

# **SATELLITE BROADBAND – THE ROAD TO 6G**

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**O-RAN NTN Workshop**  
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# The road to 6G

## Evolution in satellite communications

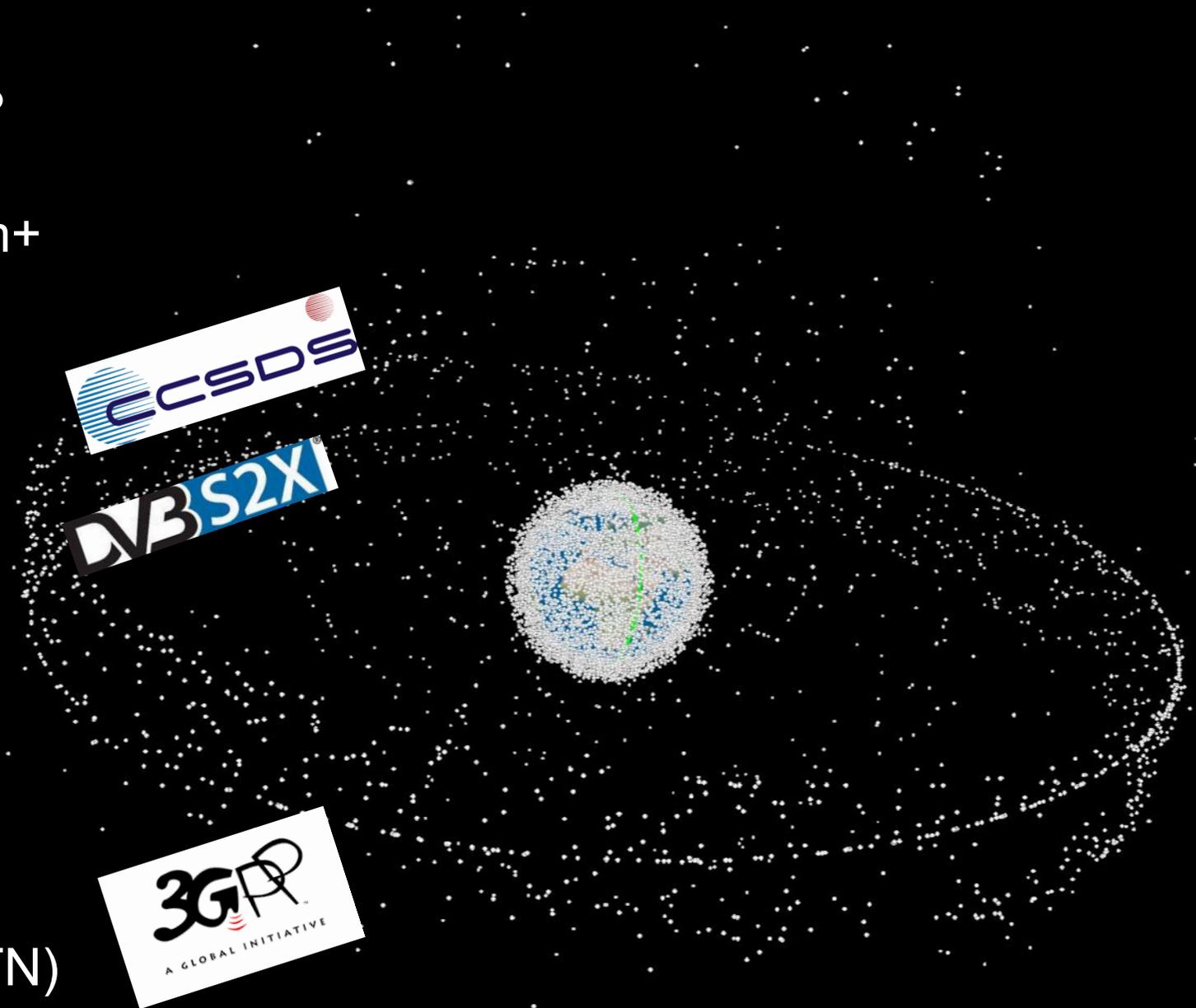
- From **telephony** to **TV broadcast**, to **connectivity**, to **broadband**
- From **fixed** services to **mobility**
- From **raw capacity** to **managed services**
- From **regional** to **global** service offers
- From **GEO** (1960+) to **LEO** (1998, 2019+)
  
