



The First United Nations Conference on Space Law and Policy
Co-organized by the Government of the Russian Federation and
Hosted by the State Space Corporation “Roscosmos”



11-13 September 2018

Moscow, Russia

The representatives of more than 80 countries discussed legal aspects of topical issues of peaceful uses of outer space. The Conference was attended by Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, Director of the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, Mr. Sergey Ryabkov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. Sergey Saveliev, Deputy Director General of the State Space Corporation “Roscosmos” and Mr. Thomas Stafford, American former Air Force officer, test pilot, NASA astronaut. The forum brought together diplomats, lawyers and technical experts involved in space activities.



The main difference of the Moscow Conference compared to the previous UN workshops on space law was the format of open discussion under the UN auspices, which gave the participants an opportunity to freely exchange expert opinions, express their own points of view concerning any particular issue.



The agenda of the Conference contained topical issues, particularly those that proved as the most complicated to discuss at the official level. Among them were tasks of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes, ensuring the safety of space operations, as well as legal aspects of active space debris removal, exploration, extraction and utilization of mineral space resources, and space traffic management under the concept of global space governance. In addition, the Conference participants discussed the capacity building goals in the area of space law as a precondition for a meaningful and productive dialogue of the specialists from different countries. Moreover, a technical tour was scheduled to “Gagarin Research and Test Cosmonaut Training Center”.



Promoting responsible, peaceful and safe use of outer space

- 1) Necessity of international cooperation development
- 2) Achieving such goals is possible only if there is an effective international legal regulation recognized by each and every participant of space activities
- 3) Unique role of UN COPUOS and its subcommittees
- 4) Approve generally recognized procedures for resolving conflict situations

To maintain international peace and security we should take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights.

