31st IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE POLICY, REGULATIONS AND ECONOMICS (E3) Interactive Presentations - 31st IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE POLICY, REGULATIONS AND ECONOMICS (IP)

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CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN POLISH SPACE LAW

Abstract

The main objective of this paper is the comparative analysis of the proposed developments in Polish space law with already existing legal frameworks in other Member States, e.g. Austria and Luxembourg.

The main purpose of the proposed amendments to the Act on Polish Space Agency is to introduce the principles of supervision to solutions applicable in other European countries, especially in Member States of European Space Agency. In each of them a national space agency or other separate organization responsible for the space activity is subject to the supervision of appropriate minister responsible for space policy usually minister of economy, industry, science or research. The Act organizes and clarifies also the competences of Polish Space Agency as an executive agency to provide necessary expert support and technological knowledge for other public administration bodies involved in space activities with the main responsibility to prepare and to coordinate the implementation of national space programme.

The Act on Space Activity will regulate the principles of conducting space business which can only be performed after obtaining license. The Act will also introduce the National Register of Space Objects with the main purpose of recording the data of space objects. In addition, the information included in the register will be the basis for the responsibility of the Republic of Poland for any damage caused by this object and for the exercise of jurisdiction over those objects by the Republic of Poland and will be subject to third party liability insurance.