- “New Space”
- Direct to device (“D2D”)
  
- From satcom standards (**DVB**) to **3GPP**



# The road to 6G

## Why a new standard?

- Distance: 500-36000km+
    - Delay
    - Limited power / SNIR
  - Variable Doppler shift
  - Specific frequencies
  - Blockages
- 
- Scale
  - Interoperability (TN+NTN)



# 5G/6G NTN

## A giant leap for Sat-kind

ETSI 6G-NTN Conference, April 2024



# EUTELSAT activities on NTN



**NTN-OneWeb trials**



**Airbus UpNext SpaceRAN demonstrator**  
5G connectivity beyond limits.



# IRIS<sup>2</sup> - a 5G-based sovereign constellation



eutelsat

ses

hispasat

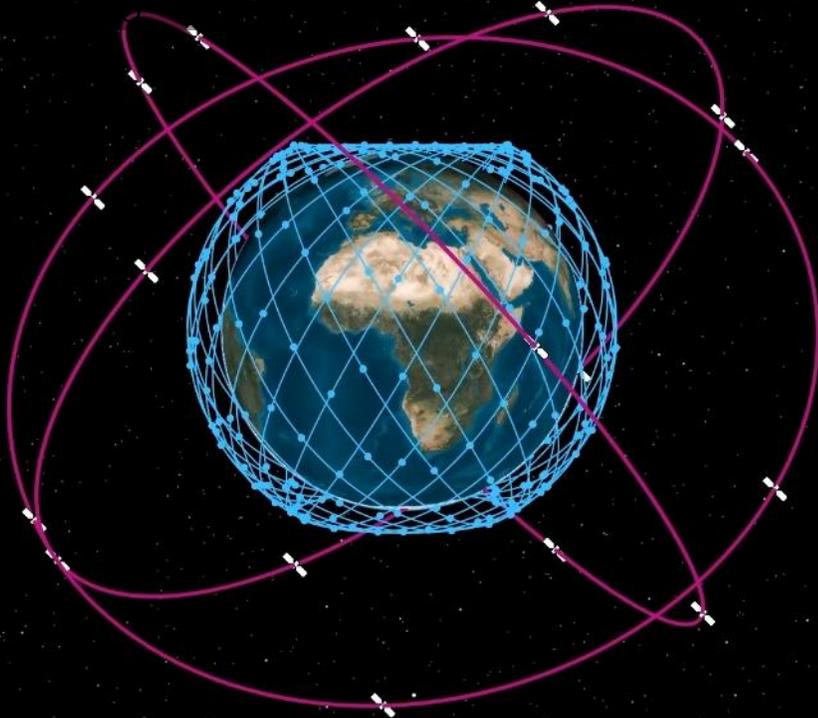
SpaceRISE

## Space Segment

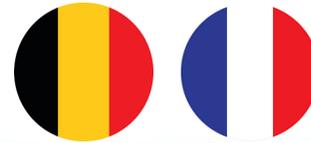
- **264** satellites in **High-LEO** (1200 km)
- **18** satellites in **MEO** (8000 km)
- **10** satellites in **Low-LEO** ( $\leq 750$  km)

