

**IISL Program at UN COPUOS
Legal Subcommittee
2000 Session**

On March 27 2000 a Symposium „LEGAL ASPECTS OF COMMERCIALISATION OF SPACE ACTIVITIES“ was held shortly after the opening of the 39th Session of the Legal Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. The Symposium was organised by the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) and the European Center for Space Law (ECSL).

On request of the President of the IISL, *Dr. Nandasiri Jasentuliyana* the session was coordinated by *Dr. Ernst Fasan*, Honorary Director of IISL. *Mr. Philip McDougal*, Associate Legal Affairs Officer with the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs served as Rapporteur.

Fasan was able to welcome the President of the Legal Subcommittee, *Prof. Vladimir Kopal* and many of its distinguished delegates and guests. He introduced the speakers in the order of the agenda as follows:

First Speaker is Dr. Stephen DOYLE, member of the board of Directors IISL. Dr. Doyle has also worked as member of the US Delegation to this very Subcommittee for eight years, from 1972 till 1980. He will report on *Overview of the current Law in the light of new commercial Developments*. Then follows Dr. H. Peter van FENEMA, The Netherlands, President of the International Institute of Air and Space Law of the University Leiden. His Paper is on *Launch Services*. Third panelist is Professor RAM JAKHU, Board Member of our IISL and Associate Professor of the Institute of Air and Space Law of Mc Gill University in Montreal, informing us on *Telecommunication and Broadcasting*. And last but not least, we will have the pleasure of listening to Professor Gabriella CATALANO SGROSSO, also Member of the Board of IISL, and Professor at the University of Rome, speaking on *Remote Sensing*.

After presentation of the papers by the speakers, there followed a questions and answers period, in which took part the distinguished delegates of Argentina, Egypt, France, the Russian Federation, and the speakers. Issues adressed were (i) the importance of consideration within the Legal Subcommittee in the future of commercial aspects of space activities, particularly with respect to registration, liability, and insurance issues, (ii) the risks of monopolisation of the commercialisation of launch services and the legitimacy of access to remote sensing data, (iii) the necessity for the promotion of adequate appreciation of legal and liability implications of the existing legal regime governing space activities, and (iv) the possible necessity of implementing an export-control regime for remote sensing data and technology particularly in cases of armed conflict.

In conclusion, the Chairman of the Legal Subcommittee, *Prof. Vladimir Kopal*, expressed his appreciation for the speakers and discutants, and to the International Institute of Space Law (IISL), and the European Center for Space Law (ECSL) for organising the event. On behalf of the Subcommittee, he expressed the wish that a similar Symposium on Space Law would again be organised for the 40th Session of the Subcommittee in 2001.

Program, Introduction and the text of the Papers were compiled „for Participants only“ by the Outer Space Affairs Office (Document A/AC.105/C/CPR.6, of 28 March 2000).