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## Committee on the Peaceful

## Uses of Outer Space

### Legal Subcommittee

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**Information on the activities of international  
intergovernmental and non-governmental  
organizations relating to space law**

## **Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law**

### **Note by the Secretariat**

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## **I. Introduction**

1. The present document was prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of information received from the International Law Association and the Space Generation Advisory Council.

## **II. Replies received from international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations**

### **International Law Association**

[Original: English]  
[10 January 2017]

### **A. Background**

The International Law Association (ILA) is known for its policy of openness and outreach. Founded in 1873 in Brussels and with headquarters currently in London, the Association's objectives are the study, clarification and development of international law, both public and private, and comparative law. ILA is made up of 57 national branches, and its members range from lawyers (practitioners and academics), government employees and members of the judiciary to non-lawyer experts and representatives of private companies, arbitration organizations and chambers of commerce. Since 1990, ILA has been a permanent observer to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to which ILA reports annually.

The powers of the Association are vested in its Executive Council, chaired by Lord Mance, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Professor Hennie Strydom (South Africa) is the current World President and Professor Marcel Brus (Netherlands) is the Director of Studies.

The focal point of ILA is the work of its 24 international committees and 8 study groups, which address the ever-evolving aspects of international law and are available both in book format and online. The ILA Space Law Committee<sup>1</sup> was set up in New York in 1958 and has been meeting without interruption to date. Its officers are Professor Stephan Hobe (Germany) as General Rapporteur and Professor Maureen Williams (ILA Headquarters) as Committee Chair.<sup>2</sup> The present report focuses on the Committee's work during 2016, with special emphasis on its latest biennial conference.

### **B. Seventy-seventh Conference of the International Law Association**

#### **1. Introduction of the scholarship funds of the ILA and the Netherlands branch**

In 2014, ILA launched a scholarship fund to help postgraduate students and early-career professionals attend the regional and biennial conferences. In 2016, 11 candidates were selected for full scholarships, enabling them to take part in the Seventy-seventh Conference of ILA, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in August 2016. Furthermore, following the establishment of the ILA initiative, the Netherlands Branch

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<sup>1</sup> The ILA Space Law Committee is sometimes referred to in this context as the "ILA Committee".

<sup>2</sup> The present report was prepared by the ILA Committee Chair, Professor Maureen Williams. For further details, please see the ILA website ([www.ila-hq.org](http://www.ila-hq.org)), where the full text of the 2016 ILA report and the proceedings of its working session may be found.

of ILA set up a fund that enabled nine more candidates to attend the conference. Applications from younger scholars in regions underrepresented in the work of ILA are particularly welcome.

## **2. Activities of the members of the ILA Space Law Committee in preparation for the 77th Conference**

The ILA Space Law Committee, as is customary, focused on recent developments in international law that pertain to the field of space law. The ILA Committee also focused on topics addressed by other ILA committees, which included the following: (a) rising sea levels, in which space technologies have an important role to play, and (b) non-State actors and their responsibilities in contemporary international law, a topic which is closely linked to space security and cybersecurity. The ILA Committee also liaises with intergovernmental institutions involved in different aspects of international law, such as the International Law Commission; the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), in which the Committee officers and some Committee members have been appointed specialized arbitrators; the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); and the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. As was customary, the ILA Committee officers and members were in contact with space agencies, universities and research centres in different countries. In a private capacity, a number of Committee members participate regularly in the activities of the International Institute of Space Law (IISL), with some serving as members of the Board. At the regional level, close cooperation exists with the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL) and the Ibero-American Institute of Aeronautic and Space Law and Commercial Aviation, which has its headquarters in Madrid and is now a permanent observer to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Within the framework of the Legal Subcommittee, some ILA Committee members took part in a symposium entitled “Challenges to international law on the threshold of UNISPACE+50”, organized by the Permanent Mission of Argentina and held in Vienna on 8 April 2016. All continents were represented on the panel, and the outcome was seen as a useful, realistic contribution to the swift development of space law today. It was certainly helpful in the elaboration of the report on the Seventy-seventh ILA Conference.<sup>3</sup>

On the basis of the discussion at and recommendations stemming from the working session of the ILA Space Law Committee held in Washington, D.C., on 8 April 2014, and in pursuance of the current mandate, the ongoing work of the Committee has been developing, as described below.