## Connectivity

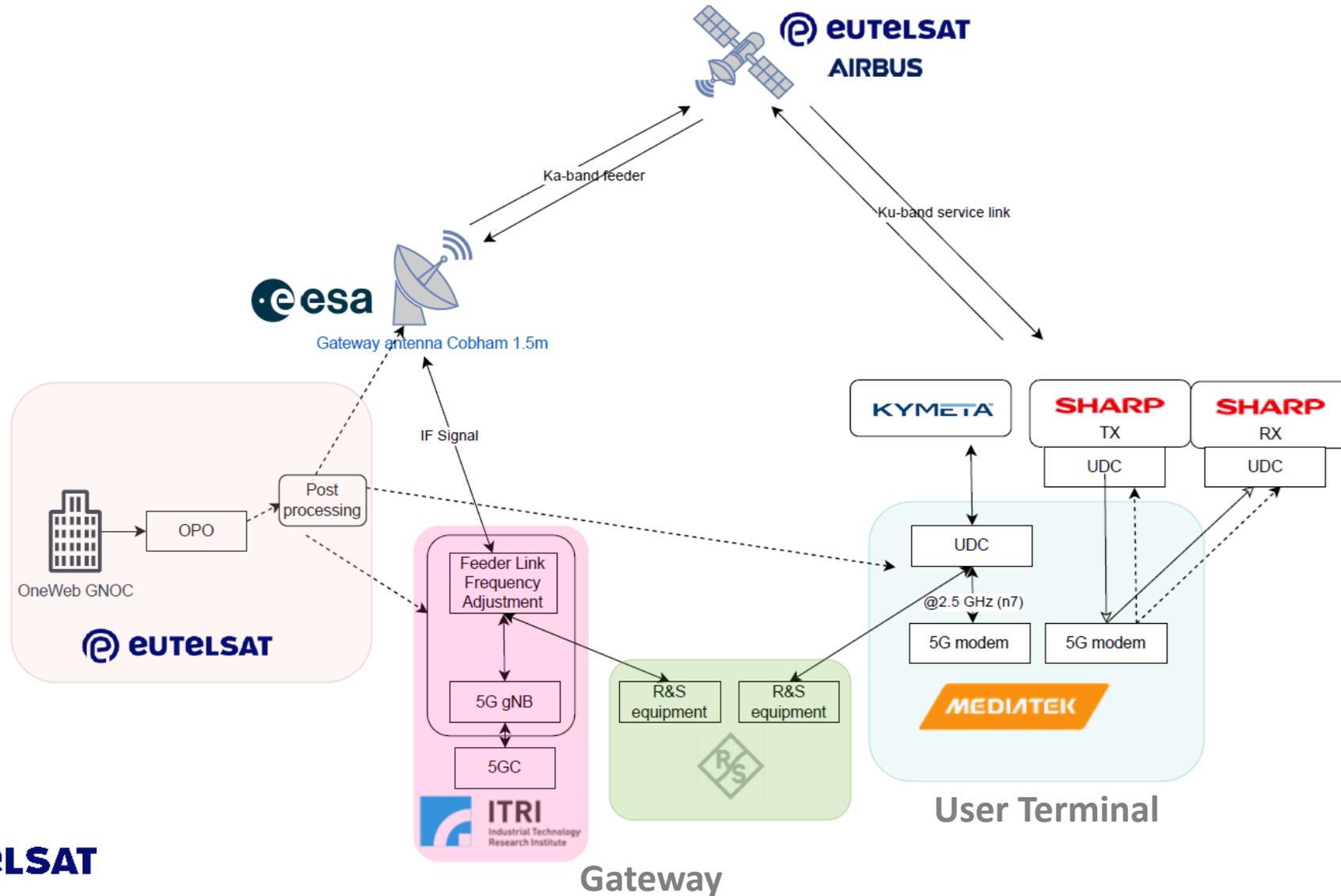
- **5G NR NTN** air interface and **5G Core Network**
- Use of **optical inter-satellite links**
- Support for **regenerative** and **transparent** modes
- Support for **star** and **mesh** network topologies



