



UNITED SYSTEMS EUROPE

THE CONTEXT

Remote controlled, automated and even autonomous vehicle systems are among the major technological and industrial developments of the 21st century. Their fields of application are multiple: they are used in particular in industry, transport, energy, agriculture, and the security sector. The limits of their potential have not yet been seen.

These systems embody the technological progress made in several areas: IT, electronics, telecommunications, artificial intelligence, etc. and meet economic requirements since they perform very productive and secure tasks that are difficult for humans.

In addition, the design, production and use of these systems create a wide variety of jobs within a large ecosystem, which includes all links in the value chain (design, production, maintenance, training, operations). Thanks to their electric propulsion, many of these systems have a very low carbon footprint and their implementation has many environmental benefits.

However, the dispersion of the structures and initiatives of this new industry is still a major obstacle to its development. Several European countries have created platforms for exchanges between the public authorities and the industry of these new systems, but the implementation of the new European regulation concerning civilian drones shows a strong need for consultation between the various market stakeholders at European level.

In addition, several regulatory changes are necessary to frame the operations expected in the short to medium term: autonomous drones, flights out of the sight of the remote pilot, flights in populated areas, etc., which militates for a consolidation of exchanges between industry and European regulatory authorities (EASA and the European Commission in particular).

Finally, this consultation must be accompanied by actions to promote and help the development of the sectors concerned, both financially and societally, because the acceptance of these systems will come at the cost of a constant educational effort with decision-makers and the public.

In view of these considerations, and the strong international competition (mainly Chinese and American) in these markets, the USE Foundation proposes to bring together the energies contributing to the objective of developing the European market for these systems in the air, land, nautical and space fields. USE's founding team has the experience and network of relationships required to initiate and bring this project to fruition. It plans to work from the beginning of 2022, to facilitate the de-compartmentalization between public and private actors in these emerging markets through the establishment of collaborative work, written contributions, a platform for digital exchanges, and events covering all the issues of these markets.

This collective European approach is supported by the national authorities in several European Union Member States.

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Correspondance: c/o Blyenburgh & Co

86 rue Michel Ange - F-75016 Paris - France - Tel.: 33-1-46.51.88.65