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<sup>3</sup> The keynote speech of the symposium was given by the Permanent Representative of the Argentine Republic, Ambassador Rafael Mariano Grossi. The specific areas addressed by the speakers were as follows: “Challenges posed for the design of international/national space law as the result of the rapid development of space-related technology” by Professor Steven Freeland, “Security in space, cyber security and international law” by Professor Maureen Williams, “Appropriation of outer space resources” by Professor Armel Kerrest, “International mechanisms for space cooperation to promote thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50” by Professor Setsuko Aoki, “The role of customary international law in the future exploration and use of outer space” by Tare Brisibe, “Private entities as a challenge for outer space governance” by Professor Irmgard Marboe, and by “International law in the twenty-first century: crucial challenges and issues, inter alia, the threat of an arms race in outer space and the equitable exploitation of space natural resources — the need to update space law” by Professor José Montserrat Filho.

## C. Central topics, state of the art, and new developments<sup>4</sup>

The four central topics addressed by ILA in its report on the Seventy-seventh Conference and analysed further at the working session of the Conference were (a) dispute settlement, (b) use of satellite data (recent applications and developments), (c) space debris in today's setting, and (d) suborbital flight. In addition, two specific questions were addressed in accordance with the current ILA mandate, namely:

(a) Space security, cybersecurity and the risk of latest-generation technologies in both areas becoming easily available to the civilian sector. Recent interferences in communication networks have affected a number of countries, and Earth observation satellites have also become targets;

(b) The other question leading the agenda is the as yet undefined legal nature of both natural resources from outer space and mining activities on the Moon and other celestial bodies.

The ILA work prior to the Seventy-seventh Conference developed along those lines, with the following results.<sup>5</sup>

### 1. The settlement of space law disputes

The main questions in the area of the settlement of space law disputes continue to be those concerning the Optional Rules for Arbitration of Disputes relating to Outer Space Activities (hereafter referred to as the "PCA Outer Space Rules") and the need to create awareness thereof and explore their effectiveness. Their procedural nature and flexibility are still their most attractive features, together with the wide space left to the autonomy of the parties. Moreover, the PCA Outer Space Rules have enriched the existing procedures in the field by envisaging the possibility of their mechanisms being used by both sovereign States and private parties, thus filling a serious gap in the field left by the five United Nations treaties on outer space. ILA notes with satisfaction that both the Chair and the General Rapporteur of its Space Law Committee, together with some Committee members, sit on the Specialized Panel of Arbitrators, pursuant to the PCA Outer Space Rules.

As for the application of the PCA Outer Space Rules, the idea is to now approach organizations such as the European Space Agency as well as private companies, in order to provide them with more information on the Rules, highlighting their positive aspects, which make them most appropriate for current scenarios.

### 2. The use of satellite data, recent developments and applications

At the previous conference, held in Washington, D.C., in 2014, it had been agreed that use of satellite data, recent developments and applications should be an issue under permanent study by the Committee. That decision was made on the basis of both recent case law and State practice regarding the production of satellite data as evidence in court, in particular in international boundary disputes between neighbouring States that could affect regional stability.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The author of the present report is grateful to the National Scientific and Technical Research Council of Argentina for its support to research these topics and present them to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

<sup>5</sup> The report of the ILA Space Law Committee for the Johannesburg Conference (2016) and the related working session may be accessed on the ILA website <http://www.ila-hq.org> (click on the "Committees" tab and then on "Space law"). The 2016 Conference report in book format should be available in May 2017.

<sup>6</sup> Ian Brownlie, "International boundary and territorial disputes" (D. J. Freeman, London, March 2000).

In the Johannesburg Conference, privacy issues, especially in court decisions, were given high priority, given the scope and implications of far-reaching technologies.

Another question was whether freedom of information is seen in less absolute terms today.<sup>7</sup> And if so, was that due to the present need to protect privacy? A renewed look at the reports of the conferences held in The Hague, Netherlands (2010), Sofia (2012) and Washington, D.C. (2014) was recommended, since their conclusions on these matters continue to be valid.

