

To: Members of the European Parliament

From: Civil society UAP organisations

24 October 2024

## ***Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) - requested EU action***

This request is aimed at the European Parliament, taking into account also the other two main European Union institutions: the Council of the European Union (Member States) and the European Commission. Each is requested to take action on UAP in relation to their aims, values, mandates and priorities<sup>1</sup>.

We, representatives of civil society UAP organisations, request the EU institutions to investigate and address UAP and thus reinforce safe aviation, security and space activities in the EU and to foster research and innovation related to UAP for the benefit of the EU's economy and society.

We ask the EU institutions to take the following main actions regarding UAP:

- 1. Establish an EU process for collection of UAP data, access, analysis and publication***
- 2. Include UAP in EU priorities, actions and legislation (e.g. on security, aviation and space)***
- 3. Establish priorities and provide funding for EU research on UAP***
- 4. Exchange information on UAP with other countries***

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<sup>1</sup> [https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/principles-and-values\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/principles-and-values_en) ; [https://european-union.europa.eu/institutions-law-budget\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/institutions-law-budget_en) ; [https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions_en)

## ***The importance of UAP***

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) means anything in space and air, on land, and in the sea that cannot be identified. In the past, the term Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) was used but as sensor platforms started detecting more phenomena in other domains (in particular the sea), a new acronym and definition was adopted.

The phenomenon has been documented throughout history, appearing in various forms and contexts. It is global, with sightings by trained observers (including pilots, military personnel, airfield personnel, scientists) and civilians since at least the 1940s across the world.

Near collisions involving military or commercial aircraft have been reported. Many UAP observations, in recent years including also unidentified unmanned aircraft ('drones'), have been made at commercial airfields and military airfields with storage facilities for nuclear weapons and at nuclear installations. In recent years many trained observers like pilots and military personnel have come forward publicly with their UAP observations and experiences. Thus, UAP should be considered a flight safety concern and they also raise questions about possible national security threats.

Over the past decades citizen volunteer organisations in almost all European countries and many other countries have collected data on UAP observations, investigated these, and published analytical reports. Only in France there is an official governmental organisation in place with a formal mandate for such activities. In the USA a department within the Pentagon was established in 2022 that collects, analyses and publishes UAP observations from U.S. government professionals.

Although most observations can be explained by for example aircraft, drones, satellites, planets, meteors, still a small part (about 3-5%) remains scientifically unexplained. These unexplained UAP show characteristics that are unique and unexplainable: Positive Lift, Instantaneous Acceleration, Hypersonic Velocity (Without Signatures), Trans-Medium Travel and Low Observability.

Negative impacts on human health due to close encounters with UAP have been reported that should be addressed. Professionals and citizens who have reported UAP sightings have faced scepticism, ridicule, or even professional repercussions. This can also have a negative effect on health. To improve the well-being of the witnesses it is important that they can openly share experiences and emotions after a significant or sometimes traumatic UAP encounter.

UAP are also very relevant from the perspectives of technology, economy, energy, transport, and social and cultural aspects.

Many questions around UAP remain unanswered such as: what are they exactly, where are they from, and what are their impacts on society?

These questions represent a significant challenge to our current scientific knowledge. Due to stigma for many decades only few universities and research institutes have investigated UAP. However, increasingly scientists are coming forward starting serious multi- and transdisciplinary research, although finding funds for such research is still very difficult.

In conclusion, UAP represent a complex and multi- and transdisciplinary phenomenon that demands our immediate attention and action. The EU institutions, in close collaboration with all stakeholders including professionals, scientists, the military, media and citizens, have a responsibility to address UAP with seriousness, integrity, and scientific rigour. By doing so, we can ensure the safety, security and the well-being of all EU citizens.

### ***Opportunities for EU action***

On 20 March 2024 a unique information event on UAP took place at the European Parliament, organised by a Member of the European Parliament. The event introduced the topic of UAP in an accessible way for Members of the European Parliament, policy makers and other interested parties with presentations by NGO UAP organisations, pilots that observed UAP and scientists doing research on UAP.

The organising MEP had earlier asked the European Commission about available knowledge or documentation on UAP, a protocol on reporting of UAP related to aviation safety and UAP monitoring and reporting in the proposed EU Space Law. The EC responded that it does not hold any documents on UAP and it does not have protocols for UAP reporting, although UAP can already be reported under the existing aviation safety Regulation as 'Unknown Airborne Objects' (it should be noted however that this specific category does not exist). The EC also responded that inclusion of UAP extends beyond the EU's technological capabilities and the legal basis of the proposed EU Space Law.

Furthermore, much earlier, in 1990, a MEP put forward a motion to the European Parliament with a proposal to create a European monitoring centre for UFOs. At a meeting of the EP Committee on Energy, Research and Technology end of 1993, the motion for a resolution was adopted unanimously. However ultimately the resolution was not adopted by the European Parliament because not all EU member states at the time could agree on this.

Despite the abovementioned responses from the EC in 2024 on UAP, and the earlier 1993 activities in the EP on UFOs that were not successful, the subscribers to this letter strongly believe that the EU can do much more on the subject of UAP, as explained in this letter and annex.

EU action is specifically required because of the transboundary nature of UAP, the potential for efficient and effective legislative solutions at EU level and because of opportunities to use EU funding for research.

We therefore consider the event held on 20 March 2024 as a starting point for a thorough debate within the EU institutions about future EU actions on UAP in a broad range of policy areas, which should take place in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders.

More background information on UAP, policy developments and possible future actions in the EU, and policy developments in the US and other countries, is provided in an Annex.

## **Here the main proposed EU actions are summarised:**

### **1. Establish an EU process for collection of UAP data, access, analysis and publication**

We request to establish a process at EU level for the development and implementation of common standards and protocols for observation data (witnesses, instrumental), data analysis methodologies, transparent exchange of observation data, publication of the data in an accessible way and for building a coherent EU database or linkages between existing databases.

This could include promoting the establishment of national governmental UAP organisations in each EU member state.

A feasibility study should be conducted about the possibilities and (dis-)advantages of setting up an EU reporting system, databases, web services and organisation, in coordination with national systems.

Also, the establishment of an International Standardization Organization for UAP with similar objectives could be assessed and possibly promoted by the EU.

This process should be performed in close collaboration with, building on their expertise and experiences, all relevant governmental organisations, such as in particular GEIPAN (France), and national volunteer organisations.

### **2. Include UAP in EU priorities, actions and legislation (e.g. on security, aviation and space)**

New EU priorities and a strategic agenda are being set in 2024/2025 by the Member States and the new European Parliament and European Commission after the EP elections in June 2024 and the EC is preparing its own political guidelines. This provides a unique opportunity to include the topic of UAP.

We propose that the European Parliament develops and implement its own study into the main aspects of UAP and assesses the possible need for changes to or for new priorities, legislation and policies, and for further research. This could be done as a pilot action, for example through the EP's Panel for the Future of Science and Technology and/or the EP Secretariat's Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services.

