

IAA MULTILINGUAL ASTRONAUTICAL TERMINOLOGY SYMPOSIUM (E8)
Multilingual Astronautical Terminology (1)

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DEVELOPING A GLOBAL SPACE EXPERTISE ONTOLOGY

Abstract

In the coming years, closer and more intense cooperation is expected between countries with established space capabilities and those gaining experience in space utilization and programs. More and more of these experts are now retiring, but knowledge, lessons learned, and the best practices gained from their expertise and involvement should be utilized for space activities in the interest of emerging space countries. Building on the International Academy of Astronautics data and as a formal IAA study group, we are creating a database of experts in the world and matching experts for developing programs and countries space needs. The team has created a questionnaire for the various groups, a website, outreach to nations just developing their space activities, and conducting training in such nations to understand the needs from a broad perspective.

This questionnaire created an ontology for space expertise from two perspectives: the developing space program and the expert themselves. It builds on earlier ontological work done with NASA and ESA related to a knowledge ontology for space operations.

The results of this questionnaire highlight the needs of developing programs and the ability of experts to provide support to them. The ontology was designed to work across multi-lingual and multi-cultural challenges in discussing space missions, operations, and expertise. Part of the challenge was doing so from those who are earlier entrants to space missions and those who have advanced expertise.