

What is STM?

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 industry.



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

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”

Safeguarding space operations

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STM
Space Traffic Management

Space Traffic Management

STM link to EU SST and EU space industry

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

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

To this end, the Commission launched together with the EU SST Partnership the **EU Industry and Start-ups Forum on STM** (EISF) where EU stakeholders and industry **jointly define research and development priorities**.



more than
80%
EU SST budget
allocated to
EU space industry

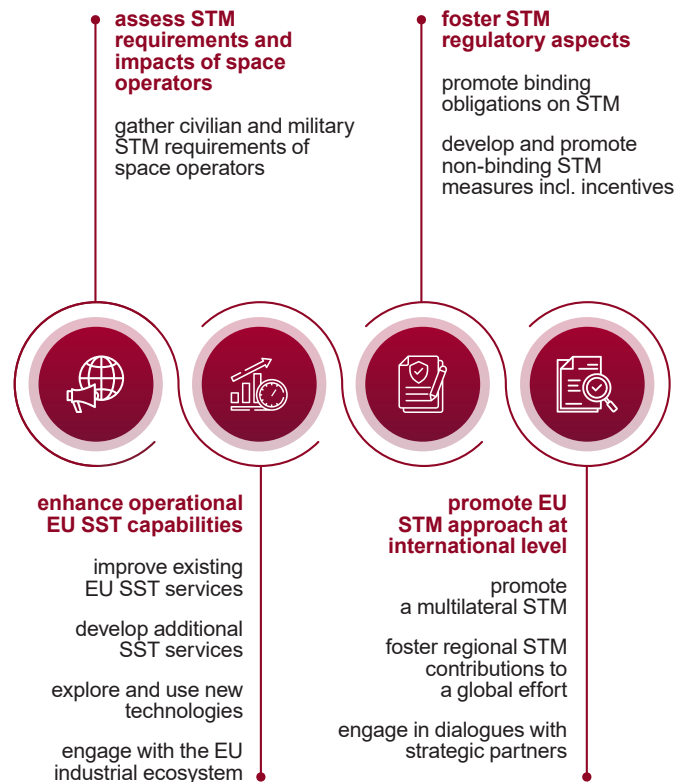


more than
70
EU organisations
participating
in the EISF

EU approach to Space Traffic Management

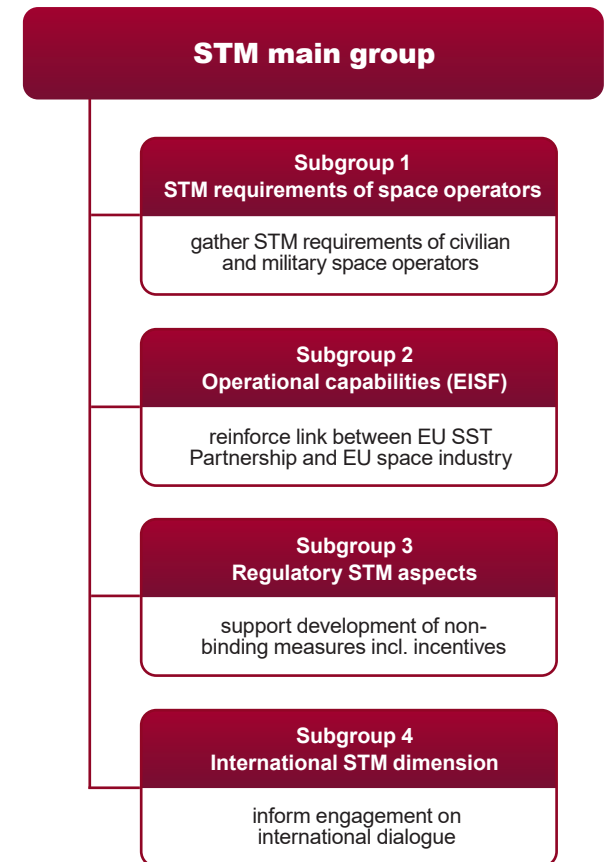
The EU approach to Space Traffic Management proposed by the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR/VP) aims at **enhancing capabilities, norms and engagement** while **preserving EU interests** in line with the respective competencies of the Union and its Member States.

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



STM stakeholder mechanism

The EU approach on STM is implemented through the **STM stakeholder mechanism** mirroring the four proposed STM avenues.



Developing a **comprehensive EU STM approach** including all relevant actors is key to safeguarding the **interests of the EU and its Member States**.