

Preface ESPI Yearbook 2014

“The Governance of Space”

The increasing number and diversity of players in space in recent years, and the onset of new technologies as well as the residue of past space activities, has brought the issue of space governance to the fore. While some aspects of space governance are specifically legal and technical, others raise broader questions about the entire current space regime. In order to clarify and shed additional light on these issues, ESPI has decided to focus on the topic of governance from a wide variety of angles in its Yearbook on Space Policy 2014.

Traditionally, the first part of the Yearbook sets out a comprehensive overview of the economic, political, technological and institutional trends that are affecting space activities. It is prepared in-house in ESPI, and while its perspective is European, it also provides a comparative analysis of space developments around the world.

The second part of the ESPI Yearbook approaches the overall theme from an analytical perspective. This year it includes nine external contributions that bring together the views of various eminent professionals in the space field. This part of the Yearbook opens with a contribution by Professor Stephan Krasner and ESPI Resident Fellow Marco Aliberti on the theoretical link between space and international relations theory. Thus, they analyse the two major paradigms of international relations theory, realism and liberalism, to describe and explain the different and often contending approaches followed by states in the governance of space activities. Thereafter, Professor Emeritus Jacques Blamont assesses the effects of globalisation on the governance of space activities in the USA and NASA in particular. The political and institutional aspects of governance are explored in a contribution by Xavier L.W. Liao from the Ghent Institute for International Studies, focusing on the impacts of regionalisation processes on space governance, and in a contribution by Hokkaido University Professor Kazuto Suzuki on how governance models affect geopolitics in Asia. Gérard Brachet, former President of CNES and former

Chairman of UNCOPUOS, contributes an article on the optimal role for governments in space, and Amy Kaminski, Senior Policy Advisor at the Office of the Chief Scientist of NASA, sets out some of the findings of her research on the roles of the public and NGOs in space governance and how this public engagement has been evolving over time. Rajeswari Rajagopalan, who is a Senior Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi, assesses the International Code of Conduct for Space Activities and describes its importance for the long-term sustainable use of the outer space environment. Finally, the hot topic of governance in the European setting is addressed. Professor Thomas Hoerber offers a historic perspective describing how the processes of European integration have shaped the creation and governance of ESA, while Professor Emmanuel Sigalas writes about the role of the European Parliament in the legitimisation of Europe's space policy.

The third part of the Yearbook continues the character of the Yearbook as an archive of space activities. Again prepared in-house by ESPI, a bibliography, chronology and data about institutions are provided where readers of the now eight volumes of the Yearbook can identify statistical developments and evolutions.

In closing, we would like to thank the contributors of the articles in Part Two for their engagement in this publication. Moreover, we are very grateful to Frances Brown, former editor-in-chief of Space Policy and current member of the ESPI Advisory Council, for her support and inspiration as we prepared the ESPI Autumn Conference 2014. The contributions in Part 2 of the Yearbook reflect the presentations made by the authors at the Autumn Conference.

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