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COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2026/2351

of 9 October 2026

on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 189, in conjunction with Article 218(6), second subparagraph, point (a), thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament ([1]),

Whereas:

(1) In accordance with Council Decision (EU) 2026/434 ([2]), the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme ([3]) (the 'Agreement') was signed on 26 March 2026, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

(2) From a geopolitical point of view, the participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and Iceland's access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, will contribute to strengthening Europe's role as a global actor and promote international cooperation as defined in the Space Strategy for Europe. An Agreement with Iceland will strengthen the Union's strategic posture, which is an objective of the European Union Space Strategy for Security and Defence.

(3) The Agreement should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme is hereby approved ([4]).

([1]) Consent of 16 September 2026 (not yet published in the Official Journal).
([2]) Council Decision (EU) 2026/434 of 17 February 2026 on the signing of the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland laying down the rules for participation of Iceland in the GOVSATCOM component of the Union Space Programme and in the Union Secure Connectivity Programme, and for access to GOVSATCOM services and to the governmental services of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme (OJ L, 2026/434, 23.2.2026, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2026/434/oj).
([3]) OJ L, 2026/2350, 22.10.2026, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/2026/2350/oj.
([4]) The date of entry into force of the Agreement will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, 9 October 2026.

For the Council
The President
S. HARRIS