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ADVOCATING SPACE - THE FISHER INSTITUTE FOR AIR AND SPACE STRATEGIC STUDYS AS
A MODEL FOR ACTIVE NGO ROLE IN THE NATIONAL SPACE ARENA

Abstract

Founded 15 years ago, the institute was established by the Air Force Association and connects former Air Force personnel to facilitate public discussion in Israel about aviation and space issues. Its objectives are to Encourage and conduct research and development in the field of air and space, to initiate and disseminate strategic studies on air and space warfare, and related matters.

A member of the International Astronautical Federation since 2013, the Fisher Institute is a very active player in Israel's vibrant space arena.

The "crown jewel" of the Fisher Institute's activities is the annual Ilan Ramon International space conference, the largest of its kind in Israel, held jointly with the Israeli Space Agency and the ministry of science, technology and space. Attracting many space leaders (including heads of space agencies such as NASA, ESA, CSA, ASI, CNES and many others), industries, international organizations (including the IAF, ISU and UNOOSA), the conference is a major instrument to actively influence the space agenda on all levels - the policy, industrial trends, education an more.

The paper will explore the various activities of the Fisher Institute, from researches on the international space station, through educational activities to advocacy of the case for space at the political level.

The paper also explores the future plans for the institute, and its ongoing cooperation and collaboration with the space sector in Israel and the international community.