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COOPERATION AMONG BRICS IN SPACE MATTER: A REVIEW OF BRAZILIAN AGREEMENTS

Abstract

This study aims to analyze the cooperation developed by the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) in space matters, especially the agreements signed by Brazil with other States of the acronym. The paper is inserted in the programmatic content "Space Law". The deductive method as a methodological basis for this work is elected, based on extensive bibliographic and normative research. First, it analyses who and what are the BRICS emphasizing the new cooperation model they bring to international relations. The type of interaction brought by BRICS reflects a new cooperation model that, despite it may be considered informal, it breaks the typical institutionalized models, opening room for new paradigms and adjustments in the international arena. Then will be briefly analyzed the legal framework created for the outer space, with emphasis on the participation of BRICS in the five main treaties that compose the Space Law. From the analysis of the themes "BRICS" and "Space Law", we study the reference to the last one in the declarations and action plans completed in the Summits, namely, the Sanya Declaration (2011) where Russia was congratulated for 50-year anniversary of the flight of Yuri Gagarin, first human to go into space, the Fortaleza Declaration (2014) which showed the concern of the BRICS with the peaceful use of outer space and ,finally, the Ufa Declaration (2015) which reaffirmed the need of use of space for peaceful purposes, the importance of cooperation as well as the freedom and space exploration equality for peaceful purposes. Ahead, the work arrives at its central point, where the agreements held by Brazil with other BRICS countries will be analyzed, with emphasis on the cooperation with China. Despite the cooperation among BRICS is incipient, Brazil shows interest in increasing it with the other states. Therefore, there are prospects with the other four countries, although in different measures. This work allows us to conclude that the cooperation between the BRICS on space matter is embryonic and is reduced only to mentions in the Declarations of the Summits, which, moreover, remain silent on other great challenges of Space Law. On the other hand, stands out Brazilian search role in this area, while maintaining agreements with consolidated space programs countries, such as Russia and China as well as seek adjustments with India and South Africa.