BTO

Meeting of DG Roberto Viola with

Date: 08 March 2019

Venue: DG RV’s Office

List of Participants:

DG CNECT:
- Roberto Viola, Director-General
- Khalil Rouhana, Deputy Director-General
- Thomas Skordas, Director C
- , C.1
- , C.2
- , C.2

Visitors:
- , Airbus Defense and Space
- , Airbus Defense and Space
- , ESA

Main issues discussed:

- CNECT presented its future activities mainly focused on big projects and horizontal issues of the DSM. In this context, European cybersecurity defense capability and technological autonomy will be key for European strategic relevance.
- The deployment of interconnected HPC capacity in Europe, the development of European processor technologies (with creation of a company to commercialize products) and the quantum internet are three key components to achieve a fully integrated and secure space and ground communication, data and computing infrastructure for public and private users. CNECT envisions a future fully scalable space backbone (GEO and LEO as relay) that links with ground stations and fiber network.
- CNECT estimated that Europe has the potential to achieve this ambitious vision leveraging excellent know-how and leadership in academia and industry such as quantum technologies and optical (laser based) space communication.
• A strengthening of IPR protection and data access policies must be part of this ambitious vision and the Digital Europe Programme already has provisions that restrict participation, requiring a stronger commitment and participation from European industry.

• Key instruments to implement the vision such as Digital Europe, CEF and the Cybersecurity Competence Network and Centre, modelled after ESA’s ESTEC, have been already agreed on the substance or are close to agreement.

• CNECT is about to finalize a MoU with ESA that will be used to gauge the broader support for this global picture.

Conclusions