

IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)
Launching into Outer Space (4)

Author: Ms. Samiksha Raviraja
University of Leicester, United Kingdom, sam.ravi3.14@gmail.com

Mr. Zygimantas Vainauskas
University of Leicester, United Kingdom, zygis8888@gmail.com

Ms. Fiona Poda
University of Leicester, United Kingdom, podafiona@gmail.com

Mr. Gianluca Borgo
University of Southampton, United Kingdom, gianborgo@hotmail.com

Ms. Joanna George
Airbus Defence & Space, United Kingdom, georgejoanna21@gmail.com

Ms. Martina Dimoska
International Space University (ISU), France, martina.dimoska@community.isunet.edu

Mr. KangSan Kim
Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Korea, Republic of, antonio.stark@spacegeneration.org

ESTABLISHING PRE-LAUNCH INSPECTION PROTOCOLS AND REGULATORY BOUNDARIES
FOR SPACE ACTIVITIES IN PURSUIT OF SPACE PEACE

Abstract

In an era marked by unprecedented advancements in space exploration and satellite deployment, the imperative for maintaining space peace becomes increasingly paramount. This proposal advocates for the formulation of a comprehensive framework that defines pre-launch rocket and payload inspection protocols while delineating the limitations and boundaries of space activities, fostering responsible conduct and mitigating potential risks.

The first facet of the proposed framework centres on pre-launch inspection protocols for rockets and payloads. Recognizing the critical role of thorough inspection in preventing the inadvertent introduction of space debris and ensuring the reliability of space missions, the framework emphasizes the establishment of standardized, globally accepted inspection procedures. These protocols encompass rigorous assessments of rocket integrity, payload compatibility, and adherence to safety measures, thereby enhancing the overall reliability and safety of space launches.

Additionally, the framework defines the regulatory boundaries governing space activities to prevent any actions that may undermine space peace. It delineates the roles and responsibilities of relevant entities, including space agencies, private corporations, and international organizations, establishing clear guidelines on permissible actions in space. The framework encourages the creation of an international oversight body to monitor compliance with these regulations and swiftly address any violations, thereby promoting transparency and accountability in space endeavours.

Furthermore, the proposal addresses the limitations on specific space activities, recognizing the dual-use nature of certain technologies that could potentially be repurposed for nefarious purposes. It delineates restrictions on activities that may pose threats to global security, such as the development and deployment of anti-satellite weapons. By defining these limitations, the framework seeks to prevent the weaponization of outer space and create a conducive environment for international collaboration in peaceful space exploration.

Moreover, the proposed framework envisions a collaborative approach to space governance, with nations working together to share information and intelligence related to space activities. This collaborative effort aims to enhance situational awareness, reduce the potential for misunderstandings, and build trust among space-faring nations, contributing to the broader goal of space peace.

In conclusion, this proposal advocates for a holistic framework that combines pre-launch inspection protocols with clear regulatory boundaries to guide space activities towards the common goal of space peace. By promoting responsible conduct, limiting potentially harmful activities, and fostering international collaboration, this framework seeks to ensure the sustainability and peaceful coexistence of space-faring nations in the exploration and utilization of outer space.