# IRIS<sup>2</sup> or IRIS2 or IRISS?



# 5G NR-NTN OTA Demonstration over ONEWEB satellites



# 5G NR-NTN OTA Demonstration over ONEWEB satellites

## CHALLENGES

- Prototype Chipset Rel19
- Commercial-grade gNB and User Antenna
- OneWeb satellites in Ka/Ku bands
- FR1 numerology (15kHz SCS)
- Feeder link frequency adjustment + Doppler compensation

## RESULTS

- Different MCS up to 24 (64QAM)
- Inter-beam Conditional Handover
- Mobility
- 5MHz and 50MHz
- International collaboration



# Airbus UpNext SpaceRAN demonstrator



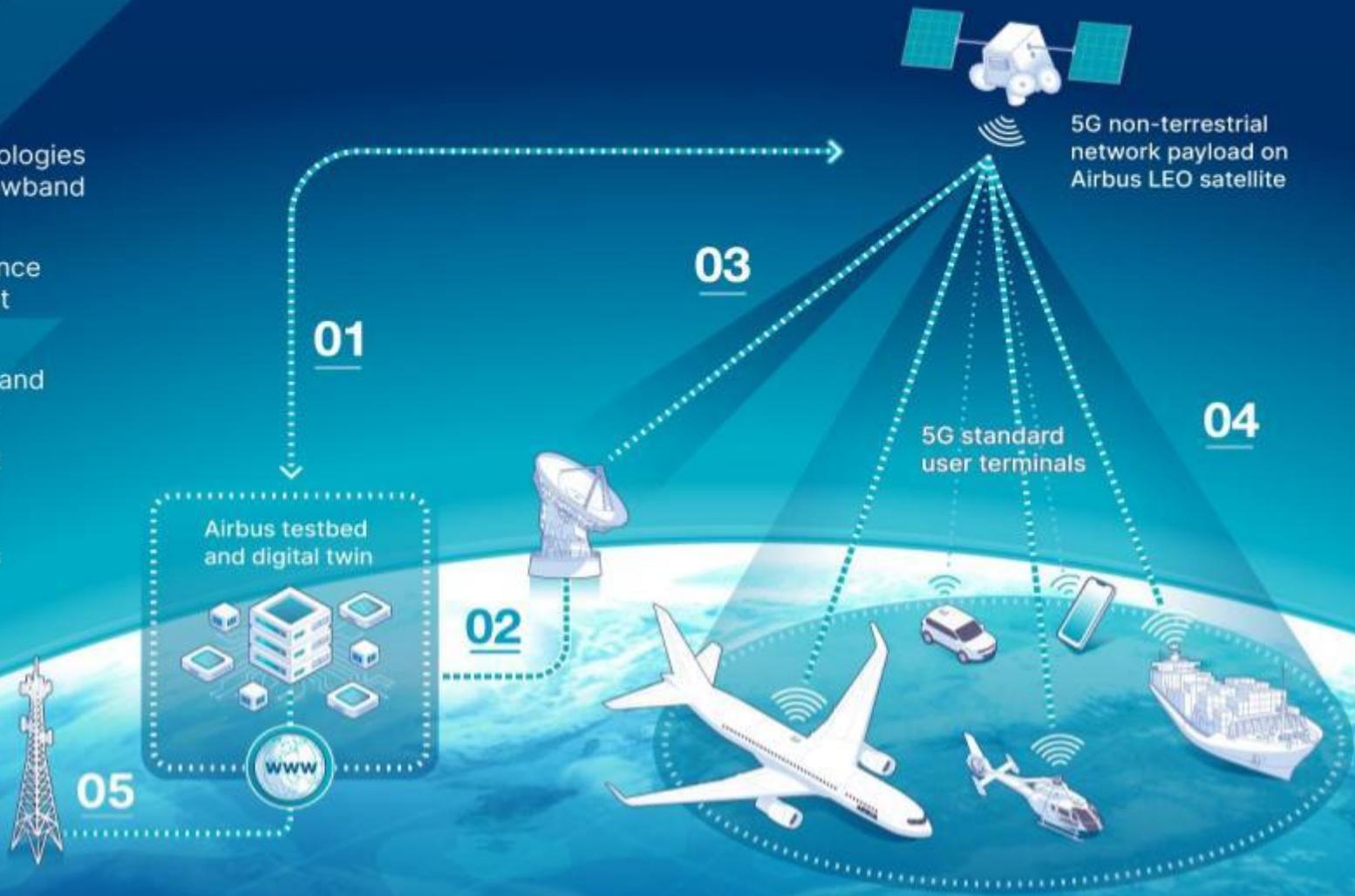
## 5G connectivity beyond limits.

