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SKOLKOVO FOUNDATION'S TEN YEARS OF EFFORTS TO BUILD SUSTAINABLE PRIVATE
SPACE SECTOR IN RUSSIA

Abstract

Skolkovo Foundation was founded back in 2010 as an innovation support institution in several priority domains. Among other tasks, it tackled growing private space ventures in Russia, which were almost non-existent in 2010.

The paper analyzes the results of Skolkovo Foundation efforts to change the Russian space sector via its tools varying from grant funding to dedicated acceleration programs and regulatory incentives.

Author examines the place of Skolkovo Foundation as one of the few innovation support institutions in Russian national innovation support system specifically focused on building the sustainable national private space sector: its cooperation with Russian space agency, historical space industry, foreign aerospace industry and other innovation support institutions.

The paper particularly focuses on analyzing success stories and failures of the private space ventures supported by Skolkovo Foundation, thus providing a comprehensive picture of Russian private space sector, challenges and perspectives it faces in 2020s.

Particular focus is made on regulatory framework required to scale up the number of successful space ventures in Russia: licensing, access to the regulatory documentation, corporate venture funds and incentive prizes.