



*INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPACE LAW
(IISL)
AND
EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SPACE LAW
(ECSL)*

**SPACE LAW
SYMPOSIUM 2023
LEGAL ASPECTS OF
DARK AND QUIET
SKIES**

**28 MARCH, 15.00 - 17.00
CEST**

*ON THE OCCASION OF THE 62ND
SESSION OF THE UN COPUOS LEGAL
SUBCOMMITTEE*

**BOARD ROOM D
BUILDING C
VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
& ONLINE**

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS

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Space activities currently serve as essential tools for the economic, social and political development of every nation. The proliferation of space activities and the diversification of space actors have opened new prospects while raising challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space. A fast-changing space sector and a burgeoning global space economy have supported various satellite applications and services, as outer space and orbital slots are becoming more congested.

The Earth's orbital space environment is progressively acknowledged by the international community as a finite resource, which shall be explored and used responsibly by all space actors. Cumulative satellite population, especially in low-earth orbit, may disrupt visible-light observations, while their radio emissions are capable of contaminating measurements of sensitive radio telescopes.

The pristine night sky is a natural wonder of fundamental cultural significance. A dark and quiet sky represents a key asset to scientific exploration and research. Due to the increasing number of objects in outer space, especially in the low earth orbit, the protection of a dark and quiet sky from interference vis-à-vis human activities has gained urgency. The engagement of the international community is essential to devise effective regulatory solutions, acknowledging different perspectives.

The 2023 edition of the IISL/ECSL Symposium will consider legal principles and mechanisms to enable effective protection of the night sky, thus supporting limitation of light and radio pollution from space activities for the benefit of present and future generations. The selected speakers represent perspectives from different space actors, pragmatically addressing current challenges and shared concerns. Thus, the Legal Subcommittee shall be informed and supported in its next steps regarding the topic.

The event will follow a hybrid format.

Coordination Committee of the Symposium:

Kai-Uwe Schrogl (IISL, President)

Olavo Bittencourt (IISL, Director)

Sergio Marchisio (ECSL, Chair)

Hristina Talkova (ECSL, Executive Officer)



PROGRAMME

WELCOME WORDS:

NOMFUNeko MAJAJA - CHAIR - LSC
KAI-UWE SCHROGL - PRESIDENT - IISL
SERGIO MARCHISIO - CHAIR - ECSL

**ANDREW WILLIAMS, EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY &
INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION, CENTRE FOR THE PROTECTION
OF THE DARK AND QUIET SKY**

Technical Introduction

**ISIDORA CASAS DEL VALLE PACHECO, SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY
COUNCIL**

Astronomers' Perspective

RAFAEL MORO-AGUILAR, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Legal Perspective

VERONIQUE GLAUDE, INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

Orbital Slot and Frequency Management Perspective

RUSKIN HARTLEY, INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY ASSOCIATION

Non-governmental Perspective

CONCLUDING REMARKS:

SERGIO MARCHISIO - CHAIR - ECSL
KAI-UWE SCHROGL - PRESIDENT - IISL

Important notice:

Non-Delegates

The event will be held in hybrid mode. This means that only Delegates may attend the event in person, whilst speakers and non-delegates will be able to attend virtually.