UN Charter

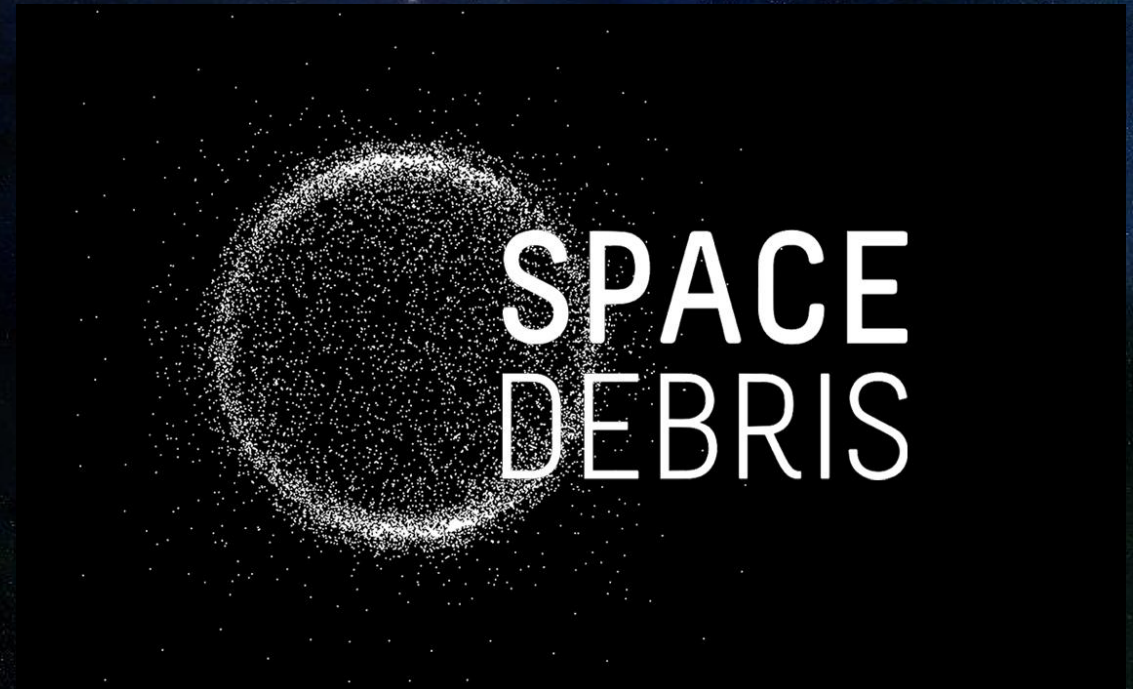


Legal aspects of space debris mitigation and remediation

- 1) There is a need for elaboration of a legal definition “space debris”
- 2) Necessity of elaboration an international legal regime for the active removal of space debris
- 3) Liability allocation between the participants of space operations for active removal of space debris

The term “space object” includes component parts of a space object as well as its launch vehicle and parts thereof

Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects

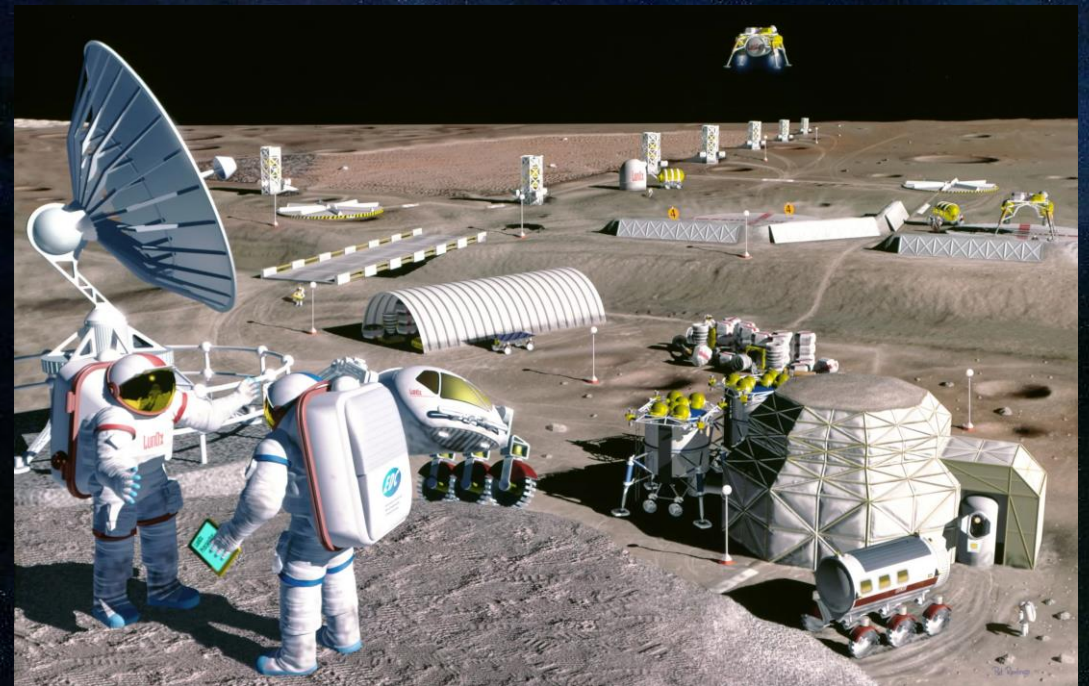


Space resources exploration, exploitation and utilization

- 1) Unilateral approach to the issues concerning exploration, extraction and utilization of space mineral resources is unacceptable
- 2) Initiate developing the instruments of international legal mechanisms for exploration, extraction and utilization of space mineral resources
- 3) Mandate for developing and decision-making concerning this aspect of regulating space activities should be solely kept by the relevant international authorities, the discussion should be held in the multilateral format under the UN auspices within the authority of the UN COPUOS and its subcommittees

There is a need to define and develop the provisions of these international instruments in relation to the moon and other celestial bodies, having regard to further progress in the exploration and use of outer space

Annex to the Moon Agreement



Space traffic management as a part of global governance

- 1) International procedures should comply with the interests of all States taking into account the needs of developing countries, and therefore must be settled at the international level and on the appropriate legal basis
- 2) The world community should provide and jointly update the information about the objects and events in space of critical importance

The information about the objects and events in space should be updated, precise and accurate. The State of registration should provide such kind of information when available and appropriate. The procedures should comply with the interests of all States.



