

The EU Perspective on Authorisation of LEO constellations

Outer Space Treaty Requirements

- Responsible State must “authorise and supervise”
- Satellite licencing
- Launch licencing
- Responsible state also takes on a liability responsibility (non-exclusive)



ITU level Requirements

Radio Regulations (treaty text)

- Table of Allocations
 - what, where, frequency?
- Filing process
 - frequency, power levels, orbit, service area?
- Bilateral coordination
 - Master International Frequency Register (MIFR)
- Essentially this process ‘legalises’ the space segment

But, many countries still require separate landing rights in their territories...



The Size Challenge



- Europe is a big area



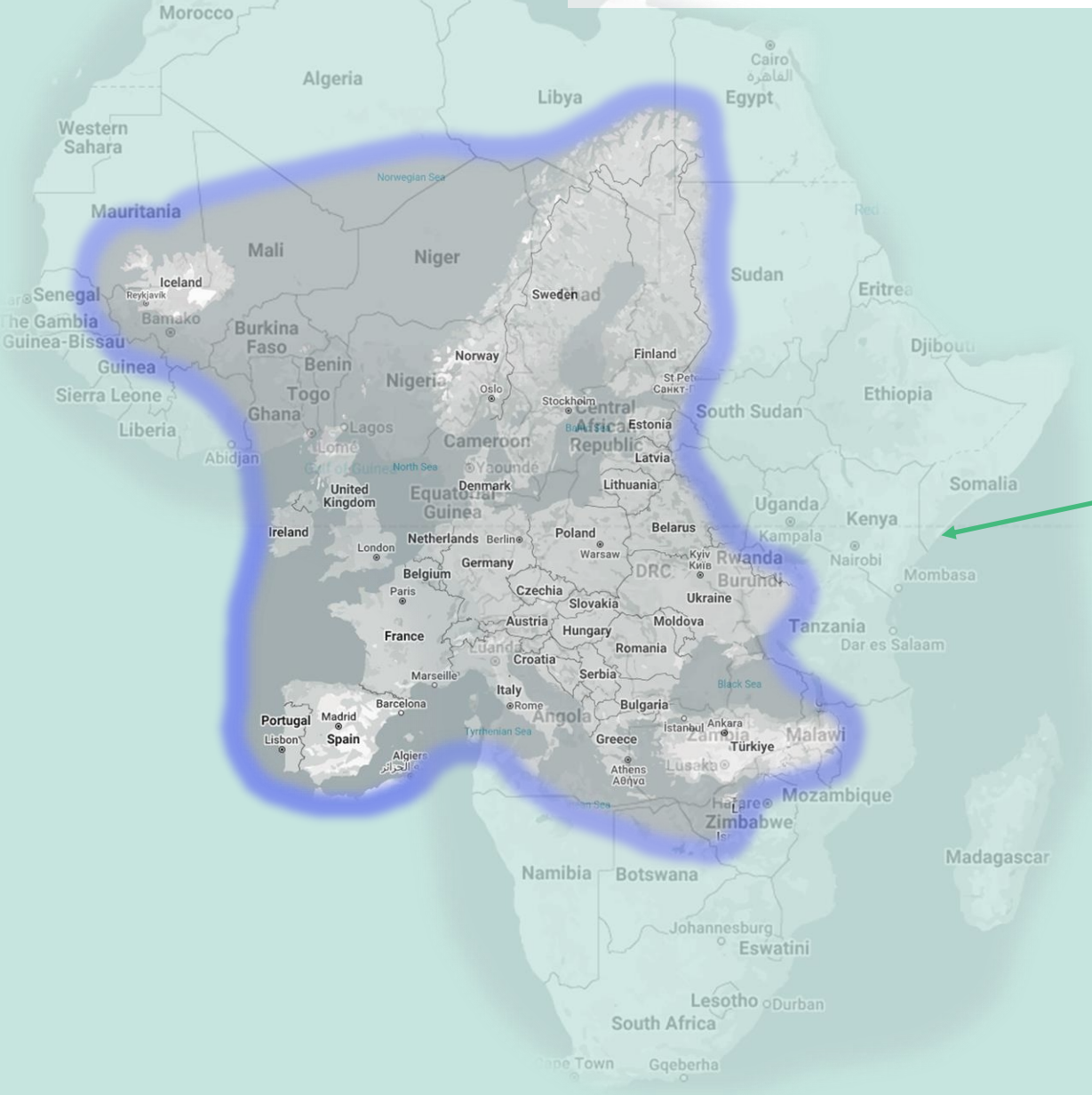
The Size Challenge



- Europe is a big area
- Or is it?...
- This is just one African country



The Size Challenge



- Europe is a big area
- Or is it?...
- This is just one African country
- And this is Africa!



But, Europe *is* a big market



- Multi-billion euro downstream space market
- Providing services in Europe is worthwhile



However...

- Fragmented market
- 27 EU Member States
- 46 CEPT countries



- Different national requirements
- Service provision licences

EU 'Open Skies'



Commission Directive
2002/77/EC

*'...restriction on the offer
of space segment
capacity... abolished... '*



- Driven in part by provision of satellite TV services across the EU

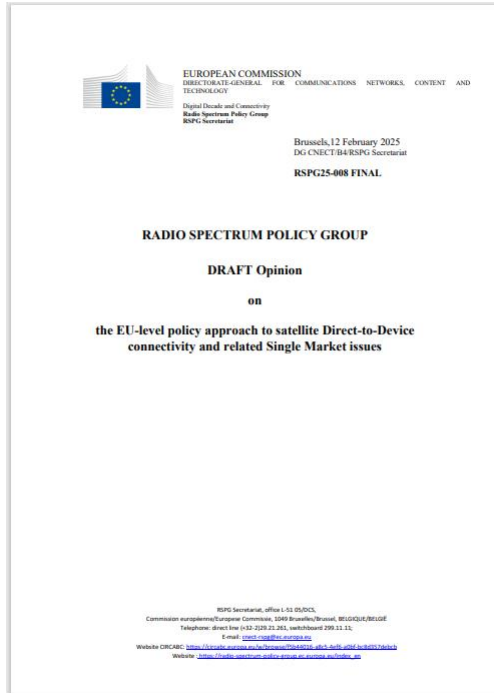


- No landing rights required *per se*
- In some cases clearance or ground station licences may still be required



