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GLOBAL SPACE GOVERNANCE: THE NEED TO ADOPT DE-INSTITUTIONALIZED COOPERATION MODELS

Abstract

The UN 2030 Agenda exhorts all States to change their positions so that the ideals of sustainable development can be achieved in different areas. However, the use of outer space should also be based on the dictates of sustainable development, in order to avoid damage to outer space, as it occurs, for example, with the space debris. The purpose of the present work is to indicate cooperation mechanisms for efficient governance in space. In order to do so, in its first part, we intend to analyze the main mechanism of institutionalized cooperation in space matters, which is, the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), highlighting its intricate system of decision-making which, of course, prevents significant advances in the development of the matter. The second part proposes the analysis of the de-institutionalized means of cooperation, that is, those that do not require a large structure or too much bureaucracy and that, consequently, facilitate cooperation between States. In this paper, the model of cooperation proposed by the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), the works developed by the Hague Space Resources Governance Working Group and the use of soft law as a Space Law will be the objects of analysis. Thus, the present work aims to demonstrate, through different perspectives, that global governance can be achieved with the use of different mechanisms, which have de-institutionalization and de-bureaucracy as a common point.