

IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)
Space Law in a Networked World (7)

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A MAN IS AS A CONSTANT IN THE WORLD OR JUST PARTICLE OF THE UNIVERSE:
INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ASPECTS

Abstract

"The Earth, Friedrich W. Nietzsche said, has skin; and this skin has diseases. For example, one of these diseases is called: "Man". To the XXI century mankind made many bad decisions: polluted oceans, forests, fields; killed rare kinds of animals, struggled with itself for resources and territories. All these steps have been done due to the essence of humanity and no one can answer on the question "why?", but people, surviving on the Earth, can try to protect and save another spaces, firstly outer space and other celestial bodies, for the future generations.

For good reason, the Constitution of the international space law – the Outer Space Treaty 1967 – states in the Art. I that "the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind".

What is the province of all mankind? In accordance with Cambridge Dictionary it is "a subject or activity of special interest, knowledge, or responsibility". Thus, humanity shall use outer space and other celestial bodies in the purposes of all mankind for a knowledge and by responsible way. Unfortunately, in the process of exploration and use we forget about responsibility and have already started to load outer space, to look for the economic benefit from the extraction and utilization of the resources from the celestial bodies; to think about space as a theatre of operations too. All of this are significance threats not only for a space, but for the Earth and humanity itself.

Current international space law covers main directions of the space activities but does not fully protect it. Thus, the main issues in this field have not resolved yet: space traffic management, safety of space operations or environmental security.

Analyzing all above mentioned there is an urgent need to address the safety problems of the outer space and other celestial bodies caused by human activities. The main aim of his paper will shortly but comprehensive analyze main threats to the outer space and other celestial bodies and suggest possible international legal solutions, starting from the drafting a new outer space treaty, finishing by establishment of a separate universal intergovernmental space organization. The overall structure of the study takes the form of 5 chapters, including introduction and conclusion.