

53rd COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)
The Current Status of the Rule of Law with Regard to Space Activities (4)

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FROM GUIDELINE TO INTERNATIONAL TREATY FOR RULE OF LAW CONCERNING
MITIGATION OF SPACE DEBRIS

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Abstract

Past more than fifty years, we launched thousand hundred space objects into outer space. Accordingly there are huge number of space active objects and debris in outer space. There have been many efforts to elaborate any kind of domestic and international regulation concerning mitigation of space debris in outer space. However, even after long time discussions about mitigation of space debris issues among international level like UNCOPUOS and space active countries, it is still rather difficult to reach intentional agreement to regulate mitigation of space debris compulsorily. In order to elaborate rule of law concerning mitigation of space debris issues, it is necessary to review international and domestic practices and policies. I examine UNCOPUOS discussions, several guidelines among space active countries. In this paper I also explain Japanese domestic law and regulation on mitigation of space debris and comparative study with other countries. It would be also important for this issue to include any rule and regulations of space traffic and liability. In recent involvement of commercial space activities this mitigation of space debris issues would be more sensitive for promotion of space industries in each countries. It would be necessary for further development of space activities among all countries to elaborate rule of law concerning mitigation of space debris near future.