

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPACE LAW

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Statement by Diane Howard,
Executive Secretary of the International Institute of Space Law
To UNISPACE+50

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

I speak on behalf of the Institute of International Space Law's president, Professor Dr. Kai-Uwe Schrogl. Thank you for allowing the Institute the opportunity to address this esteemed assembly at this momentous juncture in our collective histories, as you allowed us to participate in the opening panel of the high-level symposium.

The IISL was founded in 1960 as an independent non-governmental organization dedicated to fostering the development of space law in partnership with various international and national institutions. It celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010. It is the only global professional association for space law with members from 50 countries on all continents, all of whom have been elected on the basis of their contributions to the field of space law or other social sciences related to space activities. Many of our members play important roles in the development of international and national space law.

The IISL will continue to be the platform for a globally inclusive exchange, promoting deeper and broader understanding of space law. In this spirit, our president has represented the IISL on numerous occasions in places such as Kenya and Uruguay, or through his recent video address in Russia, and by numerous written addresses, as for example in China. The first Board of Directors meeting in the U.S. took

place in April 2018 in the United States instead of in Europe or at International Astronautical Congresses, as in years past.

In addition, the IISL is working to set up a regular event in the Asian region, complementing the three event flagships of the Institute; the Colloquia at IAC, the Vienna UNCOPUOS Legal Subcommittee Symposium and the Washington D.C. Eilene Galloway Symposium. This shall further demonstrate the key role of IISL to be the prime forum for exchanges on the understanding of space law in all world regions. It will also bring the IISL events in line with the global scope of the Institute's outstanding Manfred Lachs Moot Court Competition.

Particular attention will be given in the near future to investigate key issues of space law. While space resources were recently the main issue of communication by IISL, the focus will now be on strategic issues as Space Traffic Management, the relationship between space law and cyber law, and the legal status of the area between air space and outer space. The IISL Directorate of Studies will play, and is in fact already playing the key role in this, as shown by the paper on space law and cyber law included in our current Proceedings.

The IISL is available to assist in the further development and promotion and understanding of space law, be it for the public sector or the private sector.

In conclusion, the IISL has been a part of the international space law discourse from the very beginning. We are clearly here now, both in support of UNISPACE+50 and also actively engaged in issues, and we have every intention to continue in this rapidly changing and dynamic environment, because, ultimately, the whole space community should engage in ensuring the rule of law in outer space.

Thank you.

