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REVISION ON ASTRONAUT'S DEFINITION

Abstract

More than 50 years from first human space flight has passed and during these years more than 500 people with different nationalities have traveled to the outer space. In 1960 decade, the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) provided a definition for the “Astronaut” word and it was accepted by involved countries. But in last decade due to the presence of new powers in the field of manned spaceflight, increasing the range responsibilities of personnel in space flights such as space tourism, inventing new ways of space flights such as LEO flights or in future, space elevators, the need of modifying the current definition is increasing more. The Need to revise the definition of Astronaut arises from this issue that current description needs more generality and specifications for legal justification of human space flights in international societies for commercial or non-commercial travels in past, present and future. Certainly in near future the globe will face with numerous legal and civil challenges in this field. In this paper we try to study all current definitions, deliberating manned space mission in 50 years and what will lie in future. Our method is interviewing a number of astronauts, publishing different types of survey based on the category we are questioning among experts, as well as technical and legal studies which results in adding more details to current definition besides providing new and comprehensive definition of Astronauts which leads to suggest new terminology for astronaut.