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Legal issues associated with private human flight, including space and ground facilities, traffic management and spaceports (4)

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NEW PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION IN REGARD OF
THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIVATE HUMAN FLIGHT

Abstract

This paper will mainly discuss those new perspectives in international administrative cooperation via the example of launching authorizations. Such perspectives are opened by the convergence of two facts: the first one is the very large field of the nationals' regulations on launching authorizations. They are intentionally large in order to avoid for the launching States to see their responsibility engaged by giving a mean of control to those States. In the other hand the development of private human flights imply an intensification of space activities, and, hence an intensification of the demands for authorizations. One of the characteristics of the space sector being multinational it will be necessary to evocate the question of the multi authorizations and the possible ways to improve the system by simplifying the procedures. The first objective of this paper will be to describe the actual situation on regard of launching authorizations with a report of the legal situations on multinational space operations. It will be followed by a second one about the actual and possible means of simplification on improvement of complex situations. It will obviously be treated of the perspective of an international organization dedicates to space activities, which could be qualified as a "substantial evolution"; the lessons learned in the aviation sector about international cooperation on authorizations delivery will served as point of comparison. But this point won't be the main one; indeed this paper will focus on the "preliminary steps" of substantial evolution in administrative cooperation, it is to say the actual legal means of cooperation, their utility and limits. After the studying of the procedural harmonization way, the principal interrogation to which this paper will be to try to answer to the eventual possibility of mutual reconnaissance of launching authorizations. The methodology of this work will firstly be a comparative approach of national space laws, especially about their application fields and authorizations requirements. Such a work will be followed by an inquiry about the actual administrative practices by national space agencies on international cooperation, and the possibilities on their improvement.