

## Regulatory Briefing – September 2020

### Europe

#### United Kingdom

##### ***The UK Government and the government of Faroe Islands sign a MOU to cooperate on launch activities from the UK***

On 4 September 2020, the UK Government published the [memorandum of understanding](#) (MOU) which it entered into with the government of the Faroe Islands to cooperate on launches of spacecraft from the UK which may have a trajectory over the territory of the Faroe Islands.

According to the MOU, the UK Government must keep the government of the Faroe Islands informed of all launch activity plans which may affect the territory of the Faroe Islands so that necessary notices can be issued to fishing and merchant vessels and other interested entities to ensure that UK launch activities can take place with minimal impact.

##### ***The UKSA publishes three reports on Space Surveillance and Tracking***

On 15 September 2020, the UK Space Agency (UKSA) published three independent reports on Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST) covering assessments of:

- [the future market for commercial SST services](#);
- [the SST sector in the UK](#); and
- [the dependencies between SST and the emerging In-Orbit Servicing market](#).

##### ***Ofcom publishes its quarterly update on its Plan of Work for 2020/21***

On 29 September 2020, Ofcom published its [quarterly update on its Plan of Work for 2020/21](#).

Ofcom’s updated Plan of Work includes an update on awarding spectrum bands as they are cleared and released, such as:

- the award of licences in the 700 MHz and 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum bands by auction in Q3 2020/21 with bidding in January 2021;
- the clearing of digital television services from the 700 MHz band to release this spectrum for mobile data; and
- the enabling of additional spectrum for mobile, including 5G services.

#### Estonia

##### ***Estonia begins the legislative process to pass national space law***

In August 2020, the Estonian Minister of Foreign Trade and Information Technology signed the legislative proposal to start the discussion on the content of the draft Estonian Space Act. The first public consultation is expected to take place this Autumn.

On 30 September 2020, the Estonian Minister of Foreign Trade and Information Technology also signed a mutual understanding and cooperation agreement with the Estonian Defence Industry Association with the aim to cooperate in promoting the Estonian space industry.

#### Italy

##### ***Italy signs an Artemis cooperation agreement with NASA***

On 25 September 2020, Italy and NASA signed a joint declaration of intent to cooperate on the Artemis programme.

The Artemis programme plans to land the first woman and next man on the Moon in 2024 and to establish sustainable lunar exploration with NASA’s commercial and international partners by 2028.

## United States

### ***The FCC publishes the Second Report and Order to eliminate the nationwide coverage requirement for NGSO FSS systems***

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its [Second Report and Order](#) on 28 August 2020 to eliminate the nationwide coverage requirement for non-geostationary-satellite orbit, fixed-satellite service (NGSO FSS) systems.

By eliminating the nationwide coverage requirement, the FCC aims to provide design and operational flexibility to the operators of NGSO FSS systems to serve the underserved rural and remote areas in the US such as Alaska and Hawaii.

### ***The White House issues its fifth Space Policy Directive on cybersecurity principles of space systems and operations***

On 4 September 2020, the White House published [a new space policy directive outlining cybersecurity principles for space systems \(SPD-5\)](#).

The SPD-5 set out that space system owners and operators should:

- develop and operate space systems and their supporting infrastructure by using risk-based cybersecurity-informed engineering to achieve and maintain an “effective and resilient cyber survivability” throughout a space system’s lifecycle;
- develop and implement cybersecurity plans for their space systems;
- collaborate to promote the development of cybersecurity best practices; and
- share threat, warning and incident information within the space industry using bodies such as the Space Information Sharing and Analysis Center which was set up in April 2019.

### ***The PROSWIFT Act passes the US House of Representatives***

On 16 September 2020, the Promoting Research and Observations of Space Weather to Improve the Forecasting of Tomorrow (PROSWIFT) Act passed the US House of Representatives and is now awaiting to be signed into law by the President.

Once the PROSWIFT Act is signed into law, it will establish:

- a space weather interagency working group to ensure coordination within the US government; and
- a space weather advisory group composed of members appointed by the space weather interagency working group representing academia, the commercial space weather sector and non-governmental space weather end user community,

to better predict severe space weather events and mitigate their impact.

## International

### ITU

### ***The ITU publishes the 2020 edition of the ITU Radio Regulations***

On 15 September 2020, the ITU published the 2020 edition of the ITU Radio Regulations containing the complete texts of the Radio Regulations which were adopted during the WRC-19 in Egypt.

The 2020 edition of the ITU Radio Regulations will come into force for all signatory parties on 1 January 2021 and a copy can be obtained [here](#).

*“the single most knowledgeable law firm about space and satellite regulations” Chambers & Partners 2020*

## UNOOSA

### ***The UNOOSA signs a MOU with the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation***

On 23 September 2020, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation signed a MOU to advance cooperation in areas of space law, space policy, space science and technology, space for sustainable development, disaster management, navigation, telecommunication and capacity building.



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