

Basic information**2012/0231(NLE)**NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Decision

Procedure completed

EU/Switzerland Cooperation Agreement: European Satellite Navigation Programmes

Subject3.30.03.06 Communications by satellite
3.40.05 Aeronautical industry, aerospace industry
3.50.20 Scientific and technological cooperation and agreements**Geographical area**

Switzerland

Key playersEuropean
Parliament**Committee responsible****ITRE** Industry, Research and Energy**Rapporteur**Chair on behalf of committee
BUDKA Borys (EPP)**Appointed**



25/06/2025

Shadow rapporteur

ERIKSSON Sofie (S&D)

Former committee responsible**ITRE** Industry, Research and Energy**Former rapporteur****Appointed****ITRE** Industry, Research and Energy**ITRE** Industry, Research and Energy**Former committee for opinion****TRAN** Transport and Tourism**Former rapporteur for opinion****Appointed****TRAN** Transport and Tourism**TRAN** Transport and Tourism

Council of the European Union		
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs	TAJANI Antonio

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/09/2012	Preparatory document	COM(2012)0470 	Summary
16/05/2025	Legislative proposal published	07818/2025	Summary
16/06/2025	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/07/2025	Vote in committee		
17/07/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A10-0146/2025	
10/09/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0184/2025	Summary
10/09/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		
10/10/2025	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/10/2025	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2012/0231(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/10/00030

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE775.443	01/07/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A10-0146/2025	17/07/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T10-0184/2025	10/09/2025	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	07818/2025	16/05/2025	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2012)0470 	04/09/2012	Summary

National parliaments

Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	PT_PARLIAMENT	COM(2012)0470	01/02/2013	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

[Decision 2025/2129](#)
[OJ OJ L 17.10.2025](#)

EU/Switzerland Cooperation Agreement: European Satellite Navigation Programmes

2012/0231(NLE) - 04/09/2012 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude the Cooperation Agreement between the EU and its Member States of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other, on the European Satellite Navigation Programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: by its Decision of 29 June 2010, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with Switzerland for establishing a cooperation agreement on satellite navigation. Switzerland is one of the Union's closest partners in the Galileo programme since the early days of the programme and has contributed politically, technically and financially to all phases of the programme through its membership in the European Space Agency (ESA) and its informal participation in the Galileo-specific EU governance structures over the years. The Agreement will formalise and deepen this close integration of Switzerland in the European GNSS programmes. Without this Agreement, there would be uncertainty about the nature of the collaboration in areas such as security, export control, standardisation, certification and radio spectrum. Moreover, the Agreement allows the EU to set overall principles including safeguard measures in the areas of security and export control.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was undertaken. The Special Committee of the Council, authorities of the Member States and Switzerland have been consulted and support the close integration of Switzerland in cooperation in the European GNSS programmes matters and underlined the importance of including issues such as security and export control in the Agreement.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 172 in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

CONTENT: the proposal provides for the approval of the Cooperation Agreement on the European Satellite Navigation Programmes between the EU and its Member States and Switzerland. The main points of the Agreement are as follows:

Objective: the aim of the Agreement is to encourage, facilitate and enhance long-term cooperation between the Parties in satellite navigation under civil control and in particular by the participation of Switzerland in the European GNSS programmes.

Principles of cooperation: the Parties agree to apply the following principles to cooperation activities covered by the Agreement:

- mutual benefit based on an overall balance of rights and obligations including contributions and access to all services as laid down in the Agreement;
- reciprocal opportunities to engage in cooperative activities in the European Union and Swiss GNSS projects;
- timely exchange of information that may affect cooperative activities;
- adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights as referred to in the Agreement;
- freedom to provide satellite navigation services in the territories of the Parties;
- unrestricted trade in European GNSS goods in the territories of the Parties.