Strengthening the Capacity-building in Space Law

- 1) States, intergovernmental and non-governmental entities, scientific community and business sector should use complementary approaches to capacity building in the area of political and legal governing of space sector
- 2) Necessity of encouraging capacity building through the efforts coordinated between States and private parties concerned in view of new challenges arising out of growing space activities and increasing number of its new participants
- 3) Importance of gender equality
- 4) Russian Federation presented the concept of a Regional Educational Center for Space Science and Technology

The new generation should be ready to take over and respond to serious challenges and threats



The complete report about the Conference is available at the official website of State Space Corporation "Roscosmos"

<http://en.roskosmos.ru/20740/>

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MOSCOW, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, 11 – 13 SEPTEMBER 2018

Original link: www.unoosa.org

Updates:

Update 6 September: Uploaded final programme (new!)

Update 14 August: Uploaded draft programme

Update 8 August: Uploaded draft programme

Update 20 July: Uploaded draft programme

Update 10 July: Closed registration.

Update 1 July: Online registration for self funded participants extended to 10 July 2018

Update 20 June: Online registration system recovered!

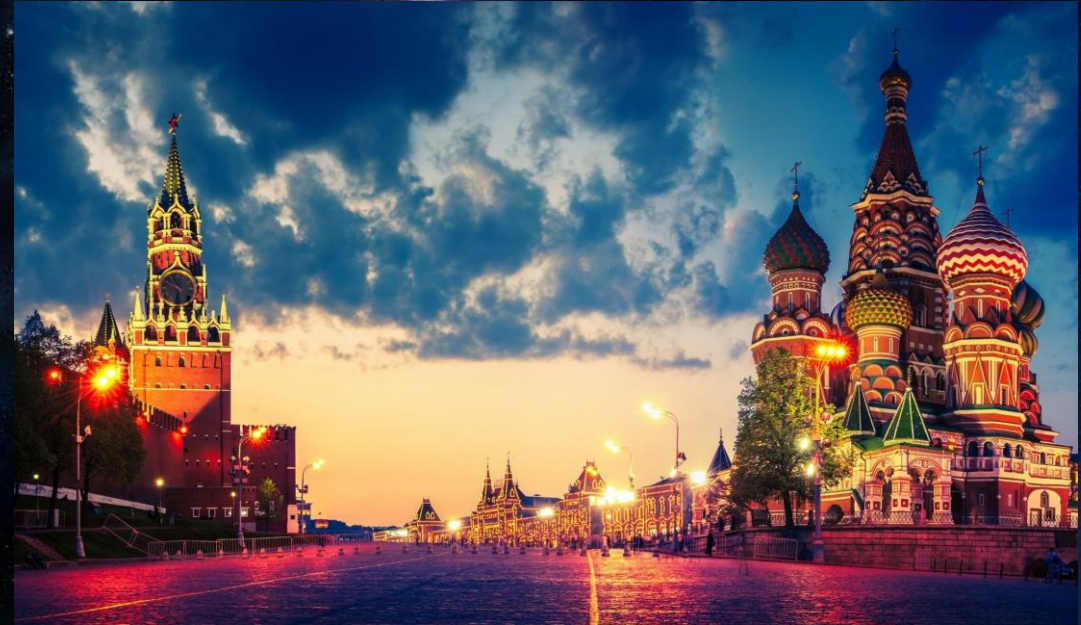
Update 18 June: Online registration system is under scheduled maintenance and will be announced when reopened

Update 25 May: Closed applications for funded participants

Update 3 May: Registration open

Update 30 April: Information Note

Update 2019: Conference Report (en), Отчет о конференции (рус.)



Thank you for your attention!

