United Nations treaties and principles on outer space

Addendum

Status of international agreements relating to activities in outer space as at 1 January 2004
A. United Nations treaties

1. 1967 OST

**Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies**
(Outer Space Treaty)

Adoption by
the General Assembly: 19 December 1966
(resolution 2222 (XXI))

Opened for signature: 27 January 1967 in
London, Moscow and Washington, D.C.

Entry into force: 10 October 1967

Depositaries: Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

*(Sources: 18 UST1 2410; TIAS² 6347; 610 UNTS³ 205)*

2. 1968 ARRA

**Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space**
(Rescue Agreement)

Adoption by
the General Assembly: 19 December 1967
(resolution 2345 (XXII))

Opened for signature: 22 April 1968 in
London, Moscow and Washington, D.C.

Entry into force: 3 December 1968

Depositaries: Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

*(Sources: 19 UST 7570; TIAS 6599; 672 UNTS 119)*

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1 United States Treaties and Other International Agreements.
2 Treaties and Other International Acts Series.
3. 1972 LIAB Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (Liability Convention)

Adoption by the General Assembly: 29 November 1971 (resolution 2777 (XXVI))
Entry into force: 1 September 1972
Depositaries: Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

(Sources: 24 UST 2389; TIAS 7762; 961 UNTS 187)

4. 1975 REG Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (Registration Convention)

Adoption by the General Assembly: 12 November 1974 (resolution 3235 (XXIX))
Opened for signature: 14 January 1975 in New York
Entry into force: 15 September 1976
Depositary: Secretary-General of the United Nations

(Sources: 28 UST 695; TIAS 8480; 1023 UNTS 15)

5. 1979 MOON Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Moon Agreement)

Adoption by the General Assembly: 5 December 1979 (resolution 34/68))
Opened for signature: 18 December 1979 in New York
Entry into force: 11 July 1984
Depositary: Secretary-General of the United Nations

(Sources: 18 ILM* 1434; 1363 UNTS 3)

* International Legal Materials.
B. Other agreements

General

6. 1963 NTB Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water

Opened for signature: 5 August 1963 in Moscow
Entry into force: 10 October 1963
Depositaries: Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

(Sources: 14 UST 1313; TIAS 5433; 480 UNTS 43)

7. 1974 BRS Convention Relating to the Distribution of Programme-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite

Opened for signature: 21 May 1974 in Brussels
Entry into force: 25 August 1979
Depositary: Secretary-General of the United Nations

(Source: 1144 UNTS 3)

Institutions

8. 1971 ITSO Agreement Relating to the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO), with annexes

Opened for signature: 20 August 1971 in Washington, D.C.
Entry into force: 12 February 1973
Depositary: United States of America

(Sources: 23 UST 3813 and 4091; TIAS 7532)
9. 1971 INTR Agreement on the Establishment of the INTERSPUTNIK International System and Organization of Space Communications

Opened for signature: 15 November 1971 in Moscow
Entry into force: 12 July 1972
Depositary: Russian Federation

(Source: 862 UNTS 3)

10. 1975 ESA Convention for the Establishment of a European Space Agency (ESA), with annexes

Opened for signature: 30 May 1975 in Paris
Entry into force: 30 October 1980
Depositary: France

(Source: 14 ILM 864)

11. 1976 ARB Agreement of the Arab Corporation for Space Communications (ARABSAT) (amended in May 1990)

Opened for signature: 14 April 1976 (14 Rabi’ II 1396 H) in Cairo
Entry into force: 16 July 1976
Depositary: League of Arab States

(Source: Space Law and Related Documents, U.S. Senate, 101st Congress, 2nd Session, 395 (1990))

12. 1976 INTC Agreement on Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes (INTERCOSMOS)

Opened for signature: 13 July 1976 in Moscow
Entry into force: 25 March 1977
Depositary: Russian Federation

(Source: 16 ILM 1)

   Opened for signature: 3 September 1976 in London  
   Entry into force: 16 July 1979  
   Depositary: Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization  

   *(Sources: 31 UST 1; TIAS 9605)*

14. **1982 EUTL Convention Establishing the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization (EUTELSAT)** (amended in accordance with decisions taken by the EUTELSAT parties in May 1999 to provide for the restructuring of EUTELSAT)

   Opened for signature: 15 July 1982 in Paris  
   Entry into force: 1 September 1985  
   Depositary: France  

   *(Source: UK Misc. No. 4, Cmnd. 9154 (1984))*

15. **1983 EUM Convention for the Establishment of a European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)** (amended in June 1991 to broaden its objectives to include climate monitoring and to allow for the execution of optional programmes; the amendments entered into force on 19 November 2000)

   Opened for signature: 24 May 1983 in Geneva  
   Entry into force: 19 June 1986  
   Depositary: Switzerland  

   *(Sources: Germany, Bundesgesetzblatt, Jahrgang 1987, Teil 11 (1987), p. 256. This convention has been published in the national bulletins of the ratifying States.)*

Opened for signature: 22 December 1992 in Geneva  
Date of entry into force: 1 July 1994  
Depositary: Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and Convention

(Source: ITU Secretariat, Place des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland)
## C. Status of international agreements relating to activities in outer space (as at 1 January 2004)

(R = ratification, acceptance, approval, accession or succession; S = signature only; D = declaration of acceptance of rights and obligations)

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| European Organization       | D                        |
| for the Exploitation of     |                          |
| Meteorological Satellites   |                          |
| European Space Agency       | D D D                    |
| European Telecommunications  |                           |
| Satellite Organization      |                           |

Note: When there is no entry in a row in which a State’s name appears, that State has not signed the agreement referred to in that column heading or is not a party to it or has withdrawn from it.

*Burundi has not yet filed an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval in accordance with its declaration under article XIX and has not yet signed the operating agreement.

*Canada has a cooperation agreement with the European Space Agency but is not a member of the Agency.