



Brussels, 20 November 2013
131120/01

STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the consultations for an International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

"The High Representative warmly welcomes the launch today in Bangkok of the Second Round of Open-ended Consultations on the Proposal for an International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities.

The High Representative is pleased that representatives from over 60 nations have gathered in Bangkok to discuss the latest version of the draft International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities released by the EU on 16 September 2013. She encourages diplomats and space experts to engage in in-depth discussions on this new proposal that would create a voluntary set of norms of behaviour with the aim to reduce the potential for accidents, incidents and conflicts in an increasingly complex and congested outer space environment.

The EU first proposed the Code in 2007 in reply to a request by the UN Secretary General for proposals on Transparency and Confidence Building Measures in Outer Space Activities. The EU launched a process of broad, inclusive and transparent consultations on its proposal with all interested states with the objective to achieve the widest possible support and has announced its intention to conclude the process in the course of 2014.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Michael Mann +32 498 999 780 - +32 2 584 9780 - Michael.Mann@eeas.europa.eu @EUHighRepSpox
Maja Kocijancic +32 498 984 425 - +32 2 298 65 70 - Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu @AshtonSpox Maja
Sebastien Brabant +32 460 75 09 98 - Sebastien.Brabant@ec.europa.eu
Nabila Massrali +32 460 75 41 75 - Nabila.Massrali@ec.europa.eu
Eamonn Prendergast +32 460 75 32 93 - Eamonn.Prendergast@ec.europa.eu
Traversa Maria Lyra +32 2 2956368 Maria-Lyra.TRAVERSA@ec.europa.eu
Iulia Costea +32 460 75 07 17 - Iulia.Costea@ec.europa.eu

Follow us on Twitter [@eu_eas](https://twitter.com/eu_eas)

www.facebook.com/EuropeanExternalActionService

www.eeas.europa.eu

The United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities that issued its report in July 2013 took note of the EU proposal and unanimously endorsed efforts to pursue "a multilateral code of conduct to encourage responsible actions in, and the peaceful use of, outer space".

Click here for the [latest version of the draft Code of Conduct](#).
