

32nd IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE POLICY, REGULATIONS AND ECONOMICS (E3)
Interactive Presentations - 32nd IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE POLICY, REGULATIONS AND
ECONOMICS (IP)

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NATIONAL SPACE AGENDA AS A MIRROR OF SPACE POLICY

Abstract

Space agenda at national level facing the growing complexity of outer space activities. In particular, international space community is undergoing dramatic change due to the larger involvement of the private sector in space activities that require need to ensure alignment of national and international policies in that regard.

In this presentation we consider the problem of close connection between space agenda and space policy in national level. One of the mainstreams of the international space agenda is a fragmentation of space activities when the leading group of the technologically developed countries (majorities) is space exploration and space missions beyond geostationary orbit. At the same time, the group of technologically under-developed countries (minorities) are undergoing poor developing or vanishing space activities.

Our research is based on analysis on space agenda in different countries for the last decade and we use the method of comparative studies.

Among driving factors enhancing space activities scope and vision in countries with poor space agenda are : - integrated and consolidated approach that builds stronger partnerships and international cooperation in the field of space activities, - capacity building through increased development and use of space science, technology and their applications; - development of space education, space law and space policy.

We propose that efforts must be intensified within the respective mandates at the global, regional and national levels in order to promote and support the development of strategic space policy papers at national levels.

We conclude that space agenda at national level is a mirror of space policy. Mainstreams and benefits of space activities in countries must be well formulated and structured in space policy papers irrespective of their level of economic, social, scientific or technical development and in accordance with international law.