



# UAP Coalitie Nederland

## Improved Space Protection for EU Citizens

November 27, 2023

UAP Coalition Netherlands Feedback to Call for Evidence for an Impact Assessment of EU  
Space Law – new rules for safe, resilient and sustainable space activities



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## Summary

Our proposal advocates integrating Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) into the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST) service managed by the EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP). This new addition aligns with the existing services of Collision Avoidance, Re-entry Analysis, and Fragmentation Analysis.

To comprehensively address UAP, the SST Research and Development plan should be expanded to assess existing and required sensor capabilities for UAP observation. Historical sensor data, including archived observations, should be scrutinized for past collision risks.

All UAP data, past, present, and future, should be made publicly accessible.

Additionally, the Near-Earth Objects (NEO) service, which monitors natural objects approaching Earth, should incorporate UAP data. This collaboration should be coordinated with the European Space Agency's (ESA) Near-Earth Object Coordination Centre (NEOCC), with a commitment to collecting, analyzing, and publicly sharing relevant NEO data.

Facilitating the reporting of UAP observations by astronauts and space agency personnel is emphasized, emphasizing a stigma-free environment. The EU Space Law needs to specifically address this.

A harmonized reporting system across EU Member States is recommended, with a central EU repository for data acquisition, handling, analysis and public reporting. The European Union may fund independent organizations such as UAP Coalition Netherlands. The UAP Coalition Netherlands is available to support the establishment of such a central EU repository, through advice on its design and operation. Eventually we could also participate in its operation depending on for example availability of funds and legal frameworks. This could also be done in collaboration with other relevant organizations.

Finally, our proposal suggests establishing a new EU UAP Space Research program at EUASP (and/or ESA), with a Research Director similar to what NASA recently has announced.



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## What are Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) is anything in space, in the air, on land, in the sea or under the sea that can't be identified. In the past, the term Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) was used but as technology evolved and various (military) sensor platforms started detecting more phenomena in other domains, a new acronym and definition was adopted.

## UAP Coalition Netherlands

The UAP Coalition Netherlands is an independent non profit NGO that represents the interests of all professionals within aviation, the armed forces and police who have (had) encounters with Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena. UAP Coalition Netherlands is a unique organization which brings these professionals together and acts as a representative for these professionals from the Netherlands and aims to do so across the European Union. UAPCNL is run by a team of dedicated people who want to create a safer working environment for these professionals, as well as a safer airspace within the European Union. We are a strong, united voice of experts from the Netherlands.

## Introduction

The UAP Coalition Netherlands (UAPCNL) welcomes the European Commission's initiative to gather evidence for the purpose of assessing the impact of the EU Space Law – new rules for safe, resilient and sustainable space activities, particularly related to congested space and increased threat level and lack of a consistent resilience/security baseline. The concerns mentioned in the initiative are indeed pressing and require immediate attention.

Based on the impact assessment, including the issues identified during the evaluations of the public consultation the Commission will consider 4 policy options;

- Baseline ('business as usual'): Existing non-binding guidelines on space safety and sustainability apply, as well as a general method for life cycle assessment. Binding rules can be found at varying levels in national space laws and through the future implementation of the NIS 2 and CER Directives and the applicability of the Cyber Resilience Act (not yet adopted by the EU Council and European Parliament).
- Option 1 (promote adherence to non-binding measures): The EU would establish a mechanism to reward adherence to the most relevant (existing and to be developed) standards, best practice and guidelines related to safety, resilience/security and sustainability.
- Option 2 (binding EU framework): The EU would enact a legislative proposal to set up rules for safety and resilience/security and non-binding recommendations for sustainability, to establish a consistent approach that avoids undue fragmentation in the single market for space services, products and activities.
- Option 3 (adopt bilateral agreements): The EU would enter into bilateral agreements with countries outside the EU, covering space safety, resilience/security and sustainability.



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UAPCNL would like to stress that to improve safe, resilient space activities as well as improve a security baseline, it is necessary to add UAP into the legislation being prepared.

Soft law measures would not be sufficient, as UAP are a serious subject to be considered and they should have a position within the EU Space Law. Not adding clear regulations for UAP detecting, data gathering, analysis and public reporting, would leave gaps not only in the implementation of the Regulations but also in the legal protection for those who want to report UAP.

Recommendations and guidelines are of course useful to support proper implementation of the EU Space law, but the laws themselves have to provide sufficient protection to start with.

