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AN OVERVIEW OF SPACE POLICY IN NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND THE CARIBBEAN – PERSPECTIVES FROM THE YOUNG SPACE GENERATION

Abstract

This paper presents perspectives from members of the NCAC (North and Central America and the Caribbean) Advocacy and Policy Task Force, which is part of the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) Advocacy and Policy Platform (SGAPP). We are a team of passionate young professionals and students in the space sector who envision a sustainable, fair, and cooperative development of activities in space that benefit all people on Earth. Our initiatives include policy background briefs, perspective blogs, a newsletter, public webinars, and other advocacy activities to facilitate discussions with experts and encourage broad engagement with space policy discourse.

This paper presents an overview of space policy and law in the NCAC region. We discuss what laws and policies exist throughout the region and present perspectives from our Task Force members on these governance mechanisms. In January 2024, SGAPP released a report detailing SGAC's official policy positions regarding space sustainability: "Towards An Intergenerational Pact for Space Sustainability." Therefore, we will particularly highlight existing governance frameworks regarding space sustainability in the NCAC region and provide regional policy recommendations.

We present our perspectives as members of the young space generation who will be influenced by and contribute to space exploration for decades to come. This paper summarizes our current work and facilitates further discussion with the space community at large to inform our future work.