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Regional cooperation in space: policies, governance and legal tools (1)

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UKRAINE COOPERATION IN SPACE: REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS

**Abstract**

The development of advanced space technologies in Ukraine is an important factor which determining its strategic position in the world. The fifth national space program for 2013-2017 years includes the following purposes: • the scientific and productive potential improvement for the benefit of the national economy, defense and security; • enhancement of the activities effectiveness on the international space market and industry integration into the global economics; • the internal market development and the commercialization of space activities. Ukraine's space industry operates under extremely limited funding conditions, due to difficult economic and political situation in the country which has evolved since February 2014. Space area development requires the international regional cooperation that will enable for stakeholders to optimize the development and launch cost. It is taken to be effective the Ukrainian international cooperation with the countries of the Baltic-Black Sea region - Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Romania, Hungary, etc. Such cooperation can be realized with the European Space Agency directly or in the form of multilateral consortia of space institutions. The cooperation by analogy with the project Twinning will also provide a positive impetus for improvement of the activity of space industry government. The research program of the European Union "Horizon 2020" facilitates implementation of innovative activities and at the same time stimulates the growth of employment and financial well-being of the population. To achieve a new level of cooperation is necessary to work out a number of legal international documents - to coordinate national laws and regulations with international ones, take measures to protect intellectual property rights in area of space activities and so on. Deploying of cluster Sich spacecraft will make it possible for the countries of the Baltic-Black Sea region to carry out the aerospace monitoring of the environmental management, environmental crisis phenomenon in order to minimize adverse effects, and also in the interests of security and defense. Well-known launch vehicles developed by Ukrainian specialists Cyclon, Zenit, Dnipro, Sea Launch can be used for payload launch. Ukrainian telecommunication satellite Lybid launch which takes place in the near future will create significant economic benefits and opportunities for information space improvement for the region. Available in Ukraine space instruments and infrastructure are unique, that creates conditions for their integration into the European research system and for their use for the countries of the Baltic-Black Sea region benefit.