The EU Commission on March 1st 2004 answered (P-0198/04EN) written questions from a parliament member in which the Commission pointed towards possible research on UAP. Unfortunately EU Space data on UAP is still not gathered and analyzed. This poses a direct threat to the safety of EU citizens. Also this makes providing evidence-based policy recommendations more difficult. The only data available are from videos from NASA (in which independent experts claim to observe UAPs), and witness accounts from astronauts and other professionals. This unfortunate situation should be addressed first and foremost in the EU Space Law as UAP are a worldwide issue, also occurring in the EU and not only confined to the United States. Also the stigma associated with reporting of UAP should be addressed.

The UAP Coalition Netherlands has tried to fill in the gap in data availability by compiling cases of UAP events in space but as our organization currently does not have a security clearance, we rely only on events which are publicly available.

In this document we provide examples of space encounters with UAP, which pose a possible threat to the EU and its citizens and recommendations on how to address existing problems.



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## NASA Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Study Team

On June 9, 2022, NASA announced that the agency is commissioning a study team of independent experts to examine Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (<https://science.nasa.gov/uap/>). The study focused on identifying available data, how best to collect future data, and how NASA can use that data to move the scientific understanding of UAP forward. The team consisted of 16 experts of various scientific backgrounds, because the UAP topic is multidisciplinary.

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, NASA held a Public Meeting of the Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Independent Study Team (UAPIST). The public meeting took place on May 31, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/live/bQo08JRY0iM?si=NCK3DV3QcY1d3ZFu>

On September 14, 2023, the NASA Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Independent Study Team published its final report containing a series of recommendations on how the agency could help to move our understanding of UAP forward. This includes better use of earth observing satellites (operated by NASA and commercial remote sensing industry); use of multiple, well-calibrated sensors; application of state-of-the-art computational and data-analysis techniques such as Artificial Intelligence; use of modern crowdsourcing techniques, including open-source smartphone-based apps; and integration of UAP reporting in the US aviation safety reporting system.

Bill Nelson the NASA Administrator stated that NASA will examine how it can implement the recommendations from the study on UAP and assist in de-stigmatizing the topic. "We don't know what they are", he said during the press conference. Importantly NASA announced on 14 September 2023 that it has established and named a research director on UAP.

<https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/update-nasa-shares-uap-independent-study-report-names-director/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eoY2sGo7ZiY>



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## United States Space Force: Space Doctrine Publication 3-100

The U.S. Space Force wants to be able to identify and track UAP in orbit.

The Space Force's Space Training and Readiness Command is tasked with educating and training U.S. Space Force personnel. Recently they published a document titled "Space Doctrine Publication 3-100, Space Domain Awareness" that outlines what space domain awareness (SDA) is and how to establish and maintain it. SDA means being able to identify, understand, track and maintain custody of all of the various objects in orbit around Earth.

The document describes the need to maintain a safe environment by monitoring and tracking objects such as pieces of space debris, the continuous growing number of commercial satellites, spacecraft operated by other countries and "the hazards posed by the space environment and natural debris" such as meteoroids or solar flares.

However, the document also describes that operating safely in space also requires *"the ability to rapidly identify and respond to threats and hazards, including objects that exhibit abnormal observables and patterns of life and cannot be correlated to any owner or point of origin."*

<https://www.starcom.spaceforce.mil/Resources/Digital-Library/>

According to space-track.org there were approximately 8,400 operational payloads and approximately 44,900 total objects, including debris, being tracked in the space domain in July 2023.

<https://www.space-track.org/>

## UAP Space Research

To our knowledge only few research projects exist(ed) that address UAP in space. In 2000 NASA started the SETI Project (<https://www.seti.org/>) which searches for radio signals or other forms of electromagnetic radiation that may be deliberately transmitted from space. SETI uses large radio telescopes to search for signals. The project utilizes both Targeted Research and Sky Survey methods, notably through the Deep Space Network, to meticulously scan for these signals.

The most prominent research project on this issue is the international Galileo project, managed by Professor Avi Loeb (Harvard Astronomy Center for Astrophysics, Harvard University, VS; <https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/galileo>), which started in 2021.

The project aims to identify the nature of UAP and 'Oumuamua-like' interstellar objects using the standard scientific method based on a transparent analysis of open scientific data to be collected using optimized instruments. In 2023 the first peer-reviewed scientific papers were published. (<https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/galileo/publications>)



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## UAP Space related incidents

### NASA Videos

Here several videos are shown that originate from NASA, which were analyzed by independent experts. From these analyses it appears that the videos show UAPs that cannot be easily explained.

