

# Space law education in Europe

The European  
Centre For  
Space Law (ECSL)



**Alexander Soucek**

Legal Officer, European Space Agency

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# Space law in Europe: *a scattered landscape*

- **All** ESA Member States are States parties to the Outer Space Treaty
- **Different** legal traditions, different political realities
- **National** space laws on the rise
- **Across** Europe: space law teaching, outreach and education, legal practice





## The ECSL in a nutshell

- Created under the auspices of the European Space Agency in 1989
- No legal personality; ECSL Charter
- Located at ESA HQ in Paris, France
- Mandate: *to promote knowledge, awareness and development of the legal framework relevant for space activities.*

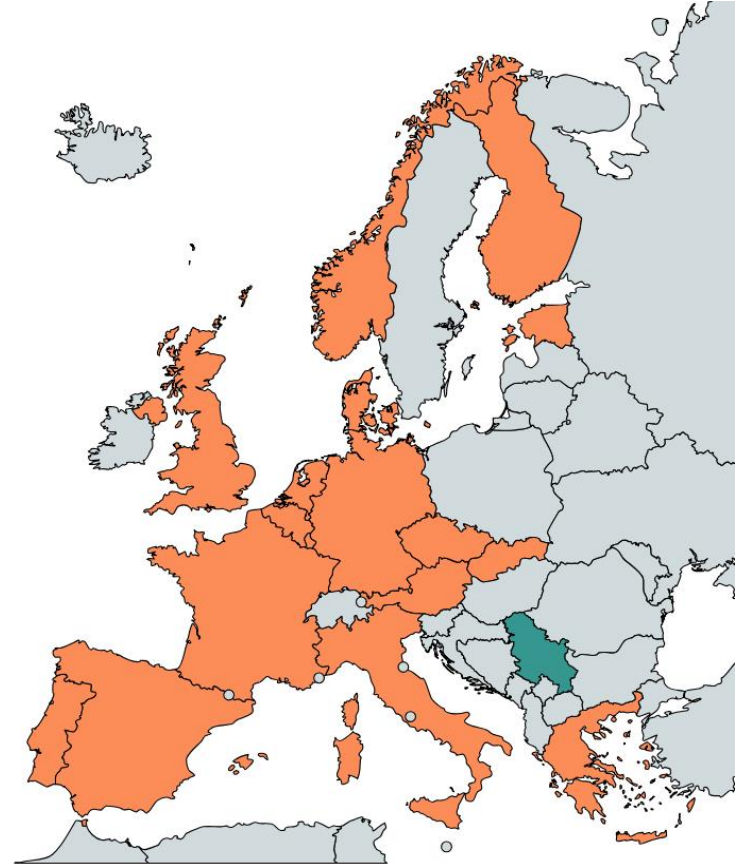




- **Members:** academics, students, lawyers and representatives from industry, space agencies and IGOs...

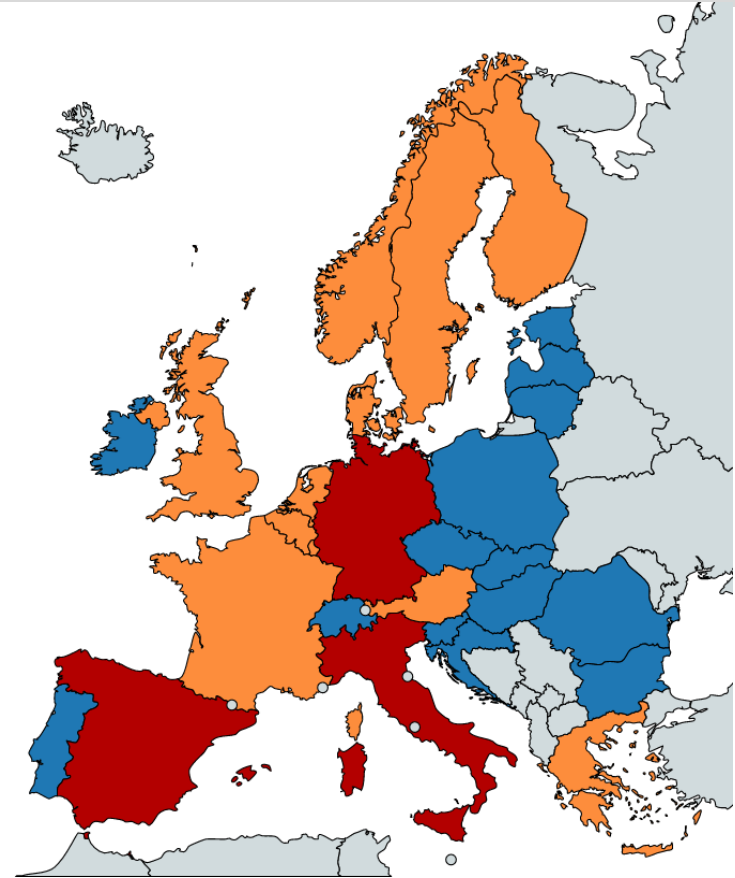
# How the ECSL works

- Administration and management: the **ECSL Executive Secretary** (ESA, Paris)
- Programmatic decision-making: the **ECSL Board** (10 members and one Student Representative)
- The network across Europe: **17 National Points of Contacts** (ESA Member States) + “Friends of the ECSL”