We also propose that the European Parliament organises publicly accessible events about these UAP related topics in the European Parliament, with the involvement of the European Commission, relevant EU Agencies, the Member States and stakeholders. This can help to educate the public and the media that UAP are real, need to be taken seriously and should be scientifically investigated.

We furthermore request that the EU institutions, in particular the new European Parliament and European Commission that has started in autumn 2024, seriously consider addressing the topic of UAP in all relevant new EU priority actions and in the new EU strategic agenda. We believe there are several opportunities for such action in the newly elected EU Parliament, including its relevant Committees such as on Transport and on Industry, Research and Energy and the Subcommittee on Security and Defence.

We specifically request that UAP are addressed in the EU defence initiatives through key strategic activities of the EU Defence Agency, taking into account the security and defence priorities of the Member States. We request the development of advanced surveillance capabilities to address potential threats posed by UAP. Citizens have a right to know what governments, including the military and intelligence organisations, may know about UAP. It is therefore essential to declassify military UAP information, in particular in EU Member States that have not yet done so. The EU could play a role in promoting declassification in a coherent approach across the EU.

We also request that the EU revises the aviation safety procedures and if needed the relevant legislation to include UAP in the system for reporting, storage and dissemination of 'civil aviation occurrences' managed by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). We also request an investigation into which and how many of the reported occurrence reports obtained by EASA so far have not been fully explained and might be considered UAP. We furthermore request measures to ensure that the current legislation and 'just culture' is implemented in a way to handle reporting of UAP, noting the 'stigma' often associated with UAP. Because UAP bear similarities to the challenges posed by unidentified drones there is a need for EU-wide standards for drone detection systems at commercial and military airports and at critical infrastructure sites and to assess if the current EU rules for drones are sufficient.

Regarding space policy, we propose to integrate UAP into the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking and the EU Near-Earth Objects services. Historical sensor data, including archived observations, should also be scrutinised for past UAP collision risks. Furthermore, all UAP data, past, present, and future, related to space should be made publicly accessible. We also request that reporting of UAP observations by astronauts and space agency personnel is made possible, emphasising a stigma-free environment. Furthermore, we request the establishment of a new EU UAP Space Research program at the EU Agency for the Space Programme and/or at the European Space Agency (ESA), with a Research Director, similar to what NASA recently has announced.

### **3. Establish priorities and provide funding for EU research and innovations on UAP**

UAP represent many opportunities for research and innovations in for example fundamental physics, astronomy, meteorology, biology, human health effects, advanced materials, industrial manufacturing, new technologies for energy, transport, information and communication, and the use of artificial intelligence for data analysis. It is also important to better understand complex psychological, cultural, religious, and sociological aspects.

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of almost 96 billion Euro for the period 2021-2027. Important elements of Horizon include the European Research Council, which is the premier European funding organisation for excellent frontier research; the European Innovation Council, Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and game changing innovations; the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, which aims to create jobs and deliver sustainable and smart growth and the European Defence Fund.

We request consideration of UAP in the priorities of the current and future EU research programmes, most relevant regarding UAP.

Since the topic of UAP is wide ranging, this can imply inclusion of UAP in a number of specific research programmes and areas, including on: Artificial Intelligence, Energy, Human health, Industry, e.g. advanced materials, Security, Social sciences and humanities, Space, Transport. UAP could also be included in the Erasmus programme that supports education and training with a focus on youth.

Here we provide a non-exhaustive list of possible specific UAP research priorities. We note however that a thorough analysis is needed to establish in which EU research programmes and areas these would best fit and where and how research funding could possibly be found.

More advanced theoretical physics research and formulating verifiable hypotheses and models are needed to analyse, explain and understand the unique characteristics of UAP ('Five Observables'), their shapes and sizes, occurrences, patterns and trends. This may lead to a fundamental change in our knowledge and understanding of physics and perhaps even the nature of our universe.

Exploration of UAP through instrumented field studies (land, seas and oceans). This requires multi-wavelength and multi-mode sensors (e.g. optical, radar, infrared), in particular at locations where UAP are regularly observed such as nuclear weapons facilities and nuclear power plants and also at critical infrastructure and EU security sites. Innovative drone detection systems at airports and critical infrastructure sites are also required. Newer, more advanced and cost-effective technologies like digital autonomous cameras, big data analytics, artificial intelligence, and satellite imagery are needed. Furthermore, more in-depth analysis of historical cases of UAP observations is needed, using radar and other data, when available.

Further research on unidentified technological objects near Earth is needed using telescopes and cameras, but also innovative methods such as detection of anomalous high-altitude flashes of light that appear and disappear.

Many physical and psychological effects have been reported by UAP witnesses. Understanding the human health effects of UAP is therefore imperative to address physical and psychological effects that have been reported by UAP witnesses.

Research is also needed on potential next generation aerospace technologies, including on its physics, lift, propulsion, and power generation. Further research into these areas is essential, which might lead to new technological advancements in energy production, propulsion systems and transport in general.

Since the topic of UAP is very broad and complex, it is important to enhance multi- and transdisciplinary research across conventional research domains.

#### **4. Exchange information on UAP with other countries**

Countries outside of the EU have started to take the UAP issue seriously and the EU should not be left behind.

In particular the US has due to pressure from the US Congress and Senate made important steps. In 2022, the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office, a department within the Pentagon that collects and analyses UAP observations from U.S. government professionals and regularly reports the results. In 2023 the US Senate proposed extensive new legislation that would require the disclosure of information on what the U.S. government knows about UAP. Although due to opposition in the Congress the final legislation was less comprehensive it still includes a requirement that US national archives will gather UAP records and should release those records to the public if appropriate. In 2024 politicians are proposing new UAP legislation similar to the proposal that was rejected earlier.

Furthermore, in January 2024 the US House of Representatives proposed a bill for a system of systematic reporting of UAP observations by pilots. It also ensures that pilots and other airline employees who report UAP are protected against retaliating.

In March 2024, it was announced that the American Joint Chiefs of Staff take the subject of UAP and flight safety very seriously and have drawn up a guideline that has been shared worldwide with all parts of the American armed forces.

A range of other countries also take UAP seriously and have initiated UAP related governmental activities, including Canada, Brazil, China and Japan.

We therefore propose that the European Parliament initiates regular exchange of information on UAP related policy actions with their counterparts in the US Congress and Senate. We also propose that the European Parliament involves members of parliament of EU member states where relevant and feasible.

Furthermore, we propose similar exchanges of information with other countries that have UAP related governmental activities in place (see the Annex for details on the activities in each country).

