

## Regulatory Briefing – July 2021

### Europe

#### **United Kingdom**

##### ***The statutory instruments implementing the Space Industry Act 2018 to come into force on 29 July 2021***

On 8 July 2021, the following statutory instruments were signed by Ministers to implement the Space Industry Act 2018 (SIA), and will come into force on 29 July 2021:

- [The Space Industry Regulations 2021](#);
- [The Space Industry \(Appeals\) Regulations 2021](#);
- [The Spaceflight Activities \(Investigation of Spaceflight Accidents\) Regulations 2021](#);
- [The Contracting Out \(Functions in Relation to Space\) Order 2021](#); and
- [The Space Industry Act 2018 \(Commencement No. 2, Transitional and Savings Provisions\) Regulations 2021](#).

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) will officially become the UK’s spaceflight regulator on 29th July 2021 and licence applications can be made to the CAA as soon as the above secondary legislation comes into force.

##### ***The Department for Transport publishes Guidance on Environmental Objectives***

On 25 June 2021, the Department for Transport (DfT) published guidance to the spaceflight regulator (the CAA) titled [“Guidance to the regulator on environmental objectives relating to the exercise of its functions under the Space Industry Act 2018” \(Guidance\)](#). This provides specific guidance to the CAA on how to interpret its environmental duties relating to spaceflight and associated activities in the UK.

The Guidance is divided into four sections:

- the Government’s environmental and sustainability policies;
- specific spaceflight environmental objectives;
- factors relevant to spaceport operations; and
- factors relevant to launch operations.

##### ***The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy publishes the response to the consultation on the UK’s subsidy control regime***

On 30 June 2021, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) published [the Government’s response to the consultation on the UK’s subsidy control regime](#).

As part of the Government’s response, the Subsidy Control Bill was introduced to Parliament on 30 June 2021, and sets out the Government’s proposal for a new UK subsidy control regime.

The date for the second reading of the Subsidy Control Bill before the House of Commons is yet to be announced.

BEIS has, in parallel, released the following policy papers setting out details of the new regime.

- Overview of the subsidy control regime – a flexible, principles-based approach for the UK.
- Process for granting subsidies.
- Overview of the subsidy control transparency obligations.
- Subsidy control regime process map.

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### ***The UK Space Agency announces grant funding opportunity from the National Space Technology Programme***

On 30 June 2021, the UK Space Agency (UKSA) announced an opportunity for [seed funding grants for early-stage innovative ideas](#) from the National Space Technology Programme across five themes: access to space; exploration and robotics; position, navigation and timing; sensing; and telecommunications.

The call for applications for the funding closes on 12 August 2021.

### ***European Institutions***

#### ***The European Space Agency and the European Union sign a Financial Framework Partnership Agreement***

On 22 June 2021, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the European Union (EU) signed a Financial Framework Partnership Agreement (FFPA) to define the roles and responsibilities between the European Commission, ESA and the EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA).

The FFPA has a seven-year term and represents an EU investment of close to €9 billion to design a new generation of systems and programmes vital to the economy, sustainability and digital objectives.

#### ***The European Commission sets up a European Defence Fund for defence-related R&D projects***

On 30 June 2021, the first European Defence Fund (EDF) annual work programme was adopted, facilitating the immediate launch of 23 calls for proposals, representing a total grant value of €1.2 billion. A further €158 million was granted to 26 projects under the EDF's precursor programme, the European Defence Industry Development Programme.

The deadline for submission of proposals to the EDF is 9 December 2021.

### **United States**

#### ***The Federal Communications Commission grants a 30-day extension for filing comments on allocation of spectrum for non-federal space launch operations***

On 7 July 2021, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granted a 30-day extension of time for filing comments on the [Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) in relation to:

- allocation of spectrum for non-federal space launch operations;
- amendment of Part 2 of the FCC's Rules for federal Earth stations communicating with non-federal fixed satellite service space stations; and
- federal space station use of the 399.9 – 400.05 MHz band.

With this extension, comments are due on 11 August 2021 and reply comments are due on 10 September 2021.

### **International**

#### ***Japan***

#### ***Japan passes national legislation on space resources***

On 15 June 2021, the Japanese legislature passed the [“Law Concerning the Promotion of Business Activities Related to the Exploration and Development of Space Resources”](#) which creates a regulatory framework for a licensing regime for private entities to extract and utilise space resources.

#### ***Brazil***

#### ***Brazil signs the Artemis Accords***

On 15 June 2021, Brazil signed the Artemis Accords.

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The Artemis Accords is a US-led international agreement establishing a set of principles, guidelines and best practices for those who wish to participate in the Artemis lunar exploration programme.

With Brazil having signed the Artemis Accords, the number of signatories now stands at 12 countries.

## **NATO**

### ***NATO recognises the growing importance of space for security, prosperity, deterrence and defence***

On 14 June 2021, the Heads of State and Government of the 30 NATO Allies participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council issued the [NATO Brussels Summit Communiqué](#) stating that they “recognise the growing importance of space for the security and prosperity” of their nations and setting out their ambition to deepen and expand their use of space “as an operational domain” through the NATO Space Centre in Germany and the upcoming establishment of the Space Centre of Excellence in France.



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