

**IISL-ECSL Symposium Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Outer Space Treaty**  
Held on occasion of the thirty-sixth session of the Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS  
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**VOTE OF THANKS**

by

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It gives me great pleasure to accept the book, "Outlook on Space Law over the Next 30 Years", on behalf of the United Nations. The book, as you know, was prepared to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. The "Magna Carta" of space, as the Treaty is sometimes so called, set out a basic legal framework for the international regulation of space activities and its provisions have served as the building blocks of the other space treaties and sets of legal principles drafted by the Legal Subcommittee. Thus, over the past thirty years, the Outer Space Treaty has become the guiding light by which space activities are conducted by States. Its importance can be gauged by the fact that some of its provisions can be said to have become part of the fabric of international customary law.

This valuable publication comes at the right time. We stand at the threshold of the 21st Century. The Cold War, during which the space law treaties and most of the legal principles were drafted, is over. Space activities are being conducted by a greater number of countries. Private space enterprise is flourishing and is continuing to grow at a tremendous rate. All this calls for a new look at space law. That is what, in essence, Dr. Lafferrenderie's book has done. It has set the stage for space law in the new millennium.

On behalf of the United Nations, I would like to congratulate Dr. Lafferrenderie and the contributors to the book for their valuable, and timely, input into the subject of space law and also to the work of this Subcommittee.