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Formation and development of space law

It has become apparent in recent years that space law an issue that many people feel strongly about. This article aims to investigate the causes of development of science that studies the most common patterns of the emergence, of the evolution and functioning of the international space law. This type of law currently passes the stage of dynamic improvement. Due to enhancements, economic engagement and space exploration the legal field of space activities is being re-qualified. In the process of space research, there was a necessity to establish the legal regime of outer space as a new environment. International space law is to provided a proper basis on which the countries and their agents can cooperate while exploiting economically the largest and the most promising in terms of investment field and thus ensure commercial space activities being regulated more effective.

In connection with the implementation of space activities by states, the law began to take shape in the 1960s as a branch of modern international law. Formation the law began with launch of the first artificial satellite of the Earth on November 4, 1957. Already in 1958 The UN General Assembly established the Special Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, but only in 1959 this committee was formed, which contained scientific, technical and legal committees, working groups on navigational satellites, and study of terrestrial resources with the help of satellites. In 1961 the UN General Assembly adopted the resolution “International cooperation in the use of outer space for peaceful purposes”, which established the UN committee on Outer Space. The UN played an important role in the development on the norms of Space law, in which a number of resolutions and international agreements were adopted.

Within the framework of Space law, there are a number of treaties and agreements, the treaties commonly referred to as the «five United Nations treaties on outer space» are:

- Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies
- Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space
- Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects
- Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space
- Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

These treaties concern such issues as the non-appropriation of outer space by anyone country, arms control, the freedom of exploration, responsibility for damages, the safety and saving spacecrafts and astronauts, the prevention of harmful effect with space activities and the environment, the registration of space activities, scientific investigation and the exploration of natural resources in outer space. Nowadays, international space law is affected by scientific and technological progress, but, in turn, has an impact on the development of science and technology. The adoption of prohibitive norms slow down the improvement of some types of equipment stimulates the development of new ones. If, from the point of view of the science of nature, the cosmos obeys its own specific laws, then from the point of view of the science of society it must obey the principles common to all mankind, which extend to all types of activity.

The growth of the importance of space activity is reflected in its modern legal regulation. The direction of improving international space law is aimed at ensuring that this branch of international law, taking due account of its basic principles, adequately reflects the world political and economic changes, promote the development of national space legislation and regulated law and order in outer space, provided the basis for cooperation between states in the use of cosmonauts and, accordingly, would provide more effective regulation of activities in outer space. We are talking about the interaction of the norms of space law and international, national law, with the undoubted recognition by states of the priority legal significance of the norms of international law. At the moment, an updated integrated approach to regulation of relations arising in connection with the activities in space of states and other entities is in demand.