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Author: Prof.Dr. Aslan Abashidze Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University), Russian Federation, abashidze.rudn@gmail.com

WHETHER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF STATES IS POSSIBLE IN THE EXPLORATION OF SPACE RESOURCES?

Abstract

According to the modern international space law, based on the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies of 1967, there are all the necessary conceptual and international legal foundations for successful cooperation between States in the peaceful and commercial exploration of space resources. Despite this, at present, there is a tendency to unilaterally interpret the basic international steam bases for the development of space resources in favor of narrowly selfish national interests led by the United States. The main issue of the current stage of the geopolitical state is the realization by the world community of its capabilities and the importance of outer space, on which the development of a further scenario in two opposite directions depends. 1) To continue and strengthen international cooperation of States on a multilateral basis under the auspices of the UN for the good and in the interests of all mankind. 2) Further rivalry between the leading space powers in space activities as opposed to multilateral cooperation on the basis of unilateral action. In the presentation, preference will be given to the first path of development and the corresponding well-founded arguments will be presented.