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Space Applications for Europe: Policy and Legal Aspects
Towards a Joint Approach for Space Law in Europe

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Do we have a vision for space law

- for Europe ?
- by Europe ?

Elements for a vision

- why regulate
- what to regulate
- how to regulate





Why regulate ?

- reliable and fair framework conditions for all actors
- keep Europe strong in the international playing field (trade as well as security)
- need for internal European harmonisation



What to regulate ? (what do we cover under the term „space law“?)

- not only the traditional UN space law
- harmonization of national space legislation
- all kinds of civilian space applications (preceding speakers; but also telecom and the still untouched area of internet via space)
- trade law, export regulations
- security aspects (space weaponization, military doctrines and space law)

How to regulate ?

- inter-governmental coordination mechanism for space law making since ESA-IRC joint actions in UNCOPUOS LSC (1999 Registration Convention); no comparable joint European visibility in the Conference on Disarmament
- academic cooperation (Project 2001 and Project 2001 Plus) and work of fora/think tanks (ECSL; in the future also ESPI)
- do we need a leader? – the European Commission? – on what legal basis? – how far shall we go (EC as the only European party to the space treaties or just supplementary to its Member States?) ?
- how to link it with the space policy mechanisms (European Space Council, ESA Council, HSPG) ?





The way ahead

- define “space law”
- set the legal basis for competences
- create a decision-making mechanism
- draft a European Space Regulation Framework