

IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)  
National space law and security – an update (5)

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AN ANALYSIS ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NATIONAL SPACE LAW-MAKING IN THE  
ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES: A CASE STUDY BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF THE APRSAF  
NATIONAL SPACE LEGISLATION INITIATIVE

**Abstract**

This paper intends to explore the characteristics of the law-making method and the contents of national space laws and regulations in the countries of the Asia-Pacific region. The formation and content of domestic space laws could vary depending on various factors such as the priority and scope of national space activities, political systems, legal structures, historical events, and geopolitical situations that are inherent in each State. Recently, States in this region have been interested in developing domestic space laws. In response to this trend, the National Space Legislation Initiative (NSLI) was launched under the Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) in 2019. It aims to cooperatively enhance the capacity to implement and develop national space laws in line with the international norms through mutual learning and joint comparative analysis of respective space-related national laws and regulations. The NSLI Study Group consisting of experts and practitioners of space policy and law from nine States in the region (Australia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, and Viet Nam), held multiple online meetings to study and develop a report regarding the status of national space laws and regulations. This paper analyzes the legal characteristics of the countries in the Asia-Pacific region based on the NSLI Study Group's report to be submitted to the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in 2021 as the contribution from the above nine States. Specifically, this paper tries to extract the factors that affect the characteristics in the law-making method and the contents of national space laws and regulations in the Asia-Pacific countries based on the report summarizing the results of NSLI's joint analysis of national practices. As a result, this paper suggests initial findings on the regional characteristics of law-making method and contents in the Asia-Pacific region for future consideration.