

Transcending Societal Issues for Space Exploration (12)
Transcending Societal Issues for Space Exploration (1) (1)

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COOPERATION MODELS AND SPACE PROGRAMS GOVERNANCE IN THE STRATEGIC TRIANGLE BETWEEN RUSSIA, CHINA AND THE USA

Abstract

The work compares and describes the key differences and similarities in the management of the national space programs of 3 major space powers: Russian Federation, People's Republic of China and the United States of America. The paper evaluates differences in the three major aspects: 1) strategic thinking and goal setting within the national system of institutions responsible for elaborating space policy; 2) space sector governance and management mechanisms, including the tools for development of commercial space sector; 3) approaches to international cooperation in space. Despite the marginalization of Russia as a space power after the end of the Cold War as well as the rapid development of China as an emerging space power, the paper shows that the cooperation models and further implementation of international space initiatives is dependent on interactions within the strategic Sino-US-Russian triangle. At the same time, the cooperation process is in stalemate due to the differences in strategic thinking and global goals as well as the views on management of national space sector. The paper assesses various models for evaluating the potential of mutually beneficial cooperation in the space field.