We are available to provide further information if needed and/or to exchange views with you in a meeting and we are very much looking forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

(signed by the following civil society UAP organisations)



<b>Country</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation (website)</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Email</b>
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	Frederick Delaere	Belgisch UFO-meldpunt <a href="https://ufomeldpunt.be/">https://ufomeldpunt.be/</a>	Coordinator	<a href="mailto:info@ufomeldpunt.be">info@ufomeldpunt.be</a>
Cyprus	Georgios Florides	UAP Cyprus <a href="https://www.uapcy.org/">https://www.uapcy.org/</a>	President	<a href="mailto:uapcyprus@gmail.com">uapcyprus@gmail.com</a>
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Germany	Danny Ammon	Gesellschaft zur Erforschung des UFO-Phänomens e.V. <a href="https://www.ufo-forschung.de/">https://www.ufo-forschung.de/</a>	Second chair	<a href="mailto:dannyammon@mailbox.org">dannyammon@mailbox.org</a>
Greece	Ion Panidis	Greek UAP research organisation <a href="https://erenzw.blogspot.com/?m=1">https://erenzw.blogspot.com/?m=1</a>	Board member	<a href="mailto:lonpanidis@gmail.com">lonpanidis@gmail.com</a>
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Netherlands	Joachim Dekkers	UAP Coalition Netherlands <a href="https://uapcoalitienederland.nl/en/">https://uapcoalitienederland.nl/en/</a>	Chair	<a href="mailto:voorzitter@uapcoalitienederland.nl">voorzitter@uapcoalitienederland.nl</a>
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Norway	Renate Fossdal	Norsk Ufosenter <a href="https://norskufosenter.no/">https://norskufosenter.no/</a>	Chair	<a href="mailto:renate.fossdaltveiten@hotmail.com">renate.fossdaltveiten@hotmail.com</a>
Romania	Dan Farcas	Association for the Study of Unidentified Aerospace Phenomena <a href="https://www.asfanufo.ro/index.php/2014-02-11-09-17-36">https://www.asfanufo.ro/index.php/2014-02-11-09-17-36</a>	President	<a href="mailto:asfanufo@yahoo.com">asfanufo@yahoo.com</a>
Sweden	Clas Svahn	UFO-Sverige <a href="https://www.ufo.se/">https://www.ufo.se/</a>	Vice-chair	<a href="mailto:clas.svahn@gmail.com">clas.svahn@gmail.com</a>
United Kingdom	Michael Hudson	British UFO Research Association <a href="https://bufora.org.uk/">https://bufora.org.uk/</a>	Coordinator	<a href="mailto:michael@bufora.org.uk">michael@bufora.org.uk</a>

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## 1. What are UAP?

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena<sup>2</sup> (UAP) means anything in space and air, on land, and in the sea that cannot be identified. In the past, the term Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) was used but as sensor platforms started detecting more phenomena in other domains (in particular the sea<sup>3</sup>), a new acronym and definition was adopted.

The phenomenon has been documented throughout history, appearing in various forms and contexts. It is global, with sightings by trained observers (including pilots, military personnel, airfield personnel, scientists) and civilians since at least the 1940s across the world<sup>4</sup>. During the second world war so-called ‘foo fighters’, unknown objects, were observed by military pilots across Europe<sup>5</sup>. In 1946 so-called ‘Ghost rockets’ were seen in Scandinavia<sup>6</sup>. In the US in 1947 the first widely-reported UFO sighting was made by private pilot Kenneth Arnold<sup>7</sup>. UAP have often been observed in waves<sup>8</sup>. In the US a large wave occurred for example in 1952. The first large wave of sightings in Europe was in the spring of 1950, occurring in several countries (Belgium, Italy, Spain, UK). An even greater UAP wave took place in the autumn of 1954, with thousands of cases centred mainly over France with much attention in the media. In 1967 it was the UK, in

<sup>2</sup> DOD Working to Better Understand, Resolve Anomalous Phenomena (2023)

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/article/3368109/dod-working-to-better-understand-resolve-anomalous-phenomena/>

<sup>3</sup> Tim Gallaudet, Beneath the Surface <https://thesolfoundation.org/publication/beneath-the-surface-we-may-learn-more-about-uap-by-looking-in-the-ocean/>

<sup>4</sup> Tim Lomas, Harvard University (2023)

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/376891986\\_A\\_global\\_picture\\_of\\_unidentified\\_anomalous\\_phenomena\\_Towards\\_a\\_cross-cultural\\_understanding\\_of\\_a\\_potentially\\_universal\\_issue](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/376891986_A_global_picture_of_unidentified_anomalous_phenomena_Towards_a_cross-cultural_understanding_of_a_potentially_universal_issue)

<sup>5</sup> Graeme Rendall, UFOs Before Roswell: European Foo-Fighters 1940-1945 (2021) <https://www.amazon.nl/UFOs-Before-Roswell-Foo-Fighters-1940-1945/dp/B09GJL9H3T>

<sup>6</sup> Ghost Rockets (2013) <https://fly.historicwings.com/2013/02/ghost-rockets/> and Joel Carpenter, “The Ghost Rockets: a Chronology”: <https://www.project1947.com/gr/grchron1.htm>

<sup>7</sup> 24th June 1947: The first widely-reported UFO sighting by private pilot Kenneth Arnold <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01sVLT08xmo&t=1s> and <https://thedebrief.org/after-kenneth-arnold-saw-flying-discs-this-is-the-journalist-who-tracked-one-down/>

<sup>8</sup> Jerome Clark, “Waves” in “The UFO Encyclopedia”, Omnigraphics, Detroit, 1998, pp. 1004-1023. [https://books.google.nl/books/about/The\\_UFO\\_Encyclopedia.html?id=eCCmQAACAAMJ&redir\\_esc=y](https://books.google.nl/books/about/The_UFO_Encyclopedia.html?id=eCCmQAACAAMJ&redir_esc=y)

1968 Spain, in 1973 and 1978 Italy, in 1974 France, and in Belgium from 1989-1992 thousands of sightings were reported. Important waves of UAP sightings took place in most European countries over the last 75 years.

There are indications that UAP have also been observed and monitored in space. For example, several videos from missions to the ISS<sup>9</sup>, which were analyzed by independent experts, appear to show UAPs that cannot be easily explained. Also, several astronauts claim to have observed UAP<sup>10</sup>.

Near collisions involving military or commercial aircraft have been reported<sup>11</sup>. Many observations of UAP, in recent years including also unidentified unmanned aircraft ('drones'), have been made at military airfields with storage facilities for nuclear weapons and at nuclear installations<sup>12</sup>. Recently many trained observers like pilots and military personnel have become public<sup>13</sup> with their observations.

Overall, there is an increase in evidence being collected, based on a wide range of instrumental observations<sup>14</sup> (such as satellite, infrared, radar, photographs and videos) and visual observations, by trained observers<sup>15</sup> (including pilots, military personnel, airfield personnel, scientists) and civilians.