### Ambition

Explore

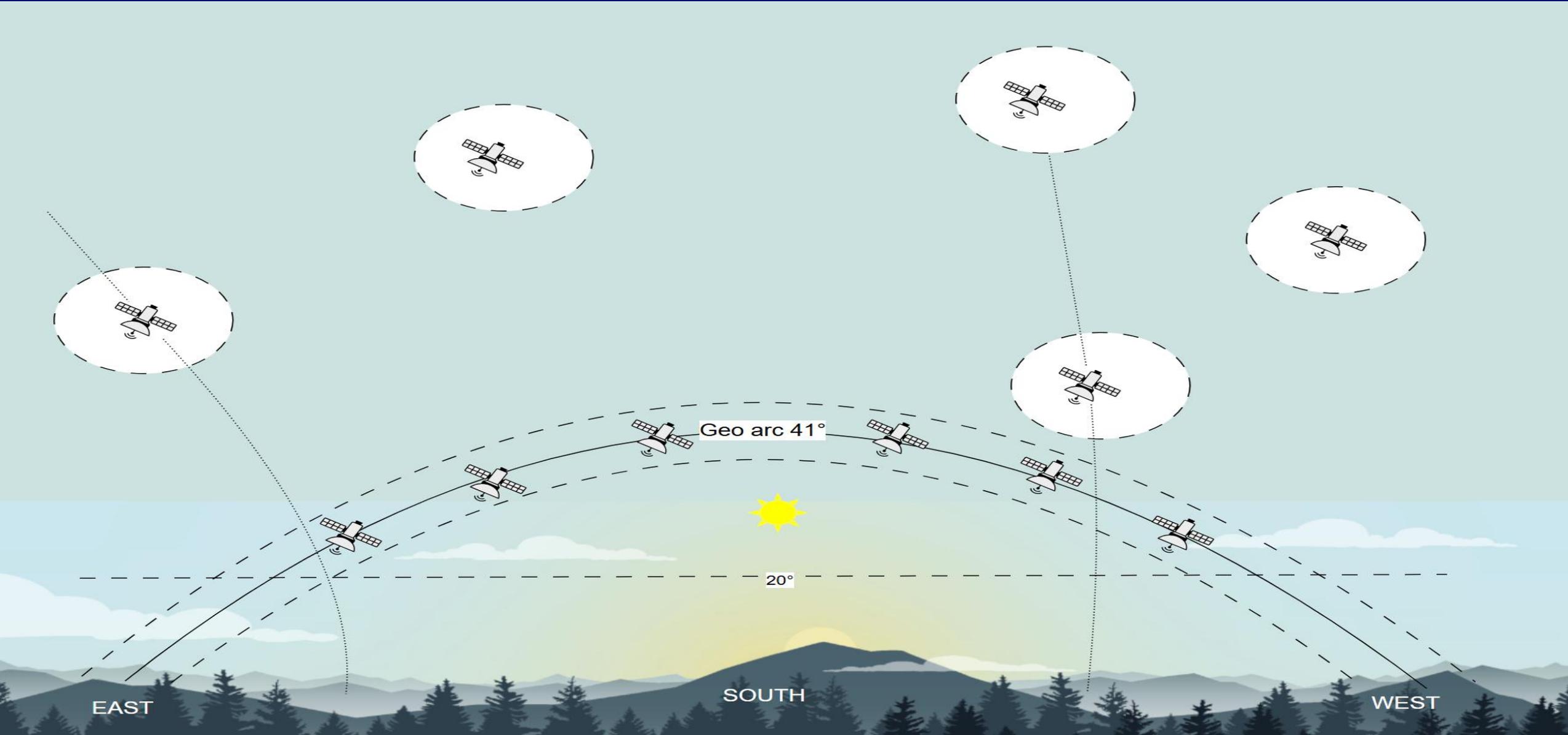
- > 5G non-terrestrial technologies for broadband and narrowband applications
- > seamless high performance connectivity to all market segments
- > integration of terrestrial and non-terrestrial networks