As for the new applications of space technologies, ILA has been working with the ILA Committee on International Law and Sea Level Rise, in which space technologies have an important role. Sea level rise is a natural phenomenon and has a strong impact on other areas of international law as well, such as the case of floods affecting international boundaries and creating questions of nationality for those inhabitants affected and problems related to migration, among others. Therefore, the ILA Space Law Committee finds that drafting proposals to address the magnitude of this new threat would be a realistic course of action.

### **3. New developments relating to space debris**

New developments relating to space debris is another area that has been under permanent review by the ILA Space Law Committee since the adoption by the Sixty-sixth ILA Conference, held in Buenos Aires in 1994, of the International Instrument on the Protection of the Environment from Damage Caused by Space Debris. The ILA Committee has referred to this instrument at the Legal Subcommittee on numerous occasions. To date, and in line with the views of the scientific community, its clauses continue to be consistent with the present outlook. However, the objective now is to continue to open a new chapter in the field of space debris with regard to mitigation and removal possibilities in the framework of international law, which is no easy task. The ILA Committee is paying special attention to State practice and compliance with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the domestic measures adopted by States to this end. The ILA Committee considers that international cooperation has a major role to play in this area.

The ILA Committee considers that it should continue the study of this topic, given the new possibilities brought about by the compendium on space debris mitigation standards in the context of the Office of Outer Space Affairs. The Committee very much values the work of the Office for Outer Space Affairs on this matter, in particular the web page on the topic that is maintained by the Office for Outer Space Affairs on its website.

### **4. Suborbital flights**

The topic of suborbital flights was developed by the General Rapporteur of the ILA Space Law Committee in part two of the report on the Johannesburg Conference. In 2016, a conference room paper was submitted on the matter to the fifty-fifth session of the Legal Subcommittee, entitled “Replies from the Chair of the Space Law Committee of the International Law Association (ILA) to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on certain legal aspects of suborbital flights”.<sup>8</sup> The paper described the development within the ILA Space Law Committee, in the period

<sup>7</sup> This is possibly a reaction to the 1979 decision of the European Court of Human Rights on the tragedy of thalidomide, known as the “*Sunday Times* case”, where freedom of information was interpreted in extreme terms and the protection of privacy suffered its worst defeat.

<sup>8</sup> [A/AC.105/C.2/2016/CRP.10](#).

2014-2016, of legal issues relating to suborbital flights, and all its statements still stand. The present report briefly comments on further advances.

Suborbital flights are raising challenging legal issues that remain unresolved, a situation that leads back to the very roots of both air and space law. A recommendation to work jointly with ICAO in this task is therefore realistic. Without establishing priorities at this stage, questions relating to the applicable law and national space legislation, definitions, descriptions, delimitation, registration, insurance and liability, and some agreement on the legal nature of space tourists should be addressed without delay.

The view favoured at the Johannesburg Conference was that linking the legal aspects of suborbital flight to delimitation issues would lead to going round in circles and hinder advances in the field. In reality, the aim is to address State practice, which is expected to increase, and current doctrine. A look at the reaction of the industry would be useful in setting aside, for the moment, the need for delimitation, which is important and desirable but not so urgent, since there is no political will to move forward in that direction. As for definition issues, at present there is more support for a description rather than a definition. Definitions tend to confine, whereas descriptions are non-exhaustive.

The ILA Committee noted, *inter alia*, that no legally binding definition of suborbital flight had yet been accepted. The one suggested by ICAO — a flight up to a very high altitude without sending the vehicle into orbit — had not been written into any legally binding document, national or international. Furthermore, part of the doctrine suggests using the term “non-orbital” flights instead.

These were the bases agreed in the Johannesburg working session. The Committee intends to elaborate further the legal sides of suborbital flight and embark on the drafting of guidelines for a model law on the matter.

## **D. Specific questions included in the Seventy-seventh Conference**

The two specific questions announced at the outset will be now addressed in turn.

### **1. Security in space and cybersecurity**

The following issues were brought to the attention of the Legal Subcommittee in 2016 in the ILA report submitted at the Subcommittee’s fifty-fifth session.<sup>9</sup>

As noted in recent literature, a new global security threat looms on the horizon. There are already examples in the public domain. Communication networks and Earth observation satellites are under serious threat, as they are becoming attractive targets for terrorist attacks using cyber technology.

