



# Facts and figures

## About Space Traffic Management

In light of an **increasingly congested space**, maintaining space as a resource for future generations becomes increasingly essential. The **EU approach on Space Traffic Management (STM)** proposed by the Commission and the High Representative therefore aims at keeping **space operations safe, space orbits usable, and space accessible** for decades to come while ensuring and further fostering the **competitiveness of the EU space industry**.

**Joint STM Communication (JOIN(2022)4):**

“STM encompasses the means and the rules to access, conduct activities in, and return from outer space safely, sustainably and securely”



**more than 50 000 additional satellites** expected to be launched in the next ten years



**1 million pieces of debris larger than 1 cm** estimated to be orbiting the Earth

## STM link to EU SST and EU industry

Monitoring space traffic continuously is essential for carrying out STM tasks effectively. **EU Space Surveillance and Tracking (EU SST)** with its network of sensors and capabilities is therefore the **operational cornerstone** of the EU STM strategy.

growth of new SST services. EU SST therefore supports the development of **European industrial space capabilities** with the aim of enhancing and consolidating **EU SST autonomy** in all orbital zones beyond the existing network of national assets.

**Fostering innovation and enhancing competitiveness** of the EU's SST commercial sector are key to achieving a higher level of EU strategic self-reliance and to supporting the rapid

To this end, the Commission launched together with the EU SST Partnership the **EU Industry and Start-ups Forum on STM (EISF)**.



more than  
**70**  
sensors contributing to EU SST network



more than  
**600**  
spacecraft protected thanks to EU SST



more than  
**290**  
organisations registered for EU SST services



more than  
**80%**  
of available EU SST budget allocated to EU space industry



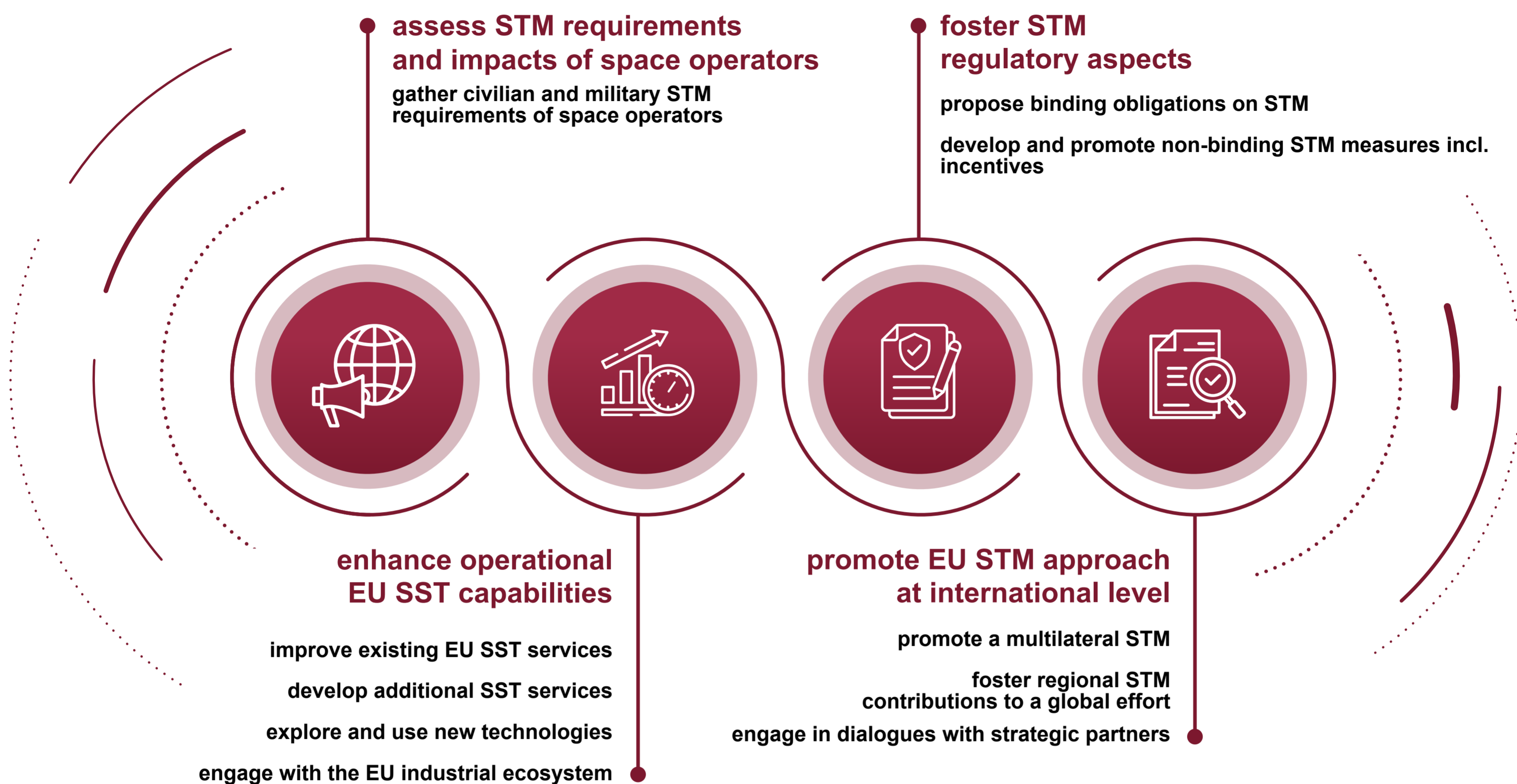
more than  
**70**  
EU organisations participating in the EISF