To foster the development of global, standard and interoperable solutions enabling sovereign access to connectivity.

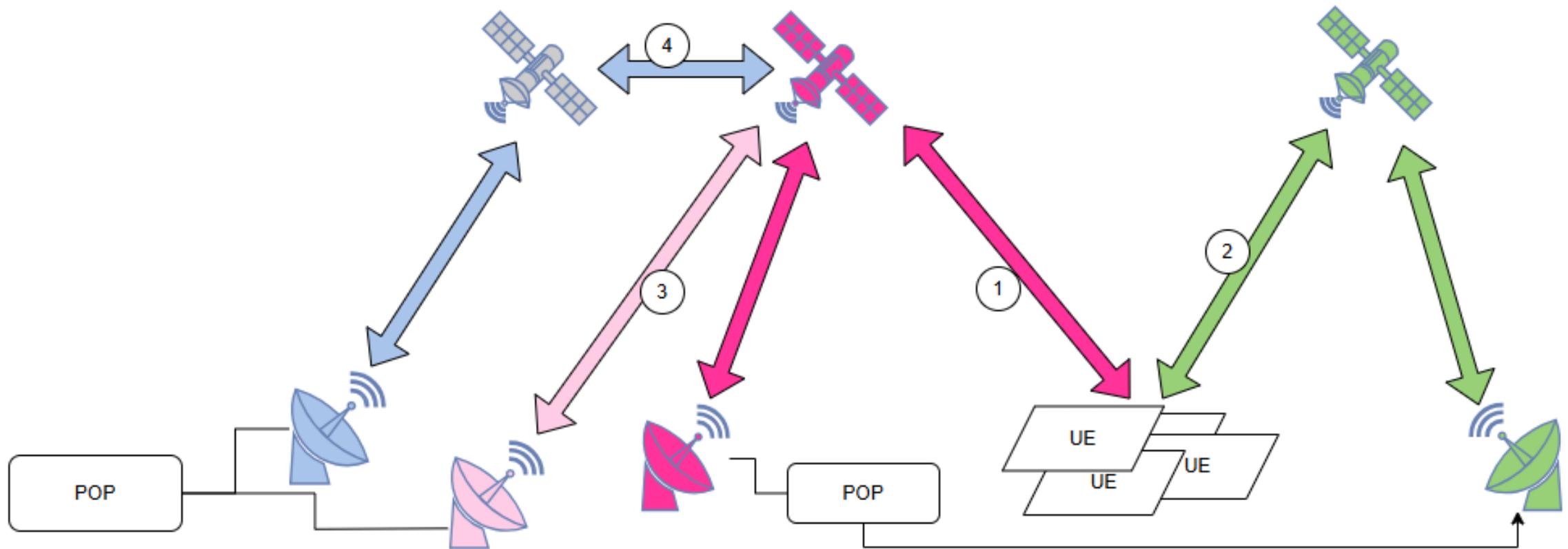


- 01** Software defined payload configuration
- 02** Ground segment configuration
- 03** Feeder link connectivity
- 04** User Link connectivity
- 05** Terrestrial mobile and Internet connectivity

