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LIABILITY, INSURANCE & INDEMNIFICATION IN NATIONAL SPACE LAW

Abstract

This paper will address two principal issues: (1) the liability exposure of States for death, injury, or property damage by providers of commercial spaceflight; and (2) how States protect themselves in their domestic legislation through indemnification and insurance requirements in the licensing of launch sites, launch vehicles, and launches and re-entry. The first part of this paper will address the liability imposed upon States by customary International Law, and the Outer Space and Liability Conventions. The second part of this essay will examine how States protect themselves from liability through national legislation. In particular, it will provide a comparative analysis of the national legislation addressing insurance and indemnification in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Korea, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States.