# EU approach to Space Traffic Management

The EU approach to Space Traffic Management proposed by the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR/VP) aims at **enhancing capabilities, norms and engagement** while

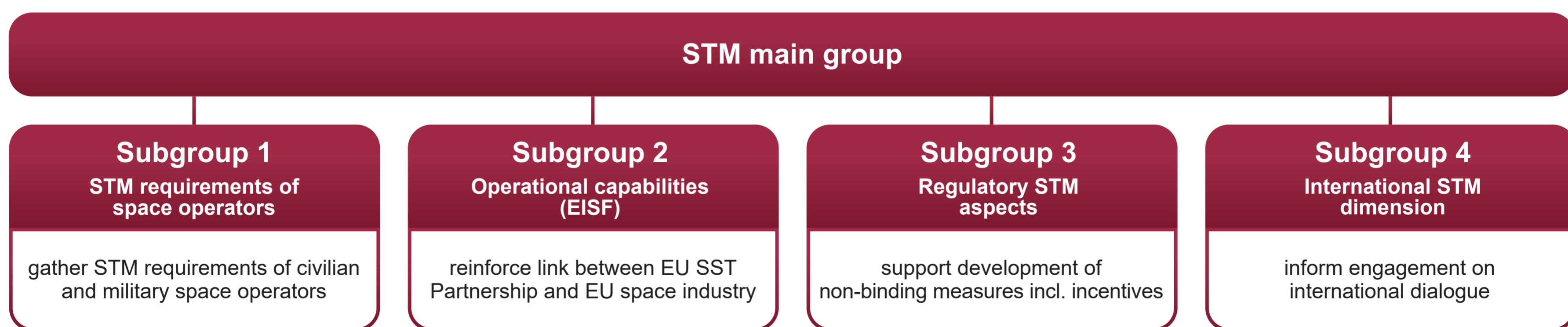
**preserving EU interests** in line with the respective competencies of the Union and its Member States.

It calls for an **EU contribution** to this **global challenge** along four key lines of action:



The EU approach on STM is implemented through the **STM stakeholder mechanism** co-chaired by the Commission and the High Representative. Mirroring the four proposed STM avenues, it gathers relevant experts from the private sector,

Member States, the EU and other relevant actors. In this way, this discussion forum contributes valuable input towards the implementation of the EU STM approach.



These efforts will:

- **increase the resilience** of EU and Member States' space infrastructure
- **provide better safety** for space operators
- **support the competitiveness** of the European space industry
- **make a concrete contribution** to the global effort of sustaining space services and applications

Developing a **comprehensive EU STM approach** is key to **safeguarding the interests of the EU and its Member States** while fully respecting relevant competences.