- Based upon harmonised technical conditions
- Power/antenna parameters and location
- To avoid interference to other in-band services

Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG)



RSPG

Composed of EU Member States and EEA EFTA countries

- DRAFT Opinion on:
 - the **EU-level policy approach to satellite Direct-to-Device connectivity and related Single Market issues**
- Open for public consultation until 28 March 2025
 - [Link to draft opinion](#)

RSPG

Makes a number of recommendations:

- To help streamline provision of satellite services in the EU
- Ease market access for operators
- Simplify the rules and to be more transparent

Covers: spectrum, competition, licensing, lawful intercept, security, etc

- Possible common requirements
- Not a replacement for MS individual authorisations



EU Licence for 2GHz MSS

- 2GHz MSS harmonised at EU level in 2007
- The European Commission authorised two satellite companies to provide MSS services in 2009
- Member States subsequently licenced these two companies
- Currently served by GEO satellites, but nothing precludes the use of LEO/MEO
- The licences expire in mid-2027
- The Commission launched a study on 2GHz MSS and satellite connectivity to better understand the changing satellite connectivity market and the place of 2GHz MSS
- An RSPG subgroup of the Commission and EU Member States are currently reviewing options for post 2027

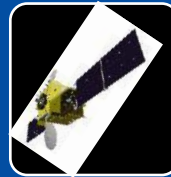
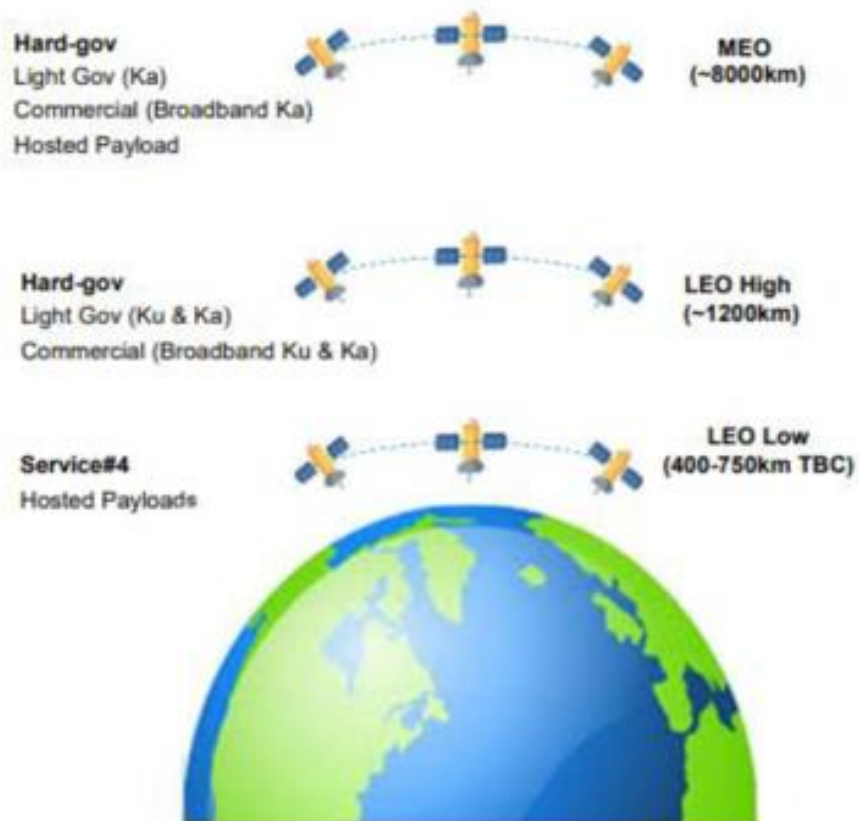


IRIS² a multi-orbital system of systems

(Infrastructure for Resilience, Interconnectivity and Security by Satellite)

IRIS² constellation

Future Commercial satellites



MEO Shell

- 18 satellites
- **Worldwide coverage** (at least 1 satellite in view)



LEO-High Shell

- 264 satellites
- **North-South (up to +/-72° latitude) fully covered** (at least 2 satellites in view)



LEO-Low Shell

- 10+ satellites
- **Dedicated services through hosted payloads**

SES – future MEO
~18 inclined satellites

Eutelsat – future LEO
300+ LEO-H satellites

Deployment from mid-2029
Services from 2030

Space Act: a functioning Single Market for space

Increase competitiveness

- Defragmentation
- Simplification: unified, stable and predictable legal framework
- Levelling the playing field for all operators, EU and non-EU
- Proportionality

“Space Act will safeguard and improve the functioning of the internal market (..)”

Competitiveness compass

Protect space assets, via requirements fitting into the national licensing systems, on:

- Safety
- Resilience / Security
- Environmental sustainability

Need to have “ a functioning Single Market for space, with common standards and the harmonisation of licensing requirements”

Draghi Report



Take aways

- EU: dense large market, many regulatory borders - not fully harmonised
- The EU has a satellite-favourable open skies policy
- RSPG draft opinion includes recommendations – possible common requirements to make it even easier to access ‘Space’ in Europe
- IRIS²: the EU’s global secure connectivity constellation
- Space Act: to enhance sustainability, safety, and resilience