The ILA Space Law Committee drew attention to the question of space crisis management and the meetings organized by the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House, London) between 2013 and 2016, where topics were discussed from different angles and country perspectives. A key topic on the agenda was the possibility of cyber threats to satellites and the fact that a single successful attack on a critical node could cause damage with dire consequences.

The general opinion sustained that security challenges are common to both the space and cybernetic domains and that sound policies on these matters are perilously scarce. The United Nations was considered the natural forum for addressing such

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<sup>9</sup> [A/AC.105/C.2/108](#).

matters and developing global cybernetic policies. On the other hand, various seminars held during 2015 and 2016 touched upon recent space law issues. One example is the cyberspace conference entitled “Non-State Actors and Responsibility in Cyberspace: State Responsibility, Individual Criminal Responsibility and Questions of Evidence”, held at the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom in September 2015. The conclusions were deeply analysed by the ILA Space Law Committee.<sup>10</sup> The conference addressed critical international legal questions and looked at the effectiveness of international law in ensuring responsibility for the injurious cyberactivities of non-State actors.

The fact that modern technologies were gradually becoming more accessible to the civilian sector was a matter of concern to the ILA Space Law Committee. That accessibility created a high threat, since the misuse of those technologies could become an instrument for terrorist purposes. The central topic was an analysis of security challenges common to both the cyber- and space domains, noting, inter alia, an absence of national policy documents in the cyber- and space spheres and a lack of agreed definitions of key terminology in both domains.<sup>11</sup> Furthermore, a blurring of the line between offensive and defensive actions was observed.

Given the growing interaction of space technologies and cybertechnologies, and the problems likely to be raised by non-State actors, now seems to be the time to hold discussions and formulate answers within the ILA Space Law Committee. These are undoubtedly developments to which we should remain alert.

## **2. Legal aspects of natural resources from space and asteroid mining at the Johannesburg working session**

A discussion was held on the unresolved questions surrounding the legal nature of natural resources from outer space which the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies and the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies have failed to make clear. The question of space mining was included as well in the light of a recent major development: the 2015 Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act (H.R. 2262) of the United States of America and the IISL Board of Directors statement of 20 December 2015 in response thereof. Both documents stand out as one of the possible interpretations of the applicable law favouring the freedom of mining in outer space. This by no means implies discarding any other interpretations — which are always welcome — brought about by States and/or intergovernmental or international non-governmental organizations, or discarding initiatives for drafting some kind of non-binding international instrument, an idea that is gradually gaining ground.

Some members of the ILA Committee showed concern about the international community being divided on a question of the magnitude of space mining. This is the case, of the Russian Federation and a number of Latin American countries, among others, which have objected to unilateral solutions of the kind emerging in the 2016 sessions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Subcommittees and in other circles. For these reasons, the ILA Committee remains open to further discussion on these matters.

<sup>10</sup> The Seventy-seventh Conference continued discussion of specific questions raised in the *Research Handbook on International Law and Cyberspace* (eds. N. Tsagourias and R. Buchan, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2015)

<sup>11</sup> Caroline Baylon, “Challenges at the intersection of cyber security and space security: country and international institution perspectives”, Chatham House research paper, published in December 2014.

These topics were introduced at the session by the Chair and the General Rapporteur of the Committee. It was noted that the above-mentioned Act of the United States, as it stands today, makes clear reference to the priority of United States commitments under international law. In this sense, article 46 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties is definitely applicable when referring to provisions of internal law regarding the competence to conclude treaties. Moreover, it represents a generally accepted view. A special contribution by an ILA Committee member, Professor Mahulena Hofmann, described the approach given by Luxembourg in view of the recent developments in space mining activities.

Briefly, the prevailing position at the ILA Johannesburg working session was that the extraction and use of space resources did not contradict the non-appropriation principle embodied in article II of the Outer Space Treaty. In other words, the utilization of space resources did not necessarily mean an appropriation of a celestial body. However, this activity could be in breach of article 11 of the Moon Agreement, which considers the Moon and its resources as the common heritage of humankind. Celestial bodies, it should be noted, have not been included in this statement. It should also be noted that article 11 of the Moon Agreement is by no means a rule of customary international law and is therefore only binding on the 16 States parties to that Agreement.

The United States Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act, signed on 25 November 2015, establishes “the right of United States citizens to engage in commercial explorations for and commercial recovery of space resources”. It anticipates a specific authorization regime for the future, and entitles United States citizens to possess, own, transport, use and sell space resources. Thus, State practice on this matter should prove enlightening.

In this sense, the Committee members pointed out that the United States is a party to, and depositary of, the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, but not a party to the 1979 Moon Agreement. The Outer Space Treaty has left open questions surrounding the legal status of space natural resources. Article II of the Treaty would therefore be confining the principle of non-appropriation to the Moon and other celestial bodies, with no reference to natural resources from those areas. In the Act of the United States, as noted at the meeting referred to, the ban on claims of sovereignty over outer space, the Moon and other celestial bodies remains untouched.

A general conclusion in Johannesburg was the need for further discussion on the various aspects involved in these questions, such as the ensuing State practice, debates within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, reactions from the doctrine (including the recently created non-governmental Hague Space Resources Governance Group, which discusses this issue regularly) and taking into consideration the drafting of some code of conduct and guidelines to further clarify the state of the art.

This course of action could also be undertaken in the framework of the next terms of reference of the Space Law Committee, with a view to shedding light on certain issues that remain debatable and others stemming from future State practice. The time is right — although not the right political moment — to give article II of the Outer Space Treaty a more positive spin to avoid further confusion and misinterpretations. In this challenge, international cooperation will play a crucial part.

This is what ILA has to inform in its 2017 report to the Legal Subcommittee. ILA is preparing its third report on these topics for submission at the Seventy-eighth ILA Conference, to be held in Sydney, Australia, in August 2018. In the meantime, ILA will happily continue its cooperation with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its two Subcommittees.



## Space Generation Advisory Council

[Original: English]  
[24 November 2016]

### A. Space Generation Advisory Council

#### 1. Background

In December 1997, the Office of Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat invited the International Space University (ISU) to organize a forum for young adults as part of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. In parallel with other UNISPACE III activities, the Space Generation Forum was organized and attended by 160 participants from 60 States. One of the 10 recommendations of the Forum was to create a council to support the Committee, by raising awareness and providing a forum for young people to exchange ideas. That directive established the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) in support of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. Since then, SGAC has grown by establishing permanent observer status at the Committee in 2001, earning consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 2003, opening its headquarters in the European Space Policy Institute in 2005, and hiring its first paid employee in 2006.

#### 2. Goals and objectives

The goal of SGAC is to be a global network for university students and young professionals in the space sector, providing a forum for members to share their thoughts, views and opinions on the direction of international space policy.

#### 3. Membership

SGAC comprises over 4,000 members between the ages of 18 and 35 in 90 States. Members represent all fields of space, including science, engineering, technology, policy, law, ethics, art, literature, anthropology and architecture.

#### 4. SGAC leadership

SGAC is driven by a group of young leaders. The leadership team is structured to reflect the international diversity of the organization. The SGAC Executive Team is led by Executive Director Minoo Rathnasabapathy (South Africa/Australia) and co-Chairs Stephanie Wan (United States) and Ali Nasser (Canada/Islamic Republic of Iran).

#### 5. Committee observer status

SGAC has the status of permanent observer with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. A delegation from SGAC regularly attends meetings of the Committee and its two subcommittees. SGAC is one of a number of non-governmental organizations that provides an important non-governmental perspective. SGAC provides an outlet for the voice of the next generation of space leaders.

## **6. Project groups**

SGAC has a number of project groups that discuss and debate current topics in international space policy. These eight project groups produce papers with input from a broad sample of our members:

- (a) Commercial Space Project Group;
- (b) Near-Earth Objects Project Group;
- (c) Space Exploration Project Group;
- (d) Space Law and Policy Project Group;
- (e) Space Safety and Sustainability Project Group;
- (f) Small Satellites Project Group;
- (g) Space Technologies for Disaster Management Project Group;
- (h) Youth Global Navigation Satellite Systems Project Group.

## **7. Website and social media accounts**

The website is [spacegeneration.org](http://spacegeneration.org)

The Twitter accounts are:

- (a) SGAC: [twitter.com/SGAC](https://twitter.com/SGAC);
- (b) Space Law and Policy Project Group: [twitter.com/SGACSpaceLaw](https://twitter.com/SGACSpaceLaw).

