

IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)
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LUXEMBOURG COMPLETING ITS SPACE LEGISLATION

Abstract

On 1 January 2021, the general space law of Luxembourg entered into force. It complemented the 2017 Law on Space Resources by an authorisation regime applicable to all space operators seated in Luxembourg or carrying out their activities under its jurisdiction, with exemption of those carrying out space resources missions. The paper explains the scope of both legislative acts, and their relation to the 1991 Law on Electronic Media. From the perspective of security, the contribution discusses the applicability of the general space law to state-governed projects. From the viewpoint of sustainability, the conservative approach of both recent laws is evaluated and the alternative solutions discussed. Finally, the contribution underlines the close relation of the general space law of Luxembourg to international law and the UN system; specifically, the provisions enabling the establishment of a national registry of space objects and its interconnection with the UN Register of space objects which lead to the recent ratification of the 1975 Registration Convention by Luxembourg are elucidated.