

## Space for a Safe Society and Sustainable Growth

**Session > II - Space for a Safe Society - Bucarest –  
4/5 june**

### Introduction

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear friends of space!

- After our enjoyable lunch and before starting our session, I would like to thank and complimented the **Romanian Space Agency// the European Commission and the European Space Agency** for organizing this conference to mark **the first** Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.
- I would like address a warm personal congratulation to you Marius for this important step for your country and your Space Agency!!
- As President of Eurisy, it is a great honor for me to moderate this session. Toby Clark our Secretary General explain already the goals and missions of Eurisy, so I'll will not come back on them.

- The theme of this session is contained in 3 words: Space / Safe & Society. 3 important words to live protected in Europe and to guarantee our well-being and freedom.

We all want to live in a society in which we feel secure and in an environment which we can hand over to the next generation

- From several years now, Space plays a key role to face huge global challenges which require global responses.

For those challenges Europe has adopted important tools:

- Copernicus
- Galileo
- EGNOS
- They ensure the freedom of actions, the autonomy of Europe and are of strategic importance in all domains. From military to crime and terrorism// from natural and man-made disasters to the civil protection// from the market sector to the non-market sector// from border security to cyber-security// from climate change to management of natural resources, and many others

- The way that we must lead our society is one of the biggest responsibilities that our politicians carry on their shoulders.

But politicians do not have all the answers themselves, I was an active politician in Belgium. They must interest out the technologies and innovations that help us to improve our society and promote them. Not so easy!

- In the last decade the European Commission and the European Space Agency have jointly developed and implemented the space infrastructures. These technologies allow us to do incredible things using precise navigation and location, and by observing all manner of different parameters of the earth from space.

- A good example is the **Advance Mobile Location - AML-** for emergency calls on which Eurisy is working in close collaboration with the **European Emergency Number Association (EENA)**  
Only few word on it because 2 of our panelists (Vera Pinto, Liviu Oboroc ) will speak about this topic.

The AML allows the emergency services to know the precise satellite derived position of the

emergency call (accurate to a few meters), instead of relying on the cell network derived position (accurate to 1km). **This simple capability can save a lot of lives today!**

But do you know that only 7 Countries on 27 in Europe have fully deployed the AML!!

Two personal remarks on this situation:

- Concerning the decision-makers, the main barrier for me is **political inertia**

- Concerning the citizens, the main barrier is a lack of information or inadequate communication and I'm really curious to ask during the debate how many of you heard about AML.

➤ As you see, many nice subjects and a vast domain for this session on "Space for a Safe Society" for which we have 6 panelists, each one will have approximately 15 min, then we'll have a round table discussion to answer to your questions.

➤ I propose to give the floor immediately to our first speaker: