Capacity Building in Space Law – The Space Law Essay Competition

NPOC Space Law Austria, 24 March 2023
62nd Session of the UNCOPUOS Legal Subcommittee

• Irmgard Marboe, University of Vienna, NPOC Space Law Austria
• Michael Bigl, University of Vienna, Award winner 2022
Capacity Building in Space Law in Austria

- The NPOC Space Law Austria acts as an interface between the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL) and persons interested in space law in Austria
- Its main objective is the promotion and development of space law in Austria
- It carries out activities in education and research and organises public events
- It is supported by the University of Vienna and the Federal Ministry of the Republic of Austria for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology
Activities_1
European Rounds of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition

- Austrian teams since 2013
- Local Co-Organiser 2020 and 2022 – Due to Covid-19 only virtually
Activities_2
ECSL Summer Course on Space Law and Policy

• Promotion and recruitment of participants from Austria
• Local Co-Organiser in 2004 (Graz) and in 2013 (Vienna)

Credit: https://austria-in-space.at/en/space-law
Activities_3
ECSL Young Lawyers Symposium

- Promotion and support of participation from Austria
- Young scholars and professionals (35 and under)
- Submit a 500-word abstract on a topic relating to the theme of one of the three panels
- Selection of speakers on the basis of their submitted abstracts
- Speakers have 10 minutes presentations
Activities_4
Space Law Essay Competition

• Call for papers from November/December to March
• Promotion at Austrian universities
• Selection of papers
• Awards
Space Law Essay Competition

Topics (related to the ECSL Young Lawyers Symposium)

• Topics 2022
  • The legal consequences of non-binding legal instruments in space law
  • Do we need a new legal regime for Mars?
  • New legal aspects of satellite remote sensing

• Topics 2023
  • Legal aspects of active debris removal
  • The legal status of humans in outer space
  • The rise of large satellite constellations and its challenges for international and national space law
Awards and recognitions

• Participation in international space related events (financial support)
  • International Astronautical Congress (IAC)
  • ECSL events in Paris or Nordwijk
• Academic reputation
  • Award
  • Publication
• University recognition
  • 2 to 4 ECTS credit points as optional subjects
  • Integration in seminar papers, Bachelor or Master theses
Thank you very much for your attention!

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