Cooperation activities: the sectors for cooperation activities in satellite navigation and timing are:

- radio- spectrum,
- scientific research and training,
- procurement,
- industrial cooperation,
- intellectual property rights,
- export control,
- trade and market development,
- standards, certification and regulatory measures,
- security,
- exchange of classified information,
- staff exchanges, and
- access to services.

The Agreement contains **separate provisions on all these sectors**. It further provides that the Agreement shall not affect the institutional autonomy of the EU to regulate the European GNSS programmes nor the structure established by the European Union for the purpose of the operations of the European GNSS programmes. Nor does the Agreement affect the applicable regulatory measures implementing non-proliferation commitments, export control, controls of intangible transfers of technology nor does it affect national security measures.

Safeguard measures: each Party may, after consultations within the Joint Committee, take appropriate safeguard measures, including the suspension of one or several cooperation activities, if it finds that an equivalent degree of export control or security is no longer assured between the Parties.

Funding: Switzerland shall contribute to the funding of the European GNSS programmes. The Swiss contribution shall be calculated on the basis of the proportionality factor, which is obtained by establishing the ratio between Switzerland's gross domestic product, at market prices, and the sum of gross domestic products, at market prices, of the Member States of the European Union.

For the period 2008-2013, the Swiss financial participation to the European GNSS programmes amounts to **EUR 80 050 870**.

This amount shall be paid as follows:

- 2012: EUR 20 000 000;
- 2013: EUR 40 000 000;
- 2014: EUR 20 050 870.

As of 2014, the Swiss contribution shall be paid annually.

The Agreement contains clauses on the settlement of disputes, revision, termination, entry into force and arbitration.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the proposal has only a positive implication for the Union budget. Switzerland will participate financially in the European GNSS programmes following the same formula as for the Swiss participation in the 7th EU RTD Framework Programmes (FP7). The Swiss contribution shall be calculated on the basis of the proportionality factor which is obtained by establishing the ratio between Switzerland's gross domestic product, at market prices, and the sum of the gross domestic products, at market prices of the Member States of the European Union.

EU/Switzerland Cooperation Agreement: European Satellite Navigation Programmes

2012/0231(NLE) - 16/05/2025 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other part, on European satellite navigation programmes.

PROPOSED ACT: Decision of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other part, on European satellite navigation programmes was signed on 18 December 2013, subject to its conclusion at a later date. The elements falling within Union competence were applied provisionally from 1 January 2014 pending the entry into force of the Agreement.

The agreement should now be approved on behalf of the European Union.

CONTENT: the draft Council decision aims to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other part, on European satellite navigation programmes.

The agreement allows Switzerland to participate in European satellite navigation programmes. In return, Switzerland will contribute financially to the programmes.

The cooperation activities governed by the agreement will be carried out in accordance with the following principles:

1. mutual benefit based on a comprehensive balance of rights and obligations, including contributions and access to all services;
2. reciprocal opportunities to take part in cooperation activities within the framework of GNSS projects of the European Union and Switzerland;
3. the timely exchange of information that may affect cooperation activities;
4. adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights;
5. the freedom to provide satellite navigation services in the territories of the Parties;
6. unrestricted trade in European GNSS products in the territories of the Parties.

EU/Switzerland Cooperation Agreement: European Satellite Navigation Programmes

2012/0231(NLE) - 10/09/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 627 votes to 4, with 33 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other part, on European satellite navigation programmes.

Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the agreement.

Switzerland has been one of the third countries that has cooperated most closely with the EU on the Galileo programme since its inception. As a member of the European Space Agency and a long-standing informal participant in the EU's Galileo governance structures, Switzerland has made political, technical and financial contributions to all phases of Galileo.

This cooperation agreement will allow Switzerland to participate in European satellite navigation programmes. In return, Switzerland will contribute financially to the programmes.

The agreement will organise Switzerland's cooperation within the Galileo programme in order to provide a general framework for cooperation, including principles for future cooperation and complementary provisions relating to cooperation in the field of security, standardisation and certification.