



A multidimensional response to UAS-related threats against vulnerable targets

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The EU Commission and Countering UAS

DG HOME – Dir. Internal Security – Counter-Terrorism Policy Unit

United Nations International Expert Group Meeting on the Protection of
Vulnerable Targets and Unmanned Aircraft Systems

UNOCT – 07 Oct 2021

European (C-UAS) policy context

- The 2020 [EU Security Union Strategy](#) and [Counter-Terrorism Agenda](#) state that the threat of non-cooperative UAS is a serious concern in Europe.
- [Action Plan](#) on synergies between civil, defence and space industries (2021)
 - includes a **drone technologies flagship** project.
 - involves, e.g. the *EU drone strategy 2.0* (2022) aimed at enabling and accelerating the further development of UAS tech in Europe, including C-UAS.
- European **regulatory framework** for safe drone operations will enter into force:
 - [U-Space](#) - the European UTM arrangement (January 2023).
- Many **EU partners** engaged in counter-UAS, including Institutions, EU Agencies, LEA's & networks and funded consortia.

C-UAS and Drone related Directorates-General (DG)

- **Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME)**
 - **Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE)**
 - **Defence Industry and Space (DG DEFIS)**
 - **Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW)**
- + the Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC)**



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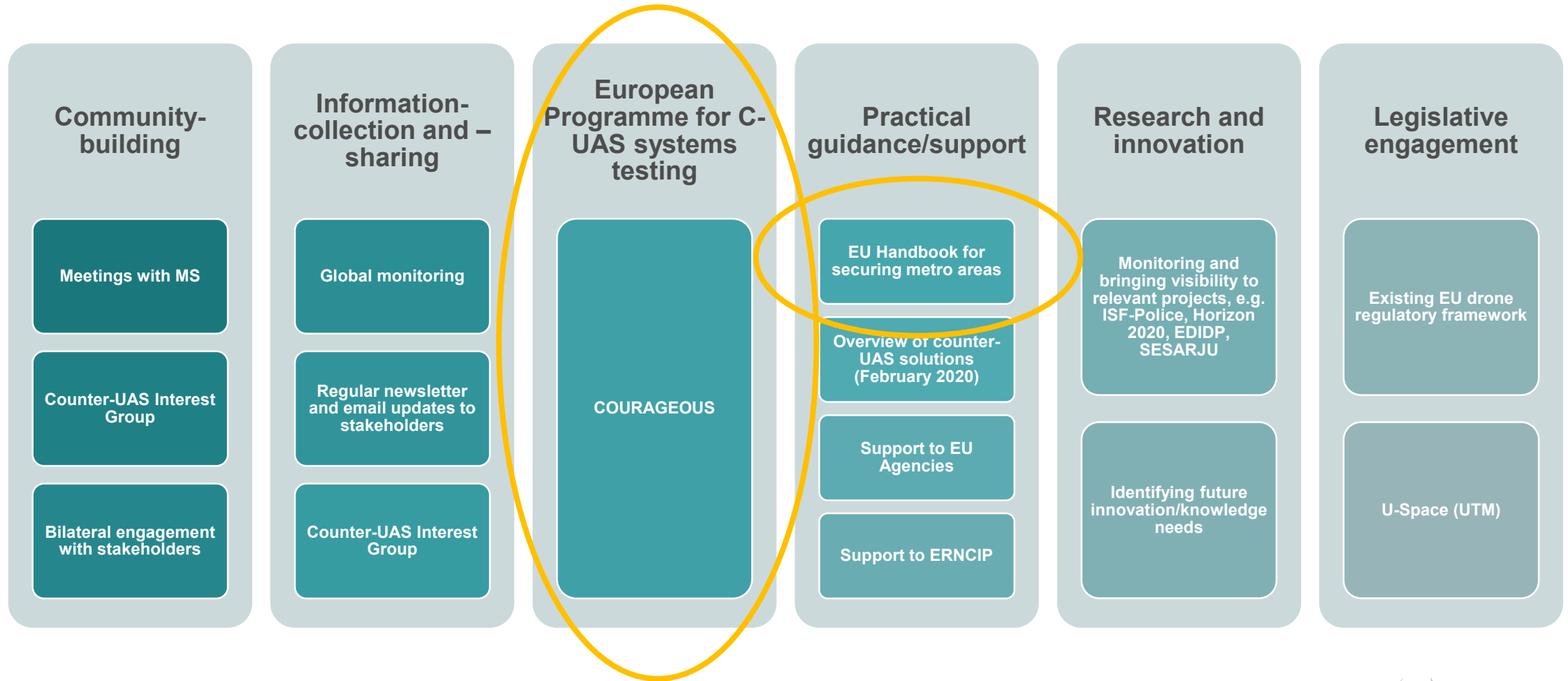
EASA
European Aviation Safety Agency

- ❑ **EU Regulations 2019/945 and 2019/947** set out the framework for the safe operation of civil drones in the European skies.
- ❑ In 2021 the ***European Union Aviation Safety Agency*** published 2 relevant documents:
 - Manual "Drone Incident Management at Aerodromes" (partially restricted).
 - Study on the societal acceptance of Urban Air Mobility.

DG HOME & Counter-UAS

- Use of commercial drones by terrorist groups in Syria-Iraq, Gatwick incidents as well as several terrorist threats and plots.
- First EU C-UAS workshop in **2016**
- The need for protection against drones is mentioned in the ***EU Action Plan to support the protection of public spaces*** (2017).
- Provide support to EU member states, **funding** of projects and studies.
- Now at 2 meetings per year...

DG HOME's Counter-UAS activities



European Programme for counter-UAS systems testing

- Outcome of 2019 High-Level EU International Conference
- Intended to facilitate a more common European approach among civilian authorities regarding counter-UAS systems testing
- Supported by **COURAGEOUS**, a three-year project led by the Belgium Royal Military Academy, started in April 2021, tasked with:
 - Identifying relevant standard scenarios
 - Developing functional and performance requirements/metrics
 - Developing a testing methodology
 - Conducting performance testing of sensors and integrated systems
 - Dissemination of results to EU MS

EU Handbook for securing urban areas from non-cooperative UAS



Source: [Securitymagazine.com](https://www.securitymagazine.com)

- A top-level, accessible handbook addressing relevant audiences and stakeholders in an urban context
- Non-technical
- Public release scheduled for late 2021

Joint Research Centre

□ JRC DRONE. Counter UAS for critical infrastructure

- Proof of Concept, installation and tests.
- Counter UAS handbook for critical infrastructure (Q4 2021).
- Living lab installation for stakeholder involvement (Belgium).

□ EU guideline for the physical protection against drones (Q4 2021)

- Safety and Security of Buildings Unit (Italy)
- Passive measures (target hardening)

C-UAS - A cyclical, whole-of-society approach required...



- Lawmakers
- Regulators
- Drone manufacturers
- Drone operators
- Government authorities, including police, defence, civil protection, CAAs, etc.
- Local-level authorities
- Operators of critical infrastructure and public spaces
- Private security providers
- Citizens

...that accounts for and/or recognises

- The **rapid pace** of technological evolution
- Quick uptake in the use of UAS by a **wide range of users**, including law enforcement, which alters the risk landscape and will impact airspace access
- The still comparatively **high costs** of tech solutions (no silver bullet)
- The **interplay** between counter-UAS measures (including tech) and **UTM** (U-Space)
- Lessons from other **stakeholders and settings**
- In every instance, **civilian-military and international cooperation** is essential !

Thank you for your attention.

European Commission

Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME)

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