Although most observations can be explained by for example aircraft, drones, satellites, planets, meteors, still a small part (about 3-5%) remains scientifically unexplained. This is shown for example by data collected by GEIPAN<sup>16</sup>, the official French governmental organization that collects, analyses and reports about UAP and focuses on France itself. It is the only governmental organisation in Europe that has such a mandate and activities.

## 2. Data collection and research

Over the past decades citizen volunteer organizations in almost all European countries and in the US, Canada and many other countries have collected data on UAP observations, investigated these, and published analytical reports. Their main goals are to help witnesses, to educate people

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.nasa.gov/international-space-station/space-station-overview/> and

[https://www.esa.int/Science\\_Exploration/Human\\_and\\_Robotic\\_Exploration/International\\_Space\\_Station](https://www.esa.int/Science_Exploration/Human_and_Robotic_Exploration/International_Space_Station)

<sup>10</sup> Feedback from: UAP Coalition Netherlands on the proposed EU Space Law, 2023,

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13971-EU-Space-Law-new-rules-for-safe-resilient-and-sustainable-space-activities/F3444826\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13971-EU-Space-Law-new-rules-for-safe-resilient-and-sustainable-space-activities/F3444826_en)

<sup>11</sup> Ryan Graves / Americans for Safe Aerospace Written Testimony (2023)

<https://docs.house.gov/meetings/GO/GO06/20230726/116282/HHRG-118-GO06-Wstate-GravesR-20230726.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> SCU, UAP Indications Analysis 1945-1975, United States Atomic Warfare Complex (2023)

<https://www.explorescu.org/post/scu-announces-conclusion-of-two-part-study-of-uap-activity-and-post-ww-ii-us-atomic-warfare-assets> and Robert Hastings, UFOs & Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters at Nuclear Weapons Sites (2017), <https://www.ufohastings.com/book>

<sup>13</sup> Pilot Testimony Worldwide, compilation, UAP Coalition Netherlands

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJFLCD7VLgH1UHCzEXT7sSlsczpEK\\_rOG](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJFLCD7VLgH1UHCzEXT7sSlsczpEK_rOG)

<sup>14</sup> Radar confirms UFO swarm around Navy warship (US, July 2019)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPrYVmYkL5w>

<sup>15</sup> Navy pilots describe encounters with UFOs (including 2004 Nimitz case)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZBtMbBPzqHY&t=5s> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ygB4EZ7ggig>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.cnes-geipan.fr/en>

and raise awareness and to support research. Some have been active for decades and most of them cooperate within a European network of private UAP researchers and other networks<sup>17</sup>.

UAP show characteristics that are unique and unexplainable. Experts use the term “The Five Observables”<sup>18</sup> :

1. Positive Lift – The ability to fly without apparent means of propulsion or lift.
2. Instantaneous Acceleration – The ability to reach a high rate of speed in a very short amount of time.
3. Hypersonic Velocity (Without Signatures) – The ability to travel faster than five times the speed of sound (3,700 mph) with no accompanying auditory or physical effects.
4. Trans-Medium Travel – The ability to seamlessly move through space, air, and water.
5. Low Observability – The ability to conceal from visual and sensor observation

It should be noted that UAP are observed in a variety of shapes and sizes<sup>19</sup>.

Negative impacts on human health due to close encounters with UAP have been reported<sup>20</sup>. Furthermore, professionals and citizens who have reported UAP sightings have faced scepticism, ridicule, or even professional repercussions. This can have a negative effect on health. To improve the well-being of the witnesses it is important that they can share experiences and emotions after a significant or sometimes traumatic UAP encounter.

Many questions around UAP remain unanswered such as: what are they exactly, where are they from, and what are their impacts on society? This represents a significant challenge to our current scientific knowledge. Due to stigma for many decades only few universities and research institutes have investigated UAP.

Fortunately, increasingly scientists are coming forward who are doing serious, often multi- and transdisciplinary, scientific research. It should be noted however, finding funds for research on UAP is still very difficult. A recent scientific article provides a preliminary scoping review and analysis of available scientific literature on UAP<sup>21</sup>. UAP Check has recently published a list of worldwide UAP theses (1948-2024)<sup>22</sup> and a collaborative and international library of vetted UAP Articles and Papers<sup>23</sup>

Below some of the most relevant and important research projects and organisations are summarised.

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<sup>17</sup> EuroUfo.net (“The Virtual Community of Scientifically Oriented European UFO Researchers”)

<http://www.euroufo.net/about-euroufo/> and UAP Check <https://www.uapcheck.com/about/>

<sup>18</sup> Luis Elizondo, the five observables <https://theothertopic.substack.com/p/luis-elizondos-five-observables> and Kevin Knuth, Estimating Flight Characteristics of Anomalous Unidentified Aerial Vehicles in the 2004 Nimitz Encounter, <https://www.mdpi.com/2504-3900/33/1/26>

<sup>19</sup> The Reported Shape, Size, Kinematics, Electromagnetic Effects, and Presence of Sound of UAP, <https://www.explorescu.org/post/the-reported-shape-size-kinematics-electromagnetic-effects-and-presence-of-sound-of-uap>

<sup>20</sup> <https://uapmed.org/>

<sup>21</sup> <https://sentinelnews.substack.com/p/gretchen-stahlman-an-analysis-of>

<sup>22</sup> [https://www.uapcheck.com/science/science\\_documents/](https://www.uapcheck.com/science/science_documents/)

<sup>23</sup> [https://www.uapcheck.com/science/science\\_articles/](https://www.uapcheck.com/science/science_articles/)

After a study by independent experts, NASA appointed a UAP research director in 2023<sup>24</sup>. The Galileo project from Harvard University<sup>25</sup> investigates possible extraterrestrial technological objects near Earth using various observation techniques, including telescopes and cameras. In France UAP observations are scientifically investigated, working with professionals from aviation and space, provided that sufficient data is available such as radar<sup>26</sup>. In Germany research is done by using an autonomous camera system to detect anomalies<sup>27</sup>. Swedish researchers detected anomalous high-altitude flashes of light that appeared and disappeared within minutes in photos from 1952 and other years before satellites existed<sup>28</sup>.

Several collaborative efforts by researchers have started in the past years. The Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU)<sup>29</sup> has published reports and papers<sup>30</sup> on a range of topics, including for example analysis of UAP observations close to US nuclear weapons facilities<sup>31</sup> and regularly organises scientific conferences<sup>32</sup>. The Society for UAP studies<sup>33</sup> has started a scientific journal on UAP research<sup>34</sup>. Research is also done by the SOL Foundation<sup>35</sup>, for example through a recent paper on UAP in the oceans<sup>36</sup>.

Better and more exploration of UAP through instrumented field studies is essential and increasingly being done on land as well as in seas and oceans, as described in a paper with an overview of all existing research efforts in this area<sup>37</sup>.

