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21st Anniversary of the Disaster Charter: History, Status and Future of this Powerful and Productive
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ROSCOSMOS AND THE CHARTER COOPERATION

Abstract

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ABSTRACT

Roscosmos and the Charter Cooperation: cases studies, success stories

The International Charter Space and Major Disasters was founded in October 2000 by the world-leading Space Agencies as a mechanism for international cooperation to assist victims of major disasters through the provision of satellite data free of charge. There are currently 17 space agencies in the Charter.

The mission of the Charter is consistent with the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, including the Principles Relating to Remote Sensing of the Earth from Outer Space, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization on 3 December 1986.

The State administration and management of space activities in Russia, the organization of works on the creation and use of space assets and the implementation of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space are carried out by the authorized management body, the State Space Corporation "Roscosmos" (ROSCOSMOS).

Since joining the Charter in August 2013, ROSCOSMOS utilizes its satellite constellation for operational monitoring of major disasters in Russia and worldwide and provides the satellite data to the Charter members exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Russian data is provided upon the requests from the Charter Authorized Users. The data provision is organized through the Charter' unified information application for emergency data and value-added products collection and delivery – Charter Operational System-2 (COS-2) for the purposes of monitoring natural or technological disasters.

Since accession to the Charter, ROSCOSMOS has participated in more than 200 Charter activations and provided more than 100 million square kilometres of satellite data over more than 30 countries.

In 2020, the Charter was activated 3 times by the Russian Ministry for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM) to monitor major floods in Russia. The Charter members have provided archive and operative optical and radar space data in the amount of more than 59 million square kilometres. The data was used for the emergency response management and decision-making, damage assessment, coordination of rescue and rehabilitation works.

The presentation will provide information on the activities of ROSCOSMOS as a part of the Charter and will show its experience of mutually beneficial cooperation with the Charter members over the years.