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GERMANY'S ROLE WITHIN THE EU SPACE POLICY: ENCOURAGING NATIONAL VERSUS EUROPEAN SPACE INDUSTRY APPLICATIONS

Abstract

National Governments are aware of the need for investments in space. In the European Union, the new European Space Policy is being developed as a tool to further input in space experimentation and research across all Member States and the Union.

This paper discusses the novel interdependencies between clear national and now supranational space policies, using the examples of the German national space policy and that of the EU Lisbon Treaty.

Germany is one of the most proactive space-focused Member States of the EU. However, the differences in the affiliation of Member States to national as well as regional space agencies such as ESA and the novel structure of supranational governmental organization of the EU can lead to issues of demarcation.

The paper focuses on the EU Space Policy, especially on Article 189 of the Lisbon Treaty, and offers some reflection on the effect of the EU's involvement in the space domain.