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<sup>24</sup> <https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/update-nasa-shares-uap-independent-study-report-names-director/>

<sup>25</sup> <https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/galileo/home>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.3af.fr/fr/groupe/sigma2-phenomenes-aerospaciaux-non-identifies-43>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.informatik.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/aerospaceinfo/staff/kayal/research-activities/uap-seti/>

<sup>28</sup> <https://vascoproject.org/>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.explorescu.org/>

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.explorescu.org/research-library/categories/scu-papers>

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.explorescu.org/post/uap-indications-analysis-1945-1975-united-states-atomic-warfare-complex>

<sup>32</sup> Bridging the Gap: Bringing Science, Government and Academia Together to Better Understand UAP, 2024, <https://www.explorescu.org/aapc-2024>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.societyforuapstudies.org/about>

<sup>34</sup> <https://limina.uapstudies.org/volume-1-number-1>

<sup>35</sup> <https://thesolfoundation.org/>

<sup>36</sup> Beneath the Surface: We May Learn More about UAP by Looking in the Ocean

<https://thesolfoundation.org/publication/beneath-the-surface-we-may-learn-more-about-uap-by-looking-in-the-ocean/>

<sup>37</sup> Ailleris, Philippe. 2024. "Exploring Unidentified Aerospace Phenomena Through Instrumented Field Studies: Historical Insights, Current Challenges, and Future Directions." <https://limina.scholasticahq.com/article/92682-exploring-unidentified-aerospace-phenomena-through-instrumented-field-studies-historical-insights-current-challenges-and-future-directions>

## 3. Policy developments in the EU and possible future EU actions

### 3.1 Policy developments

On 20 March 2024 a unique information event took place at the European Parliament, organised by Member of European Parliament Francisco Guerreiro <sup>38</sup>(Green/Free European Alliance) on *'Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) – EU Airspace: Reporting and Scientific Assessment'*. The event introduced the topic of UAP in an accessible way for Members of the European Parliament, policy makers and other interested parties with presentations by NGO UAP organisations, pilots that observed UAP and scientists doing research on UAP<sup>39</sup>.

Earlier in 2023 Francisco Guerreiro had asked if the European Commission (EC) or the European Defence Agency (EDA) has knowledge or documentation on UAP, and whether EDA has protocols for receiving reports about UAP<sup>40</sup>. The EC responded<sup>41</sup> that EDA has never worked on UAP and does not hold any documents on UAP and it does not have protocols for UAP reporting.

In early 2024 he had also submitted two written questions to the Commission, one an 'Update of the EU regulation on Civil aviation to include UAP reporting'<sup>42</sup> and the other on 'UAP monitoring and reporting in the EU Space Law'<sup>43</sup>. The EC responded<sup>44</sup> that there is no need to amend the Regulation on the reporting, analysis, and follow-up of occurrences in civil aviation managed by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) since UAP can already be reported as 'Unknown Airborne Objects'<sup>45</sup>. The EC also responded<sup>46</sup> that inclusion of UAP extends beyond the EU's technological capabilities and the legal basis of the proposed EU Space Law (due to be published by the EC in 2024<sup>47</sup>). The EC also mentioned that the area of UAP is considered a competence of the Member States, allowing them to address these phenomena according to the national security needs and it is therefore not included within the scope of the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST) partnership services nor in the Near-Earth objects (NEO) activities.

Furthermore in 2024 Francisco Guerreiro gave several short statements at the EP plenary session on similar UAP related topics and he also submitted a motion<sup>48</sup> to the European Parliament to amend the EU Regulation on civil aviation safety to allow UAP to be reported and analysed in a consistent and transparent manner. This should lead to a harmonised EU database and exchange of information between EU member states. The EP committee responsible for aviation safety has not acted with a follow up on this motion.

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<sup>38</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/197645/FRANCISCO\\_GUERREIRO/home](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/197645/FRANCISCO_GUERREIRO/home)

<sup>39</sup> <https://uapcoalitienederland.nl/en/eu-uap-event-2024/> and <https://www.uapcheck.com/news/id/2024-04-25-march-20-2024-the-first-european-uap-day-1-3> See also a video of the event: <https://youtu.be/5GMet3t5eEE> and <https://youtu.be/E5AUs1hzhc8?feature=shared>

<sup>40</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-002375\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-002375_EN.html)

<sup>41</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-002375-ASW\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-002375-ASW_EN.html)

<sup>42</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000314\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000314_EN.html)

<sup>43</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000318\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000318_EN.html)

<sup>44</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000314-ASW\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000314-ASW_EN.html)

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/domains/safety-management/aviation-safety-reporting>

<sup>46</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000318-ASW\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000318-ASW_EN.html)

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.euractiv.com/section/industrial-strategy/news/thierry-breton-says-european-space-law-might-be-presented-after-the-summer/>

<sup>48</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/B-9-2024-0194\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/B-9-2024-0194_EN.html)

It is important to note that the pilot that witnessed UAP, and presented at the event on 20 March<sup>49</sup>, stated that he did not report these observations and neither did many other pilots that have approached him who also observed UAP. There are several reasons for non-reporting: the risk of not being believed and being ridiculed, possible negative professional repercussions and not being aware of the possibility of official reporting under the EU aviation safety regulation. Many pilots over the past decades also did not report their observations for similar reasons. We believe therefore it is very important to make the subject more open for discussion within the aviation world and beyond.

It is also important to note that, after the large wave of “flying triangles” sightings in Belgium, in 1990 the Belgian member of the EP Elio Di Rupo put forward a motion to the European Parliament with a proposal to create a European monitoring centre for UFOs<sup>50</sup>. It recommended to consider the French organisation SEPRA, a predecessor of GEIPAN, as a central European contact point for UFO issues. In 1991 this motion was referred to the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology as the responsible committee in order to draw up a draft resolution. MEP Tullio Regge (a well-known scientist from Italy) was appointed as rapporteur. At the committee meeting on November 29 - December 1, 1993, the motion for a resolution was adopted unanimously. It called on the European Commission to set up a “European UFO Observation Center” which should collect sightings reported by citizens and institutions (military and scientific) and organize scientific observation campaigns. The Center should be managed by the European Commission. However ultimately the resolution was not adopted by the European Parliament because not all EU member states at the time could agree on this.

Furthermore, in 2022 the EC responded<sup>51</sup> to a letter, that included UAP photos, from an amateur astronomer in Malaysia: *‘the EC is proposing to the 27 Member States that the EU should increase its ability to detect objects in the space environment around the Earth. This is partly to help us better identify the UAPs that you have seen and the many pieces of space debris that endanger the many uses of space’*.

Despite the abovementioned responses from the EC in 2024 on UAP, and the earlier 1993 activities in the EP on UFOs that were not successful, the subscribers to this letter strongly believe that the EU can do much more on the subject of UAP, as explained in this letter and annex. We believe there are several opportunities for such action particularly in the newly elected EU Parliament, including its relevant Committees<sup>52</sup> such as on Transport and on Industry, Research and Energy, Foreign Affairs and the Subcommittee on Security and Defence.

