

54TH IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)  
Environmental Aspects of Space Law and of Space Activities (4)

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CHINA AND SPACE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION: AN EVALUATION FROM AN  
INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

**Abstract**

The impact of Chinese space activities on space environment has become a concern. China's government emphasizes that the issue of space debris is a big challenge to further expansion of space activities. It has carried out research into space environment monitoring and forecasting since the 1980s and made important progress in the observation, reduction and forecasting of space debris. During recent years, China has accelerated the process of translating international agreements into domestic policy and law, mainly by the national action plans on space debris initiated in 2000 and the Provisional Regulation on Mitigation and Management of Space Debris, which entered into force in 2010. This article aims at evaluating whether China has fulfilled its international obligations in this respect and the inadequacy of relevant international legal regime.