



SPACE GENERATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL

SGAC

Views and Activities of the Space Law and Policy Project Group

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Basic Facts about SGAC

- Founded as a result of the 1999 UNISPACE III Conference
- SGAC has had permanent observer status in UN COPUOS since 2001 and has been a member of the UN Economic and Social Council since 2003
- SGAC has a volunteer network of more than 10,000 members in over 110 countries



Space Law and Policy Project Group

- One of 8 SGAC Project Groups
- Currently have over 50 members from Asia, Oceania, North America, Africa and Europe
- Open to any member of SGAC
- One of the stated purposes of SGAC is to give the next generation of space leaders a voice in global space policy
- Contributes to SGAC preparations for Legal Subcommittee



Project Group Objectives

- Engage in critical debates about actual legal and policy aspects concerning space activities
- Investigate legal and regulatory challenges faced by the space community
- Propose space-related policy recommendations
- Address potentially emerging questions and issues in the space sector
- Develop research papers regarding trend questions and issues of the space community





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Questions on Suborbital Flights

- UN Doc A/AC.105/1039/Add.4
- Suborbital flights would benefit from clearer definition and delimitation of boundary between air and space
- Flexibility and Technical Considerations key for any definition
- Need to involve non-governmental and commercial actors
- Pleased to see development of ICAO-UNOOSA relationship



Statement on Celestial Resources

- Freedom of use is a permissive freedom
 - Includes freedom of commercial exploitation for peaceful purposes
- Tempered by Non-Appropriation Principle
- Need to ensure stability and equity of space law regime
- Need to ensure respect for “province of all mankind” and “the interests of all countries...”
- US Space Act 2015 valid interpretation of international law
 - Broad agreement with IISL’s statement on subject



Capacity Building in Space Law

- Links students and young professionals with each other and wider community
- Provides a forum to develop knowledge and understanding of topics
- Provides opportunity to engage in career development and networking
- As result of SGAC's permanent observer status able to offer opportunity to attend and observe COPUOS directly



The Outer Space Treaty at 50

- New research effort
- Commemorates the 50th anniversary of the OST
- Will focus on the *next* 50 years of space law
- Today's students and young professionals will be the ones to deliver
- Focus on space security, commercialization of space, sustainable development and space traffic management (including debris)





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Other Relevant SGAC Activities

UNISPACE+50 Recommendations

- Strengthen the outer space regime and the global space governance, as it can form a pillar to guide all space actors
- Make cooperation the norm for future space activities
- Develop space activities that provide a plethora of socio-economic benefits.
- Build capacity across space markets and place space topics on national political agendas
- Utilize space to generate tangible societal benefits, including through tech transfer and spin-offs



UNISPACE+50

SGC 2017 will have two working groups on space law and policy topics with the output to be shared at

UNISPACE+50:

- The Hague Space Resources Governance Working Group.
- Outer Space Treaty: Vision for the future



SSA Recommendations

- Creation of a global, independent entity, supported by the UN and space-faring states.
 - Collect data on space debris and spacecraft.
 - Create a simulation model to improve space situational awareness.
 - Offer collision warnings and orbit recommendations.
 - Declare end of life plans and measurements for space debris



Thank You!

<http://spacegeneration.org/projects/space-law.html>

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