Abstract

The issue of ownership of satellites and its transfer has been addressed several times, e.g. in the framework of the 2012 Space Law symposium organized in Vienna. The reason for re-opening the discussion on this subject is the fact that the major problems remain unsolved: Only the launching States can register space objects, and only they are liable for damages caused by the satellites. Additionally, there is an emergence of new phenomena, such as the condominium of satellites or the exponential proliferation of small satellites. Furthermore, the interrelation between the registration of space objects under the UN framework and the registration of frequencies by the ITU is practically unknown to non-specialists. Finally, there is the rapidly increasing involvement of European structures in space-related activities facing these questions. This situation prompted the organizers to devote this year’s workshop to the analysis of the status quo and to the deliberation of possible solutions not only from the perspective of international law of outer space, but also from the perspectives of telecommunication law and European Union law.

Ownership of Satellites

Thursday, 4 June 2015
1.30 pm – 6.15 pm

Friday, 5 June 2015
9.30 am – 5.15 pm

Location
SES Betzdorf
Château de Betzdorf L-6815 Betzdorf

Language
English

Registration
by e-mail to fdef-colloques@uni.lu
(Specifying name and institution)

Contact
Nadja Risch, Sandra Schwarz
Tel: +352 46 66 44 6619
sandra.schwarz@ext.uni.lu
**Thursday, 4 June 2015**

1.30 pm  ¦   Welcome coffee and sandwiches

2.00 pm  ¦   Opening of the Workshop
   Karim Sabbagh, SES  
   Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister of Luxembourg  
   John Purvis, SES  
   Prof. Mahulena Hofmann, University of Luxembourg

**Introduction**

2.15 pm  ¦   Chair: Prof. Pedro Cruz Villalon, Advocate General at the European Court of Justice

2.30 pm  ¦   Transfer of ownership in-orbit: Reality or fiction?
   Prof. Frans Von der Dunk, University of Nebraska Lincoln

3.00 pm  ¦   Models of ownership, condominium and hosted payload satellite models
   Gerry Oberst, SES

3.30 pm  ¦   Discussion

**Panel I: Ownership of Space Objects and its Impact on State Responsibility and Liability under the Law of Outer Space**

4.00 pm  ¦   Chair: John Purvis, SES

4.15 pm  ¦   ESA experiencing the transfer of ownership of satellites
   Dr. Ioanna Thoma, European Space Agency

4.45 pm  ¦   European Commission’s work on the space regulatory framework
   Nicolas Peter, European Union

5.15 pm  ¦   EU as owner of Galileo satellites: consequences for registration and liability
   Andreas Loukakis, University of Luxembourg

5.45 pm  ¦   Does national law reflect the transfer of ownership of satellites?
   Jean-François Mayence, Belgian Science Policy Office, Brussels

6.15 pm  ¦   Discussion

**Friday, 5 June 2015**

**Panel II: Interaction between the Ownership of Satellites and the Right to Use the Spectrum**

9.30 am  ¦   Chair: Attila Matas, ITU

9.45 am  ¦   Interrelation between space law and ITU law
   Prof. Francis Lyall, University of Aberdeen

10.15 am  ¦   Landing rights and the freedom of satellite operators
   Prof. Philippe Achilleas, Université Paris Sud.

10.45 am  ¦   Leasing of orbital position
   Dr. Elina Morozova, Intersputnik, Moscow

11.15 am  ¦   Interaction between registration of space objects and the protection of frequency assignment
   Srinivasan Venkatasubramanian, ANIARA, New Jersey/ Bangalore

11.45 pm  ¦   Change of ownership and cases of harmful interference
   Simona Spassova, University of Luxembourg

12.15 pm  ¦   Discussion

12.45 pm  ¦   Optional visit of the SES premises

**Panel III: Possible Solutions**

1.30 pm  ¦   Chair: Prof. Allan Rosas, Judge, European Court of Justice

1.45 pm  ¦   Change of UN registration practices?
   Natercia Rodrigues, UN OOSA

2.15 pm  ¦   Bilateral solutions in the framework of the UN treaties
   Dr. Bernhard Schmidt-Tedd, DLR

2.45 pm  ¦   Unidroit Space Assets Protocol?
   Prof. Jane Lesley Smith, University of Lüneburg

3.15 pm  ¦   Unidroit Space Assets Protocol? The satellite industry’s perspective
   Joanne Wheeler, Bird & Bird London (tbc)

3.45 pm  ¦   Satellite ownership and transfer restrictions under WTO Rules
   Dr. Peter Malanczuk, former C.V. Starr Professor of Law, Peking University School of Transnational Law
4.15 pm | Key contractual aspects in hosted payload and condominium satellite projects  
Dr. Ingo Baumann, BHO Legal, Cologne

4.45 pm | Other means ?  
Prof. Armel Kerrest, University of Western Brittany

5.15 pm | Discussion

Concluding Remarks  
Prof. Mahulena Hofmann, University of Luxembourg.