NASA footage STS-48 (1991)

<https://youtu.be/qy0X-tAa3dw?si=YMAXVnTbCqSqGg27>

NASA footage STS-75 (1996)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k5-84EnHZjk>

NASA footage STS-80 (1996)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l5xbkbGUjw8>

NASA footage STS-114 (2005)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RtP3i-sMP0>

NASA STS-115 object (2006)

<https://www.space.com/2915-atlantis-landing-delayed-mystery-object-spotted.html>





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## Witness testimonies

Here several testimonies are presented from professionals, who are very experienced observers, such as radar operators, astronauts and astronomers. They present the UAP that they have observed (visually and/or instrumentally) which cannot be easily explained.

US General James McDivitt's testimony of an UAP during the Gemini 4 mission (1965)

[https://youtu.be/qPoMxoV3m\\_I?si=1ewphM\\_QpL\\_X-111](https://youtu.be/qPoMxoV3m_I?si=1ewphM_QpL_X-111)

US astronaut Buzz Aldrin's testimony about an UAP while he was in space (1969)

<https://youtu.be/vpjevemHWHd4?si=nw33F5jOloDlckOq>

USAF Radar operator Michael Smith testimony on how he tracked an UAP for 80 kilometers until it reached space (1970)

[https://youtu.be/n75DTKA084I?si=3Jy8yC9eZ5\\_1TWWJ](https://youtu.be/n75DTKA084I?si=3Jy8yC9eZ5_1TWWJ)

Mr Aldo Matic, commander of the Kacarevo radar station (Serbia), testimony on how he tracked an UAP for 80 kilometers until it reached space (1977)

<https://youtu.be/4DzjUBGkrJc?si=ksQQulOTG4WKQ66V>

USAF advisor on UAP, astronomer J.Allen Hynek testimony (1977)

<https://youtu.be/JvCmg3e4frQ?si=snKd4098qXIFfWms>

Cosmonaut Victor Afanasyev testimony of an UAP in space (1979)

[https://youtu.be/sE6tkunj6jU?si=\\_FRNEPyOxP056NV](https://youtu.be/sE6tkunj6jU?si=_FRNEPyOxP056NV)

Cosmonaut Musa Manarov's testimony and video of an UAP in space (1993)

<https://youtu.be/nNdg8zJqJPI?si=Ug8xAD76EDCWTO6V>

Cosmonaut Ivan Vagner video footage of UAP in space (2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXjikQaMjc8>

Unknown object entering Earth's atmosphere and NASA has no definite conclusion (2023)

<https://www.wionews.com/science/nasa-baffled-by-minnesota-skys-mysterious-sonic-boom-and-flash-watch-659230>



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## UAP Coalition Netherlands recommendations

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena should become a major new element of the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking service, managed by the EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP). This could be an additional new service to the existing three services;

1. Collision Avoidance (CA),
2. Re-entry Analysis (RE)
3. Fragmentation Analysis (FG)

UAP could also be addressed within the SST Research and Development (R&D) plan. This should include an analysis of existing sensor capabilities and assessment of required new sensor capabilities for UAP observation. Furthermore all relevant archived past observation data (e.g. by camera) in possession of EUASP and/or ESA should be analyzed for anomalies that may have been a risk of collision in the past. In addition all past as well as current and future UAP data should be made publicly available.

We also recommend that UAP will become a major new element in the Near-Earth Objects (NEO) service, which addresses the risk of natural objects, such as space rocks in the solar system, which are approaching the Earth. This should be done in close coordination with ESA's Near-Earth Object Coordination Centre (NEOCC). All NEO data relevant for UAP should be collected, analyzed and made publicly available.

We recommend furthermore that reporting of observations of UAP by astronauts and/or other space agency personnel should be much better facilitated and treated without stigma and possible negative repercussions to the person reporting. This should be specifically addressed within the EU Space Law.

Reporting of UAP should be done in a harmonized way across all EU Member States into a central EU repository from which data acquisition, handling, analysis and reporting to the public can be performed, e.g. by the EUASP. The European Union may fund independent organizations such as UAP Coalition Netherlands. The UAP Coalition Netherlands is available to support the establishment of such a central EU repository, through advice on its design and operation. Eventually we could also participate in its operation depending on for example availability of funds and legal frameworks. This could also be done in collaboration with other relevant organizations.

We also recommend setting up a new EU UAP Space Research programme, e.g. at EUASP (and/or ESA) with a Research Director, similar to what NASA recently has announced.



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## Document credits

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