The Facebook accounts are:

- (a) SGAC: [www.facebook.com/spacegeneration](https://www.facebook.com/spacegeneration);
- (b) Space Law and Policy Project Group: [www.facebook.com/SGACSpaceLawandPolicyProjectGroup](https://www.facebook.com/SGACSpaceLawandPolicyProjectGroup).

## **8. SGAC conferences (Space Generation Congress, Space Generation Fusion Forum and regional and local workshops)**

SGAC members partake in a multitude of international and domestic space law-related conferences and congresses. At the United Nations, SGAC representatives participate as observers of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and attend United Nations workshops on space law. Moreover, SGAC members — encompassing space law professionals as well as students at the Bachelor, Master's, PhD and other levels — participate in and present papers during events such as the ECSL Young Lawyers' Symposiums and IAC space law-related sessions. Last but not least, SGAC members with a law focus contribute to the working groups of SGAC regional space generation workshops and compete as members of the national teams in the IISL Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition.

## **9. SGAC scholarships**

SGAC has a number of awards and scholarships for its members, which allow its members to attend international conferences and symposiums. An example relevant to SGAC members in the area of space law and policy is the Space Generation Leadership Award and Space Generation global grant programme. Additionally, SGAC is always open to working with or announcing various funding opportunities from its partners and sponsors. Many of these opportunities are open to all space-related studies and a few do have focus on space law and policy.

## **B. Space Law and Policy Project Group**

### **1. Introduction and foundation**

The Space Law and Policy Project Group incorporates all aspects of those two broad fields of study. It develops the term “space law” to denote all types of space-related international and national regulations and laws, whereas it interprets the term “space policy” to denote all kinds of objectives and action plans of the international space community.

Open to young professionals and university students of all backgrounds, the Group serves as a forum to discuss space law and policy topics, looking to have the voices of the young generation heard in the global discussion on the legal, political, ethical or other social aspects of outer space.

Dedicated to investigating and addressing current issues in international and national space topics in the coming decades, the Project Group pursues projects relevant to the field of space law and policy and to the broader international space community.

The Space Law and Policy Project Group was conceived of during the Space Generation Congress 2011 and established in the summer of 2012. The Group is the result of the initiative of SGAC members, Christopher D. Johnson and Joyeeta Chatterjee, while pursuing legal training and building careers in the intersection of the legal profession and the space industry. The Project Group changed its name to Space Law and Policy Project Group in 2014 to account for the strong interconnection of law and policy and to better communicate the full spectrum of its activities.

### **2. Goals and objectives**

The Space Law and Policy Group has identified the following goals for overall use in deciding what projects and activities to engage upon:

- (a) Engage in critical debates about actual legal and policy aspects of space activities;
- (b) Investigate legal and regulatory challenges faced by the space community;
- (c) Propose space-related policy recommendations;
- (d) Address potentially emerging questions and issues in the space sector;
- (e) Develop research papers regarding trends and issues of the space community;
- (f) Contribute and collaborate with the space community on multidisciplinary topics.

### **3. Membership**

The Group has active members ranging from students to young professionals. There are members with legal, policy, international relations, political science, engineering and science backgrounds.

The co-leaders are Christoph Beischl (Germany), Thomas Cheney (United Kingdom) and Lauren Napier (United States).

### **4. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

The Space Law and Policy Project Group contributes to preparation by SGAC for the session of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of

Outer Space. In previous years, the Group's co-leaders have presented statements and technical presentations detailing the work of SGAC and the Group specifically to the delegates of the Legal Subcommittee. Additionally, the Group has previously drafted a response to questions on suborbital flights ([A/AC.105/1039/Add.4](#)). Furthermore, the Group's members have attended the sessions of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, as well as meetings of the Committee.

## **5. High-level projects**

The Space Law and Policy Project Group has worked on a few high-level projects, most notably the response to questions on suborbital flight contained in document [A/AC.105/1039/Add.4](#) and in its statement on celestial resources. Furthermore, the Group has established a number of connections.

## **6. Contacts**

Contacts for the Space Law and Policy Project are as follows:

Project Group: [slp@spacegeneration.org](mailto:slp@spacegeneration.org)

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