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<sup>49</sup> <https://jpcvanheijst.com/uap>

<sup>50</sup> <https://www.uapcheck.com/news/id/2024-02-13-uap-in-the-european-parliament-part-1>

<sup>51</sup>

[https://www.asktheeu.org/en/request/13376/response/48762/attach/5/UFO%20UAP%20EC%20reply.pdf?cookie\\_p\\_assthrough=1](https://www.asktheeu.org/en/request/13376/response/48762/attach/5/UFO%20UAP%20EC%20reply.pdf?cookie_p_assthrough=1)

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/european-parliamentary-committees-their-/product-details/20200226CAN53523>

## 3.2 Include UAP in EU priorities, actions and legislation (e.g. on security, aviation and space)

### *EU priorities*

New EU priorities and a strategic agenda<sup>53</sup> will be set in 2024/2025 by the Member States and the new European Parliament and European Commission after the EP elections in June 2024 and the EC will prepare its own political guidelines<sup>54</sup>. This provides a unique opportunity to include the topic of UAP.

We request that the EU institutions, in particular the new European Parliament and European Commission that will start in autumn 2024, seriously consider addressing the topic of UAP in all relevant new EU priority actions and in the new EU strategic agenda.

### *Security*

The presence of UAP in our airspace raises questions about surveillance, defence capabilities, and potential threats. With UAP occurring close to nuclear weapon sites there might be a risk that weapon systems are launched involuntarily.

The European Defence Agency (EDA) has three main missions: to support the development of defence capabilities and military cooperation among the European Union Member States; to stimulate defence Research and Technology (R&T) and strengthening the European defence industry; and to act as a military interface to EU policies.

We request that UAP are addressed in the EU defence initiatives through the key strategic activities of the EU Defence Agency<sup>55</sup>, taking into account the security and defence priorities of the Member States<sup>56</sup>. This includes the development of advanced surveillance capabilities to address potential threats posed by UAP.

Citizens have a right to know what governments, including in particular the military and intelligence organisations, may know about UAP. Therefore, it is essential to declassify military UAP information, in particular in EU Member States that have not yet done so<sup>57</sup>. The EU can play a role in promoting declassification in a coherent approach across the EU.

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<sup>53</sup> [https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions/eu-priorities/how-eu-priorities-are-set\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions/eu-priorities/how-eu-priorities-are-set_en) and [https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions/eu-priorities/how-eu-priorities-are-set/infographic-eu-priorities\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/priorities-and-actions/eu-priorities/how-eu-priorities-are-set/infographic-eu-priorities_en)

<sup>54</sup> [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024_en)

<sup>55</sup> <https://eda.europa.eu/what-we-do/EU-defence-initiatives/priority-setting/key-strategic-activities>

<sup>56</sup> <https://prioritisation.eda.europa.eu/>

<sup>57</sup> Total or partial declassification of military archives about UAPs took place in the following EU member states: Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland. See: <https://www.uapcheck.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/RussoEdoardo-EUP-presentation-4d.pdf>



## **Aviation flight safety**

If a pilot encounters a UAP this could lead to confusion, distraction, or even accidents. With 32.000 flights per day<sup>58</sup> in EU airspace, it is necessary and urgent to address the topic.

One of the tasks of the EU Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)<sup>59</sup> is to manage a system for the reporting, storage, dissemination and analysis of so-called 'civil aviation occurrences'<sup>60</sup>. These are '*any safety-related event which endangers or which, if not corrected or addressed, could endanger an aircraft, its occupants or any other person and includes in particular an accident or serious incident*'. EASA also manages a European Risk Classification Scheme.

However, the related legislation<sup>61</sup> and the reporting system (guidelines, protocols, explanatory notes etc) does not include UAP, nor does EASA actively promote the reporting of UAP sightings amongst professionals within aviation.

We therefore request that the EU revises the aviation safety procedures and if needed the relevant legislation and to include UAP in their system for reporting, storage and dissemination of 'civil aviation occurrences'. Because UAP bear similarities to the challenges posed by unidentified drones there is also a need for EU-wide standards for drone detection systems at commercial and military airports and at critical infrastructure sites and to assess if the current EU rules for drones are sufficient<sup>62</sup>.

According to the 'Annual Safety Review 2023' almost 300.000 occurrence reports were received in the European Central Repository in 2022, more than in any other year<sup>63</sup>. We request an investigation into which and how many of these occurrence reports have not been fully explained and thus might be considered UAP.

EASA also has a system in place to ensure that reported occurrence data will not be held against the reporting parties (including individuals) and these should not be used to attribute blame or liability<sup>64</sup>.

We request measures to ensure that the current legislation and 'just culture' is adjusted to handle reporting of UAP, noting the 'stigma' often associated with UAP, or to consider whether additional legislation or guidelines are needed.

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<sup>58</sup> <https://www.eurocontrol.int/news/new-traffic-record-set-37228-flights-one-day>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/>

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/domains/safety-management/aviation-safety-reporting>

<sup>61</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/domains/safety-management/aviation-safety-reporting/legal-framework>

<sup>62</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/document-library/easy-access-rules/easy-access-rules-unmanned-aircraft-systems-regulations-eu>

<sup>63</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/document-library/general-publications/annual-safety-review-2023/annual-safety-review-2023-highlights>

<sup>64</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/domains/safety-management/aviation-safety-reporting/occurrence-reporting-protection-information-sources>

## **Space law**

The EU is developing an EU Space Law<sup>65</sup> which aims to ensure safe satellite traffic that tackles the increasing risk of collisions and damages by space debris; coherently protect the EU and national space infrastructures and assets against harmful threats (notably cyberattacks) and to guarantee the long-term sustainability of space operations, ensuring the ability of the EU to rely on space as an important enabler of services and economic growth.

We request to integrate UAP into the EU Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST)<sup>66</sup> a service managed by the EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUASP)<sup>67</sup>. We also propose that the SST Research and Development plan should assess existing and required sensor capabilities for UAP observation. Historical sensor data, including archived observations, should also be scrutinized for past UAP collision risks. Furthermore, all UAP data, past, present, and future, should be made publicly accessible.

Additionally, the EU Near-Earth Objects (NEO) service of EUASP<sup>68</sup>, 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)<sup>69</sup>, with a commitment to collecting, analysing, and publicly sharing relevant NEO data.

We also request that reporting of UAP observations by astronauts and space agency personnel is made possible, emphasizing a stigma-free environment.

Furthermore, we request the establishment of a new EU UAP Space Research program at EUASP (and/or at ESA), with a Research Director similar to what NASA recently has announced.

### **3.3 Establish priorities and provide funding for EU research on UAP**

#### ***EU Research priorities and programmes***

Here we focus on research at EU level, while noting that all Member States have many research activities and infrastructure in place that can also be very relevant.

