

# Preface

## ***Highlights of the IISL in 2022***

*Kai-Uwe Schrogl*  
*IISL President*

### **Objectives and Organisation of IISL**

The purposes and objectives of the IISL include the promotion of further development of space law and expansion of the rule of law in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, the holding of meetings, colloquia and competitions on juridical and social science aspects of space activities, the preparation or commissioning of studies and reports, the publication of books, proceedings, reports and position papers, and the cooperation with appropriate international organizations and national institutions in the field of space law.

The IISL holds an annual Colloquium at the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) and will do so this year as part of the IAC 2022 in Paris, France. During this Colloquium, the Nandasiri Jasentuliyana Keynote Lecture takes place, as well as a special session for Young Scholars. The IISL strives to address topics that are of interest to all space actors and invites all IAC attendees to attend and participate in its sessions.

In addition, the Institute organizes a variety of conferences on space law throughout the year in locations all over the world. It publishes an annual volume of IISL Proceedings with papers and reports of all activities during the year.

The Institute also maintains an active online presence and takes advantage of digital technologies to give members opportunities to engage. With the speed of innovative developments in the information-driven society that we currently live in, it is to be expected that the changes we experience in the next ten years will be even more significant than those of the past ten years. With IISL's outstanding membership of experienced and young members, the Institute is in an excellent position to have a greater focus on its mission while being agile at the same time. We, therefore, believe that IISL is well equipped to respond and influence the dramatic developments in the field of outer space while focusing on its core mission of ensuring the maintenance of the rule of law in outer space.

In terms of its membership, IISL can be proud that during the past decade, it has been successful in bringing together space lawyers from a number of countries and varying backgrounds, such as academics, government, and

industry employees, and those in legal practice. It is noteworthy that we have a growing number of enthusiastic and capable young members.

The IISL is an officially recognized Permanent Observer at sessions of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and its Scientific & Technical and Legal Subcommittees and has consultative status with the UN ECOSOC.

The Board of Directors of the IISL is currently composed of the following officers - President: Kai-Uwe Schrogl (Germany), Vice-President: Setsuko Aoki (Japan); Executive Secretary: PJ Blount (United States), Treasurer: Dennis J. Burnett (United States), and members - Olavo Bittencourt-Neto (Brazil), Frans G. von der Dunk (Netherlands), Marco Ferrazzani (Italy), Steven Freeland (Australia), Joanne Irene Gabrynowicz (United States), Mahulena Hofmann (Czech Republic), Ranjana Kaul (India), Peter Martinez (South Africa), Martha Mejia-Kaiser (Mexico); Elina Morozova (Russia); Masahiko Sato (Japan), Lesley-Jane Smith (United Kingdom), Olga Stelmahk-Drescher (Ukraine/Germany), Jenni Tapio (Finland), Fabio Tronchetti (Italy/China), and Guoyu Wang (China). The Institute has about 450 elected members from 50 countries. Membership categories include individual, prospective and institutional membership. See <https://iislweb.space/membership/>.

### **Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition**

Since 1992, the IISL has organized the annual Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. The competition is based on a hypothetical space law case, written by IISL members, in which around sixty student teams from universities in Africa, the Asia Pacific, Europe and North America participate. The competition is an important part of the organisation's outreach programme, and its principal mechanism for engaging future generations of space law experts. The regional champions compete in the World Finals, which take place at the IAC and are judged each year by judges of the International Court of Justice. This unique feature makes the Manfred Lachs Moot Court one of the most prestigious moot court competitions in the world.

This case is *Candidia v Xenovia*, which concerns large constellations, freedom of scientific investigation, and information sharing among space actors. The parties have agreed to submit their dispute to the International Court of Justice for resolution. To access the case please follow the link: [https://www.mootcourt.iislweb.space/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Manfred\\_Lachs\\_Moot\\_Court\\_Problem\\_2022-Candidia\\_v\\_Xenovia\\_updated.pdf](https://www.mootcourt.iislweb.space/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Manfred_Lachs_Moot_Court_Problem_2022-Candidia_v_Xenovia_updated.pdf).

This year's regional rounds were held during the spring and the World Finals were held at the IAC in Paris and proceeded over by sitting judges of the International Court of Justice. The Finals were judged by three jurists on the

International Court of Justice, Judge Xue Hanquin, Judge Peter Tomka (President) and Judge Georg Nolte. At the conclusion of the pleading and final deliberations, the judging panel decided the winning team was the University of Leiden and the best oralist was Evan Matsuda, from George Washington University.

