

Invitation for an ESPI Evening Event

Space Mining between the Space Treaties and the US Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act

Venue

European Space Policy Institute (ESPI)
Palais Fanto
Schwarzenbergplatz 6
(Entrance: Zaunergasse 1-3)
A-1030 Vienna, Austria

Registration

Please RSVP before Monday 11 at:
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**ESPI, Vienna
13 April 2016
19:00**

Objective

Space mining is one of the hottest topics currently in the space sector. It became centre of attention in 2015 as the US passed national legislation that addresses ownership rights of private actors that may start mining space resources. This is a first national legislation of its kind, however, soon it may give rise to other national laws and acts regulating issues in relation to mining.

The event will explore the significance of the new Act and how it relates to the five core Space Treaties. Subsequently, special emphasis will be given to the Moon Treaty and how the Act affects Parties to this Treaty that already accepted the obligation to share equitably all benefits from natural resources of celestial bodies with other countries, especially taking into the account needs of the developing states. Finally, the future of regulatory and legal frameworks of space mining will be explored and the role of the private actor in it. The newly created situation and all the issues that surround it, will be the subject of four presentations and a subsequent debate, involving also the audience.

Agenda

19:00 – 19:05 Welcome

Peter HULSROJ, Director, ESPI

19:05 – 19:20 Introductory Remarks to the Topic: Space Act vs. Space Treaties – What Are the Issues

Philip DE MAN, Legal Researcher at the Leuven Center for Global Governance Studies, KU Leuven

19:20 – 19:35 IISL Position Paper on Space Resource Utilization

Tanja MASSON-ZWAAN, Assistant Professor and Deputy Director of the International Institute of Air and Space Law, Leiden University

19:35 – 19:50 Relation between Space Act and the Notion of the Province of Mankind

Gbenga ODUNTAN, Senior Lecturer in Law, Kent Law School

19:50 – 20:05 The View from the Private Sector

Robert D. RICHARDS, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Moon Express

20:05 – 20:30 Discussion

20:30 – 20:45 Conclusions

Peter HULSROJ, Director, ESPI

Reception