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation<sup>70</sup> with a budget of almost 96 billion Euro for the period 2021-2027. The second Horizon Europe strategic plan (2025-2027) continues focusing on the current EU priorities. It aims to steer research and innovation funding within and beyond Europe, to tackle the key global challenges such as climate change, pollution and loss of biodiversity, the digital transition and an ageing population. From fundamental research to breakthrough innovation and deployment of innovative solutions, the

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<sup>65</sup> [https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/consultations-0/targeted-consultation-eu-space-law\\_en](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/consultations-0/targeted-consultation-eu-space-law_en)

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.eusst.eu/>

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.euspa.europa.eu/>

<sup>68</sup> <https://www.euspa.europa.eu/european-space/space-situational-awareness>

<sup>69</sup> [https://www.esa.int/Space\\_Safety/Near-Earth\\_Object\\_Coordination\\_Centre](https://www.esa.int/Space_Safety/Near-Earth_Object_Coordination_Centre)

<sup>70</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en) and [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-2020-2024\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-2020-2024_en)

strategic plan directs investments into the green and digital transition, building a more resilient, competitive, democratic and inclusive Europe.

Specific elements of Horizon include:

- the European Research Council, which is the premier European funding organisation for excellent frontier research<sup>71</sup>;
- the European Innovation Council, Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and game changing innovations<sup>72</sup>;
- the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, which aims to create jobs and deliver sustainable and smart growth<sup>73</sup>.
- the European Defence Fund<sup>74</sup>

An overview of the research by sector and area is also available<sup>75</sup> as well as many funding opportunities<sup>76</sup>.

UAP constitute a complex and broad issue with many different aspects to be considered. Therefore, there are a range of relevant EU research and innovation areas in which UAP could be addressed, including at least:

- Artificial Intelligence<sup>77</sup>
- Energy<sup>78</sup>
- Human health<sup>79</sup>
- Industry, e.g. advanced materials<sup>80</sup>
- Security<sup>81</sup>
- Social sciences and humanities<sup>82</sup>
- Space<sup>83</sup>
- Transport<sup>84</sup>

The Erasmus programme<sup>85</sup> supports education and training with a strong focus on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions, and promoting young people's participation in democratic life. UAP could also be addressed within this programme.

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<sup>71</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area_en)

<sup>72</sup> <https://eic.ec.europa.eu/>

<sup>73</sup> <https://eit.europa.eu/>

<sup>74</sup> [https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/european-defence-fund-edf-official-webpage-european-commission\\_en](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/european-defence-fund-edf-official-webpage-european-commission_en)

<sup>75</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area_en)

<sup>76</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities_en)

<sup>77</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/industrial-research-and-innovation/artificial-intelligence-ai-science\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/industrial-research-and-innovation/artificial-intelligence-ai-science_en)

<sup>78</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/energy\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/energy_en)

<sup>79</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/health\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/health_en)

<sup>80</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/industrial-research-and-innovation/chemicals-and-advanced-materials\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/industrial-research-and-innovation/chemicals-and-advanced-materials_en)

<sup>81</sup> [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/innovation-and-security-research\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/innovation-and-security-research_en)

<sup>82</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/social-sciences-and-humanities\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/social-sciences-and-humanities_en)

<sup>83</sup> [https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-space/research-development-and-innovation\\_en](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-space/research-development-and-innovation_en)

<sup>84</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/transport\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/transport_en)

<sup>85</sup> <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/about-erasmus/what-is-erasmus>

We request consideration of UAP in the priorities of these current and future EU research programmes. Furthermore, an interdisciplinary approach including a wide variety of scientific disciplines should be applied.

## 4. Policy developments in the US and other countries

### US

The US government has performed various investigations into UAP since the 1950s and the final report of project Bluebook (1969)<sup>86</sup> concluded that UAP did not pose a threat to national security and sightings categorized as "unidentified" do not represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present-day scientific knowledge and thus no further investigations would be necessary.

However, an article of 2017 by the New York Times revealed that the US government had in reality continued investigating UAP<sup>87</sup>. More details on these programmes came out subsequently from whistleblowers from within the government and from investigations by journalists<sup>88</sup>.

Due to pressure from the US Congress the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and the Department of Defense (DOD) have analysed UAP reports and reported on these annually from 2021 onwards<sup>89</sup>. These reports concluded that UAP do pose a potential threat to flight safety and national security.

In 2022, the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office<sup>90</sup> was established at the request of the US Senate. It is a department within the Pentagon that collects and analyses UAP observations from U.S. government professionals and regularly reports the results. In July 2023 a public hearing was held by the US Congress on UAP, with several military and intelligence witnesses<sup>91</sup>.

In 2023 the US Senate proposed extensive new legislation that would require the disclosure of information on what the U.S. government knows about UAP<sup>92</sup>. This is based on credible sources that say information on UAPs has been withheld from the Congress and the Senate and the public. However, due to opposition in the Congress (House of Representatives) the final legislation approved in Dec 2023 was less comprehensive. It still includes a requirement that US national archives will gather records from across the federal government on UAPs and should release those records to the public if appropriate. It is important to note that in 2024 politicians

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<sup>86</sup> <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/air-force/ufos>

<sup>87</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/18/insider/secret-pentagon-ufo-program.html>

<sup>88</sup> <https://www.vice.com/en/article/k7wj9e/newly-released-documents-shed-light-on-government-funded-research-into-worm-holes-anti-gravity-and-invisibility-cloaks>

<sup>89</sup> <https://www.dni.gov/index.php/newsroom/reports-publications/reports-publications-2023/3733-2023-consolidated-annual-report-on-unidentified-anomalous-phenomena>

<sup>90</sup> <https://www.aaro.mil/>

<sup>91</sup> <https://www.c-span.org/video/?529499-1/hearing-unidentified-aerial-phenomena#>

<sup>92</sup> <https://thedebrief.org/the-senate-just-passed-its-massive-defense-bill-heres-what-that-means-for-uap-disclosure/>

are aiming to propose new UAP legislation similar to the proposal that was rejected end of 2023, see the proposal of end of May 2024 by Congress representative Garcia<sup>93</sup>.

Furthermore, in January 2024 the US House of Representatives proposed a bill for a system of systematic reporting of UAP observations by pilots. It also ensures that pilots and other airline employees who report UAP are protected against retaliating. The 'Americans for Safe Aerospace'<sup>94</sup> a non-governmental organisation, that supports pilots who are UAP witnesses, provided advice for this bill.

On January 25, 2024, the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Inspector General released a UAP report<sup>95</sup>. The conclusion is "*We determined that the DoD has no overarching UAP policy and, as a result, it lacks assurance that national security and flight safety threats to the United States from UAP have been identified and mitigated*".