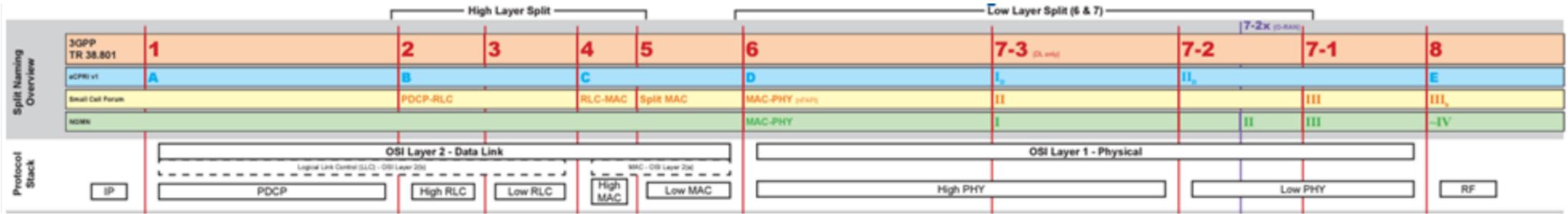
# ITU Radio Regulation, filings, and handovers



# NTN Handover scenarios



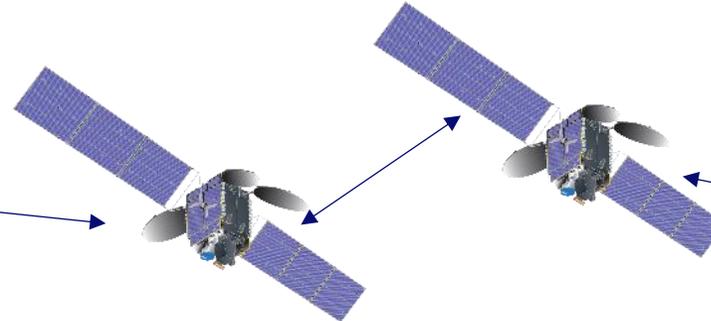
# NTN RAN network architectures and “splits”



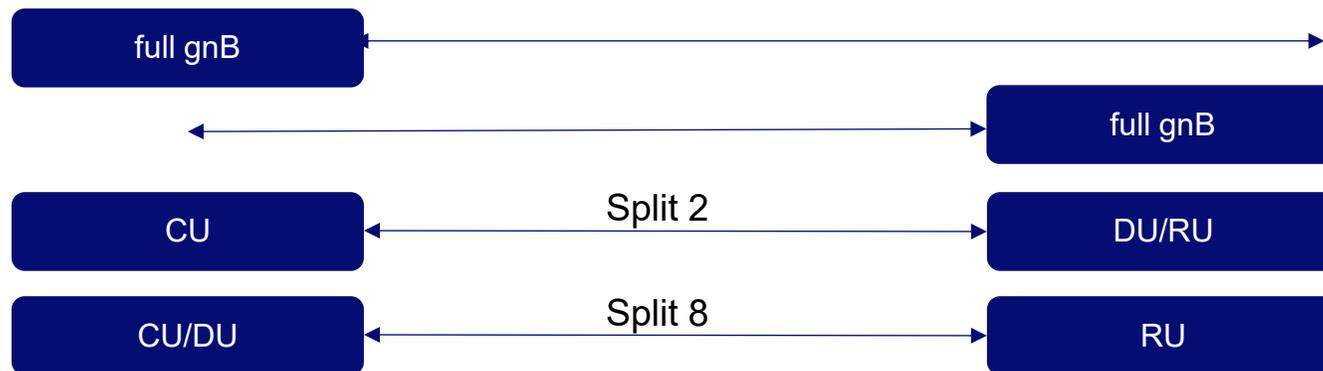
POP



Gateway



UE



# NTN: The road to 6G Recommendations

- NTN in 6G from day one
- Evolution, not revolution
- Improved coverage (link budget)
- Resiliency (GNSS-free, jamming resistance)
- Better efficiency
- Interoperability
- Sovereignty

**Thanks!**

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