

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

Author: Mr. Andrey Dementev
Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University), Russian Federation

HOW TO BE A TOURIST IN SPACE: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ASPECTS AND PERSPECTIVES

Abstract

Today, space tourism is moving from the category of science fiction to a real possibility of our time. Tourist flights of individuals (also by private companies) are already carried out in the world. This attraction is not cheap and is associated with serious tests for the tourist himself. In the near future, it is possible to predict an increase in demand for such "entertainment". If you look even further, you can imagine a reduction in the cost of the process, facilitation of preparation, which will open access to space tourism for more people. Nevertheless, in practice, we can see that in space tourism there are many gaps, omissions, or provisions that are regulated by "analogy" such as issues of responsibility for a space tourist. Do not forget about insurance issues and others. At this stage, it is necessary to resolve issues related to the legal status of a "space tourist", since international law only knows the status of a "cosmanaut" (astronaut, etc.), and even a specific universal definition does not exist even in this matter, they all cause discussion in scientific and practical circles. Another range of issues is the responsibility for the activities of the tourist in outer space, on celestial bodies and on board spacecraft and stations. Who will be responsible, to what extent? Can the tourist himself be responsible and so on. Based on the experience of regulating space law itself, we can conclude that it is necessary to precisely regulate the issues of space tourism. This work is devoted to this topic, as well as the prospects for further cooperation of subjects of international space law in the field of space tourism.