On March 15, 2024, it was announced that the American Joint Chiefs of Staff take the subject of UAP and flight safety very seriously and have drawn up a guideline that has been shared worldwide with all parts of the American armed forces<sup>96</sup>.

## UK

The UK had an official programme in place within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) to collect and analyse UAP observations until 2009. The official main conclusion was that no sighting reported to the MoD has indicated any military threat to the UK. The MOD has stated that since then it has ceased to investigate reports of UFO or UAP<sup>97</sup>. A detailed overview of reported observations in the UK and UK governmental activities on UAP until 2009 is available at the national archives<sup>98</sup>.

A regular exchange of information on UAP takes place between the five countries that are part of the 'Five Eyes' (US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand)<sup>99</sup>.

## Australia

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) announced in 2021 that it would not undertake investigations into UAP and that the Defence department does not have a protocol that covers recording or reporting of UAP<sup>100</sup>. However, there is evidence that numerous UAP sightings have

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<sup>93</sup> <https://twitter.com/RepRobertGarcia/status/1796551190827925750> and [https://amendments-rules.house.gov/amendments/GARCRO\\_115\\_xml240529153551283.pdf](https://amendments.rules.house.gov/amendments/GARCRO_115_xml240529153551283.pdf)

<sup>94</sup> <https://www.safeaerospace.org/>

<sup>95</sup> <https://www.dodig.mil/In-the-Spotlight/Article/3656428/press-release-evaluation-of-the-dods-actions-regarding-unidentified-anomalous-p/>

<sup>96</sup> <https://uapregister.substack.com/p/defense-document-reveals-concern>

<sup>97</sup> <https://www.researchprofessionalnews.com/rr-news-uk-politics-2023-8-uk-government-spends-no-money-on-ufo-r-d/>

<sup>98</sup> <https://cdn.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/briefing-guide-12-07-12.pdf> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ufo-reports-in-the-uk>

<sup>99</sup> <https://defensescoop.com/2023/06/15/five-eyes-alliance-remains-tight-lipped-on-how-its-collaborating-on-uncovering-uap/>

<sup>100</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-26/australian-defence-dept-says-it-is-not-looking-at-ufos/100246652> and <https://newspageconomy.ca/2024/04/10/unidentified-aerial-phenomena-the-australian-governments-perspective/>

occurred near Australian defence sites dating back to 1960. Furthermore in 2024 it was revealed that Australian intelligence officials met with their US counterparts to discuss "UAP collection planning"<sup>101</sup>.

## Canada

In February 2023, the Canadian government announced it would begin its own official investigation into UAP, Called the Sky Canada Project. This investigation, being conducted by the Office of the Chief Science Advisor of Canada, involves multiple government and civilian agencies and is expected to release its findings in 2024<sup>102</sup>.

## Japan

In 2020, the Japanese defence minister announced that his ministry was considering establishing official procedures to deal with UAPs. He encouraged Self-Defense Force pilots to take pictures of any UAPs they might encounter and to report sightings<sup>103</sup>.

In April 2024, UAP was discussed in the House of Representatives of Japan<sup>104</sup> where the Japanese Minister of Defence agreed that it is necessary for airspace security and flight safety to seriously investigate UAP. In June 2024 a nonpartisan group of Japanese parliamentarians, including former defence ministers, was launched to investigate UAP. It urges Japan to enhance abilities to detect and analyse UAP<sup>105</sup>. The group will push for Japan to create an equivalent to the US AARO and to further boost intelligence cooperation with the United States.

## Brazil

In Brazil all official documents are public, except those declared secret. A large number of reports on UAP (UFO) investigated by the Air Force for more than 60 years have been made available at the Brazilian National Archives for researchers and the public<sup>106</sup>. In June 2022 the Brazilian government organised a public hearing on UAP<sup>107</sup>.

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<sup>101</sup> <https://www.northweststar.com.au/story/8669830/australia-joined-us-for-secret-uap-talks-at-the-pentagon/>

<sup>102</sup> <https://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/document-reveals-first-known-canadian-ufo-study-in-nearly-30-years-now-underway-1.6293124> and <https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/office-chief-science-advisor/sky-canada-project>

<sup>103</sup> [https://dkiapcss.edu/nexus\\_articles/a-comparative-survey-of-security-approaches-toward-unexplained-aerial-phenomena-across-the-indo-pacific/](https://dkiapcss.edu/nexus_articles/a-comparative-survey-of-security-approaches-toward-unexplained-aerial-phenomena-across-the-indo-pacific/)

<sup>104</sup> <https://sentinelnews.substack.com/p/japanese-minister-of-defense-says>

<sup>105</sup> <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/06/06/japan/japan-lawmakers-ufo-probe/> and <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/japan-lawmakers-want-govt-guard-against-security-risks-ufos-2024-05-29/>

<sup>106</sup> <https://english.elpais.com/science-tech/2023-09-30/ufos-in-brazil-the-official-story.html#> and <https://www.gov.br/en/government-of-brazil/latest-news/2022/official-ufo-night-in-brazil>

<sup>107</sup> <https://thedebrief.org/unidentified-aerial-phenomena-becomes-focus-of-recent-brazilian-senate-hearings/>

## China

China has its own official UAP military investigatory body using artificial intelligence to track UAP<sup>108</sup>. In 2019 it was revealed that the People's Liberation Army of China consider UAP a serious challenge to national security and flight safety and that there is a three-stage reporting system for dealing with UAP<sup>109</sup>. Furthermore, China has issued a shoot down order for UAP.

## Russia

According to various information sources, the Russian (and before 1992 the Soviet Union) military and government have encountered UAP on many different occasions, including incidents in which the Russian military sent fighter jets to try and chase UAPs and shoot them down in some cases<sup>110</sup>. In 2022 a Russian news agency mentioned that the Russian government is aware of UAP and is doing research<sup>111</sup> on the topic. As a result of its 2022 invasion of Ukraine, the Russian government has become worried about drone-based attacks against government infrastructure<sup>112</sup>.

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<sup>108</sup> <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3136078/china-military-uses-ai-track-rapidly-increasing-ufos>

<sup>109</sup> [https://www.news-postseven.com/archives/20240227\\_1943704.html?DETAIL&detail](https://www.news-postseven.com/archives/20240227_1943704.html?DETAIL&detail)

<sup>110</sup> <https://www.newsnationnow.com/space/ufo/russian-warplanes-chased-shot-dozens-uaps/> and <https://www.uapcheck.com/news/id/2024-07-06-a-short-history-of-ufo-research-in-the-former-soviet-union>

<sup>111</sup> <https://tass.com/russia/1463895>

<sup>112</sup> [https://dkiapcss.edu/nexus\\_articles/a-comparative-survey-of-security-approaches-toward-unexplained-aerial-phenomena-across-the-indo-pacific/](https://dkiapcss.edu/nexus_articles/a-comparative-survey-of-security-approaches-toward-unexplained-aerial-phenomena-across-the-indo-pacific/)