## **Conferences**

The IISL continued its cooperation with the European Center for Space Law in organizing the IISL-ECSL Space Law Symposium as part of the UNCOPUOS Legal Subcommittee. The Symposium was on the topic “National Laws and Regulations to Ensure Space Sustainability”. This symposium incorporated global perspectives that examined how the principles flowing from the Long-Term Sustainability Guidelines are being transposed into domestic mechanisms for both government and commercial operators. The symposium served to highlight the symbiotic nature of technical governance and the rule of law and included presentations from André Rypl, Aarti Holla-Maini, Marco Ferrazzani, Jenni Tapio, and Ruvimbo Samanga.

The 65th IISL Colloquium on the Law of Outer Space will be held as part of the 73rd IAC in Paris. The Young scholars section will highlight research from emerging scholars. Additionally, a number of other topics will be covered in the Colloquium, including dispute settlement, space science, space sustainability, safety zones, and national space legislation. Also as part of the Colloquium, the IISL will co-organize the IAA/IISL Scientific Legal Roundtable. The 36<sup>th</sup> roundtable is titled “Autonomous Intelligent Systems in Space: Operational and Legal Challenges”. Also, at this year’s IAC the IISL will take part in a special session dedicated to the outcomes of the IISL-IAA-IAF trilateral on Space Traffic Management.

## **Publications and Scholarly Work**

The IISL continues to publish its annual *Proceedings of the International Institute of Space Law* through Eleven International Publishing. The volume has become the key resource for following the debates on space law and learning about the newest and brightest ideas and perspectives in the field. Currently it is co-edited by P.J. Blount, Tanja Masson-Zwaan, Rafael Moro-Aguilar, and Kai-Uwe Schrogl. The compendium presents papers presented at the Colloquium on Space Law and other conferences and symposia in which the IISL participates. Additionally, it contains important reports issued by the IISL including the annual report of the Standing Committee on the Status of International Agreements Relating to Activities in Outer Space. The premiere publication in the field of space law can be purchased via

[https://www.elevenpub.com/en/101-161\\_Proceedings-of-the-International-Institute-of-Space-Law](https://www.elevenpub.com/en/101-161_Proceedings-of-the-International-Institute-of-Space-Law). Volumes older than three years are available via Heinonline. The IISL proceedings are also available online in a fully searchable online portal: [https://www.elevenpub.com/en/101-161\\_Proceedings-of-the-International-Institute-of-Space-Law#iisl+online](https://www.elevenpub.com/en/101-161_Proceedings-of-the-International-Institute-of-Space-Law#iisl+online).

The IISL's new website is now live and can be accessed at <http://iislweb.space/>. In addition, the Secretariat in conjunction with the PRISM committee publishes a monthly newsletter providing continuous information about the space law community. Back issues of the newsletter can be accessed via the website.

The IISL has also launched a new initiative called the IISL Knowledge Constellation. This online resource provides a unique, inclusive, and global platform for showcasing and distributing knowledge on space law. This new approach allows inputs from IISL members to be made part of an online repository of knowledge on space law that is open access for all. The Knowledge Constellation can be accessed at: <http://constellation.iislweb.space/>.

## **Awards**

The Institute gives several awards and certificates annually to those who have shown outstanding achievement in the field of space law. These include the IISL Lifetime Achievement Award, the IISL Distinguished Service Award, the IISL Young Achiever's Award, the IISL Certificate of Gratitude, and the Diederiks-Verschoor Award. The 2022 recipients were:

- Lifetime Achievement - Steven Freeland
- Distinguished Service - Melissa K. Force
- Young Achiever - Deepika Jeyakodi
- Certificate of Gratitude - Lulekwa (Lulu) Makapela
- Diederiks-Verschoor Award – Announced at IAC

## **Further information**

- Website: <http://iisl.space>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/spacelaw>
- Twitter: [https://twitter.com/iisl\\_space](https://twitter.com/iisl_space)

# About the International Institute of Space Law



Founded in 1960, the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) is an independent non-governmental organisation dedicated to fostering the development of space law. The membership of the Institute is composed of individuals and institutions from more than forty countries elected on the basis of their contributions to the field of space law or other social sciences related to space activities. In addition, prospective membership is open to students and young professionals with a demonstrated interest in space law.

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