B 3 The German Space Sector Between Old and New Space

The space sector has changed rapidly worldwide in recent decades. Having been mainly state-managed until the 2000s, a strongly private-sector driven space industry is currently developing. However, the state still plays an important role – not least because of the high strategic relevance of space activity for the economy and society as well as the preservation of technological sovereignty. However, the space industry in Germany and Europe operates in an environment determined by pronounced national and supranational interests, a complex funding landscape and, in Germany, uncertainty about the future regulatory framework.