

61st IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)  
Integrated space applications, EO telecoms navigation (3)

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BIG DATA FLOW FROM SPACE TO THE EU: OPEN ACCESS AND OPEN DISSEMINATION  
POLICY VS. THE COMMON EUROPEAN DATA SPACE

**Abstract**

Space technologies, data and services can support numerous EU policies and key political priorities, including the competitiveness of European economy, migration, climate change, the Digital Single Market and sustainable management of natural resources. In this context the European programmes Galileo and Copernicus are able to foster and support many Eu policies and to positively contribute to the daily life of European citizens. The potential areas of application of data and services derived from space systems (including satellite images, geo-positioning information and satellite communications) are huge and they are not yet fully exploited. What is already well known is that space infrastructures and space-based applications are able to generate a huge mass of data, which can be qualified as personal or non-personal, depending on the acquired information. The European Commission clearly states that one of the priorities of the Space Strategy for Europe is to facilitate the use of Copernicus data and information by strengthening data dissemination and setting up platform services, promoting interfaces with non-space data and services. Such a statement complies with the open dissemination policy that generally features space-based data all over the world (see remote sensing principles and earth observation data licence conditions). However, the acquisition, manipulation and dissemination of the acquired data have to be contextualised within the Common European Data Space, where a framework for the free movement of personal and non-personal data is provided. The aim of the presentation is to analyse the applicability of the GDPR and of the new proposed regulation for the free movement of non-personal data to the space-based mass of data; moreover it is devoted to rationalize the legal framework applicable to space-derived data within the Eu territory (both for acquisition and circulation of data). In order to check the applicability of the principles set in the European Digital single market framework, the relationship between space law and the law of space applications has to be explored, looking for a proper balance between the interest of mankind, the interests of public authorities and the protection of individual rights.