registration of all drone operators and all certified drones will become mandatory from 1 July 2020 and national authorisations, certificates and declarations will be fully converted to the new EU system by 1 July 2021.

The EU is to allocate €12,702 million for the implementation of the new European Space Programme for the 2021-2027 period

On 5 December 2019, the Finnish Presidency of the European Council published the Multinational Financial Framework and submitted a [Negotiating Box with figures](#) for the 2021-2027 period, taking into account the future (post-Brexit) European Union (EU) of 27 Member States.

In the Negotiating Box, the Presidency proposed to allocate a maximum of €12,702 million for the implementation of the new European Space Programme for the 2021-2027 period, of which

€7,697 million will be dedicated to Galileo and €4,610 million to Copernicus. These amounts are now the subject of discussions with the Member States.

United States

Promoting Research and Observations of Space Weather to Improve the Forecasting of Tomorrow Act to come into force

On 9 January 2020, the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology approved the Promoting Research and Observations of Space Weather to Improve the Forecasting of Tomorrow (PROSWIFT) Act.

The PROSWIFT Act calls for the establishment of an interagency working group by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) on space weather comprising of the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Interior and other federal agencies which are deemed appropriate by the NSTC.

The PROSWIFT Act also tasks NOAA to establish a space weather advisory group that shall be composed of members appointed by the interagency working group, representing academia, the commercial space weather sector and space weather end user community.

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 comes into force establishing a US Space Force

On 20 December 2019, the National Defense Authorisation Act for the Fiscal Year 2020 was passed establishing a Space Force as the sixth military service branch within the Department of the Air Force.

The activities that were previously carried out by the Air Force Space Command, such as launches and satellite operations, will now be carried out by the Space Force.



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