**STUDY ON MILITARY AND U-SPACE GUIDELINES KICKS OFF**

**EDA is launching a study to contribute to an efficient civil-military collaboration in the framework of U-Space by facilitating and supporting the military engagement in this context. Initiated in 2016 by the European Commission, U-Space is an ecosystem relying on a high level of digitalisation and automation, which enables a safe and secure integration of a large number of drones in the airspace, and particularly at low altitudes.**

Considering that the Military operate in all environments (from rural to urban, including airport environment) for all types of missions going from routine to full emergency situations in both controlled and uncontrolled airspaces, the growth of drone traffic will impact Military operations. EDA thus looks to establish a Common Military View on the impact of the development of U-Space in Europe and to promote this Common Military View to all civilian stakeholders involved in the U-Space development.

U-Space is essentially a civilian development but it is vital for the Military to have their views and requirements taken into account in the deployment process and to understand how U-Space could affect military operations'. The study will thus look into the risk of U-Space not fully addressing Military requirementsor retaining solutions that are not compatible with the Military objectives or operations.

The study starts with first phase in 2021 that will:

* Analyse the U-Space services currently under implementation, or planned for implementation, and assess whether they could be beneficial to the Military or negatively impact their missions;
* Develop Military U-Space Use Cases covering a wide scope of Military missions and found either beneficial to the Military or mandatory when/if the Military operate in a U-Space environment;
* Compute any financial costs for the Military resulting from the U-Space implementation;
* Formulate guidelines and recommendations to the Military regarding U-Space services, and investigate how Military Use Cases can be promoted to civilian Stakeholders.

To ensure appropriate coordination with relevant U-Space stakeholders and the alignment of the Military position on U-Space with its actual development, EDA will engage experts from both Military and civilian entities throughout the study and provide them with the opportunity to review the material developed in the project.