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International cooperation in using space for sustainable development: The “Space2030” agenda (1)

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NORWAY: THE SPACE2030 AGENDA AND THE HIGH NORTH

Abstract

The “Space2030” Agenda was adopted by the UN General Assembly in October 2021. The pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals is a key priority for Norway, as expressed in governmental strategies, policies, and position papers. For Norway, as one of the eight Arctic states, the High North has a natural place in the center of Norway’s attention. From a Norwegian policy perspective, the Arctic is of the highest relevance related to climate change, environmental protection, national security, indigenous peoples’ rights, utilisation of national resources, shipping, and more. Therefore, the Arctic and the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals is an important cornerstone also in the user-oriented Norwegian national space policy.

The paper will analyse policy drivers for both Norwegian and regional space initiatives in the Arctic, paying particular attention to the Space2030 Agenda and relevant user needs in the High North. Furthermore, the paper will investigate how ESA and the EU see their role in the Arctic, and how these institutions, in cooperation with their respective Arctic Member States, can support sustainable development in the Arctic through space.