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SPACE AND THE 2030 AGENDA: THE CONTRIBUTION OF SPACE TECHNOLOGIES TO SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Abstract

The space sector enters in a new phase characterized by the digital revolution and also by the 4.0 industry, at the same time that it becomes increasingly relevant to face the new global challenges associated with the 2030 Agenda, of the United Nations for Sustainable Development, through implementation mechanisms of the Sustainable Development Goals, bearing in mind that space technologies can facilitate sustainable development. Thus, space occupies a special place in scientific communication, providing an exceptional connection between science/knowledge and society. The United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) sees space as an mechanism for sustainable development, promoting the use of data to facilitate not only collaboration, science and innovation, but also inclusion, through the provision of facilitated interfaces with complex data, as its analyzes can make the educational process of science generation available to society. Which means a fundamental step towards transmitting the values of science and evolving towards a society of knowledge. In this new context, it is essential that Space Agencies reorient its activities and programs so that they can innovate, inform, inspire and interact appropriately, while sustaining and improving economic development in member states, as well as offering new opportunities for international cooperation in partnership with private actors, who now frequent the “ecosystem” of International Law (divided between classic subjects of International Law – States and International Organizations - and new non-state actors), interrupting both technological and traditional business models. Therefore, a new structure is emerging with the aim of ensuring a continuous chain of innovation, in addition to greater cooperation between academic and research institutions, together with industry and users of these technologies, in order to allow rapid and uninterrupted development, in addition to new funding schemes and partnerships for specific activities that can address challenging space projects in the coming decades. In this line of reasoning, this article aims to analyze (through a critical-deductive methodology, carried out through a bibliographic reference) the existence of innovative Research and Development (“RD”) technologies in the space sector (as is the case of, for example: innovation and exploration, global health, climate change, resilient societies, smart cities, among other topics of paramount importance), in order to address the future applications and benefits of these innovations for society, through synergies with the strategy already designed of the 2030 Agenda, to achieve the SDGs.