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Florence
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7th Florence Air Forum

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Regulating Drones: Creating European Regulation that is smart and proportionate

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Context

- The recent yet rapid proliferation of drones poses new challenges for aviation regulation
- Drones clearly need to be regulated, but:
 - regulation has to take into account the different types of drones, reflecting their different types of uses (inspection, surveillance, transport, etc.)
 - regulation has to be proportionate to the risks that these different types of drones pose
 - the different regulatory objectives have to be identified (safety, security, privacy, others?)
- Drone regulation will also pose problems of implementation, especially at the local level



Riga Declaration (6.3.2015)

- Drones need to be treated as a new type of aircraft with proportionate rules based on the risk of each operation
- EU rules for the safe provision of drone services need to be developed now
- Technologies and standards need to be developed for the full integration of drones in the European airspace
- Public acceptance is key to the growth of drone services (e.g., privacy, noise, security)
- The operator of a drone is responsible for its use (identifiable owner, liability, insurance, reporting)



Objectives of the 7th Air Forum

- A first systematic discussion of the regulatory dimensions of drones in Europe
- 3 main questions:
 - How to ensure a light-handed but effective regulatory approach that is able to keep up with evolving technology?
 - Where can drones fly and where not? Which rules of the air, which air traffic control procedures?
 - Enforcement – can new rules for drones help to enforce existing regulation on privacy and security on the national and local level?



Structure and principles of the day

- Introduction by the EC on how drone regulation fits into the overall EU aviation strategy
- 4 sessions with short inputs and subsequent discussions:
 - depth of regulation
 - types of required rules
 - enforcement
 - way forward
- Chatham rules
- Slides, summaries and Observer after the Forum