

Name of university, Name of faculty: Trnava University
Faculty of Law

INFORMATION SHEET OF THE SUBJECT

Code: YNMPm100		Name: International and European Space Law	
Cover: Department of International Law and European Law			
Type of educational activity: Lecture, Practise		Number of credits: 3	Recommended semester: WT
Scope of educational activity (in hours): Weekly: 0/2 For term of study: ZS 46/,24			Study grade: Master
Method of educational activity: Combined			
Recommended semester	Study programme		
1.year WT	Law (YDŠMgr-PR)		
2.year WT	Law (YDŠMgr-PR)		
Underlie subjects:			
Conditions for passing the course: Method of evaluation: Completion by a continuing assessment Continuous evaluation: Continuous assessment consists of an individual written essay of approximately 2,500–3,000 words on a selected topic within the field of space law and regulation. Final evaluation: Completion by a continuing assessment Finished: By ongoing evaluation.			
Learning outcomes: Upon completion of the course, students should be able to: - critically evaluate the foundational principles of international space law and their role in structuring the governance of space activities; - analyse the system of public regulation of space activities, including authorisation, supervision, registration, liability, and compliance as instruments of administrative control; - assess the development of European space law, in particular the proposed EU Space Act, as a shift towards a harmonised regulatory framework based on safety, resilience, and sustainability; - examine the interaction between international, European, and national legal regimes, including the implementation of EU regulatory approaches within national space legislation; - apply legal reasoning to contemporary challenges in space law, including space debris, sustainability obligations, dual-use technologies, cybersecurity, and the use of space assets in armed conflict; - evaluate emerging legal and governance models relating to space resources, including the Artemis Accords and future lunar and Martian activities; - develop structured and evidence-based legal arguments using primary and secondary sources of international and European space law.			
Schedule of subject: 1. Foundations of International Space Law as a Governance Framework (focus on core principles of the Outer Space Treaty, state responsibility, and their transformation into contemporary regulatory frameworks). 2. Public Regulation of Space Activities: Authorisation, Supervision and Liability (focus on licensing regimes, registration, compliance, enforcement, and administrative law mechanisms of control). 3. European Space Law and the EU Space Act: Towards a Harmonised Regulatory Model (focus on internal market logic, regulatory harmonisation, and the principles of safety, resilience, and sustainability). 4. National Implementation of Space Law: The Slovak Space Act (focus on authorisation procedures, liability and insurance, proportionality, and interaction with EU law). 5. Liability, Responsibility and Dispute Settlement in a Commercialised Space Environment (focus on treaty-based liability regimes, dispute prevention, private actors, and challenges linked to commercialisation). 6. Space Sustainability, Space Debris and Environmental Governance (focus on debris mitigation standards, environmental obligations, planetary protection, and regulatory responses). 7. Security, Defence and Dual-use Space Technologies (focus on military and civilian uses of space systems, cybersecurity, and legal implications of space technologies in armed conflict). 8. Space Resources and Future Models of Space Governance (focus on resource utilisation, the Artemis Accords, and governance challenges of lunar and Martian activities).			
Recommended reading: Basic recommended literature: MASSON-ZWAAN, T. L. - HOFMANN, M. Introduction to Space Law. 5th ed. Kluwer Law International, 2024. LYALL, F. - LARSEN, P. B. Space Law: A Treatise. 3rd ed. Routledge, 2024. HANDRLICA, J. - KOSNÁČOVÁ NOVOTNÁ, M. The Dawn of National Space Legislation in Central Europe and the New Act on Space Activities in the Slovak Republic. Juridical Tribune – Review of Comparative and International Law, 2025, 15(4), 614–634. Other recommended literature: UNITED NATIONS. Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Outer Space Treaty), 1967. UNITED NATIONS. Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (Liability Convention), 1972. UNITED NATIONS. Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (Registration Convention), 1975. The Artemis Accords: Principles for Cooperation in the Civil Exploration and Use of the Moon, Mars, Comets, and Asteroids for Peaceful Purposes, 13 October 2020.			

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. Recommendations on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space. Resolution A/RES/68/74, 11 December 2013.

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS. Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Vienna: United Nations, 2021.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION - HIGH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SECURITY POLICY. Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council: An EU Approach for Space Traffic Management. An EU contribution addressing a global challenge. JOIN(2022) 4 final, 15 February 2022.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION - HIGH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SECURITY POLICY. Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council: European Union Space Strategy for Security and Defence. JOIN(2023) 9 final, 10 March 2023.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety, resilience and sustainability of space activities in the Union. COM(2025) 335 final, 25 June 2025.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC. Act No. 378/2024 Coll. on the regulation of space activities and on the amendment to Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 145/1995 Coll. on administrative fees, as amended, 28 November 2024.

ANCONA, E. et al. Technical, legal and policy aspects of an international space traffic management framework. Acta Astronautica, 2025, 232, 356–363.

DEPLANO, R. The Artemis Accords: Evolution or Revolution in International Space Law? International and Comparative Law Quarterly, 2021, 70 (3), 799–819.

DEPLANO, R. Inclusive Space Law: The Concept of Benefit Sharing in the Outer Space Treaty. International and Comparative Law Quarterly, 2023, 72(3), 671–714.

DEPLANO, R. The Peaceful Settlement of Space Disputes: Prospects and Challenges. In BUCHAN, R. - FRANCHINI, D. - TSAGOURIAS, N. (eds.). The Changing Character of International Dispute Settlement: Challenges and Prospects. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023, 403–438.

KEHRER, T. Closing the Liability Loophole: The Liability Convention and the Future of Conflict in Space. Chicago Journal of International Law, 2019, 20(1), 178–215.

KOSTENKO, I. - HUROVA, A. Connection of Private Remote Sensing Market with Military Contracts – the Case of Ukraine. Advanced Space Law, 2024, 13, 4–20.

POPOVA, R. - SCHAUS, V. The Legal Framework for Space Debris Remediation as a Tool for Sustainability in Outer Space. Aerospace, 2018, 5 (2), 55.

Language requirements: English

Notes:

Student's workload: 75 hours

Combined study (Lectures, Seminars, Consultations): 24 hours

Study for seminars, colloquium and study of documents in Moodle (individual study): 51 hours

The course is taught in English and is delivered as a combination of lectures and seminars with a focus on interactive discussion and the analysis of legal issues. Each session consists of a 45-minute lecture followed by a 45-minute discussion, with students expected to prepare in advance based on assigned readings.

Course evaluation:

Assessed students in total: 0

A	B	C	D	E	FX
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Lecturers:

Vyučující predmetu: Dr. Inesa Kostenko

Date of last change: 01.09.2026

Approved by: prof. PhDr. JUDr. Tomáš Gábriš, PhD., LL.M., MA