

Important notice

Non-Delegates

**International Institute of Space Law (IISL) and
European Centre for Space Law (ECSL)**

In order to attend the Symposium please submit your name to the Office for Outer Space Affairs and present this invitation, together with an appropriate identification document at the entrance of the Vienna International Centre.

SPACE LAW SYMPOSIUM 2019

“The Moon Agreement Revisited: The Road Ahead”

Monday, 1 April 2019
15.00 – 18.00

**UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE FOR OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS**
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On the occasion of the 58th Session of the Legal Subcommittee
of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

INTRODUCTION

As humankind celebrates the jubilee of its first steps on the Moon, envisaging a new era for space exploration, the 40th anniversary of the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and other Celestial Bodies invites its proper appraisal.

Elaborated by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space Legal Subcommittee and subsequently approved by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979, the Moon Agreement, as it became known, reaffirms fundamental principles of the Outer Space Treaty in relation to celestial bodies, while introducing thought-provoking concepts and opening the way for the development of an international legal regime applicable to space resource activities.

Designed to prevent the Moon from becoming an area of international conflict, the agreement promotes the further development of cooperation among States in the exploration and use of Moon and other celestial bodies, in a basis of equality. Although in effect since 1984, the document still accounts significantly less ratifications than other important Space Law treaties, and its widespread acceptance remains elusive.

As the attention of the international community increasingly revolves around the exploration and use of celestial bodies, based on strategic, scientific and economic considerations, allusion to relevant international Space Law sources is of fundamental consequence. Accordingly, the international framework introduced by the Moon Agreement deserves to be revisited, in order to evaluate its provisions as well as contemplate potential outlooks.

To address the current perspectives regarding the Moon Agreement, the IISL/ECSL Symposium promotes a collaborative effort to contemplate the road ahead for the exploration and use of the Moon and other celestial bodies, in light of applicable legal principles.

Coordination Committee of the Symposium:

Kai-Uwe Schrogl (IISL), President

Olavo Bittencourt (IISL)

Diane Howard (IISL)

Sergio Marchisio (ECSL), Chair

Mari Eldholm (ECSL)

PROGRAMME

Welcome by Chair of Legal Subcommittee, President of IISL and Chair of ECSL

Andrzej Misztal, Kai-Uwe Schrogl and Sergio Marchisio

Guoyu Wang, Beijing Institute of Technology: Space activities and celestial bodies: current scientific and legal perspectives

Irmgard Marboe, University of Vienna: Study of the drafting history of the Moon Agreement

Armel Kerrest, University of Brest: Contribution of the deep seabed mining legal regime to space resource activities

Olavo Bittencourt, Catholic University of Santos: Comparative assessment of the Antarctica treaty system: non-militarization and environmental protection

Michelle Hanlon, University of Mississippi: Challenges for the implementation of the Moon Agreement

Steven Freeland, Western Sydney University: The legacy of the Moon Agreement, revisited

Concluding remarks:

Kai-Uwe Schrogl, President - IISL

Sergio Marchisio, Chair - ECSL

Andrzej Misztal, Chair, Legal Subcommittee