

NEO AND SPACE DEBRIS EUROPEAN INITIATIVES: PAST AND FUTURE LESSONS LEARNED

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The many synergies in monitoring the hazard posed by natural and artificial space objects have led European institutions to coordinate for properly addressing the future needs. The challenge is to harmonize the long-standing technical expertise of the European Space Agency with the high-level empowerment of the European Union, profiting at best of the know-how of the scientific and industrial communities and the sharing of existing assets. The inclusion of SSA (Space Situational Awareness) within the 2021-27 EU Space Regulation, the establishment of EUSPA (the European Union Agency for the Space Programme), the evolution of the ESA Space Safety Programme and the signing of the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement between ESA and EU represent major steps toward the transition to NEO and space surveillance operational services.