# National space laws in Europe

- **11** ESA Member States have national laws (**in orange**)
- **3** other Member States have regulatory acts, e.g. for liability or registration only (**in red**)
- The rest have not as of yet adopted national space law (**in blue**)



# ESA-ECSL Space Debris Workshop

19-21 March 2019, ESA ESOC, Germany



**Objective:** assist legislators, mission designers and approving authorities in addressing space debris in a coherent way and according to best current practices

- **Day 1** – Regulation
- **Day 2** – Standards
- **Day 3** – Tools

**Target participants:** government, industry, space agencies and IGO professionals



The ESA-ECSL Space Debris Regulation, Standards and Tools Workshop  
19-21st of March 2019, ESA ESOC, Darmstadt, Germany



# IISL/ECSL Symposium

1 April 2019, United Nations, Vienna, Austria

- Organised together with the **International Institute for Space Law (IISL)**
- Taking place at the first day of the UN COPUOS Legal Subcommittee
- Topic 2019: *The 40th Anniversary of the Moon Agreement*
- **Target participants: COPUOS delegates**
- Opportunity for ECSL members to participate at UN level

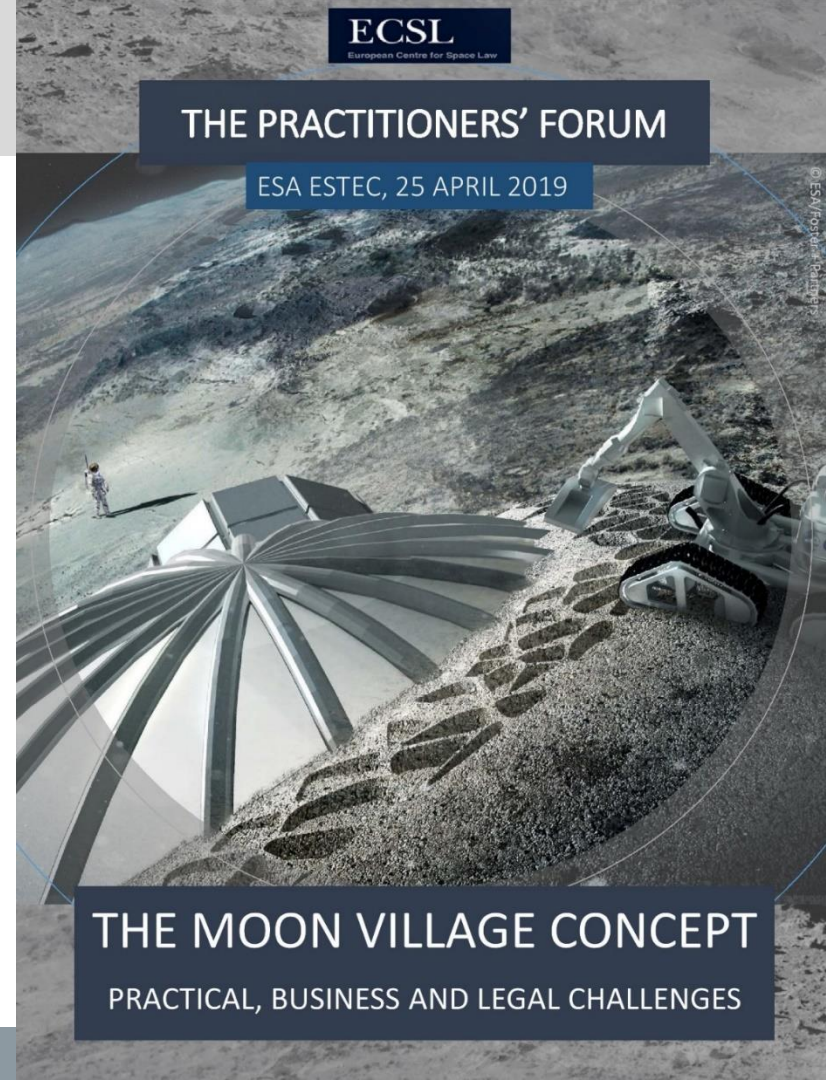




# Practitioners Forum

25 April 2019, ESA ESTEC, The Netherlands

- **An ECSL Flagship event**
- to provide an opportunity to network and discuss topical areas of space law and policy relevant to the space sector
- Experts present on topics, followed by debate
- **Target participants: professionals from the space sector, students, academics**

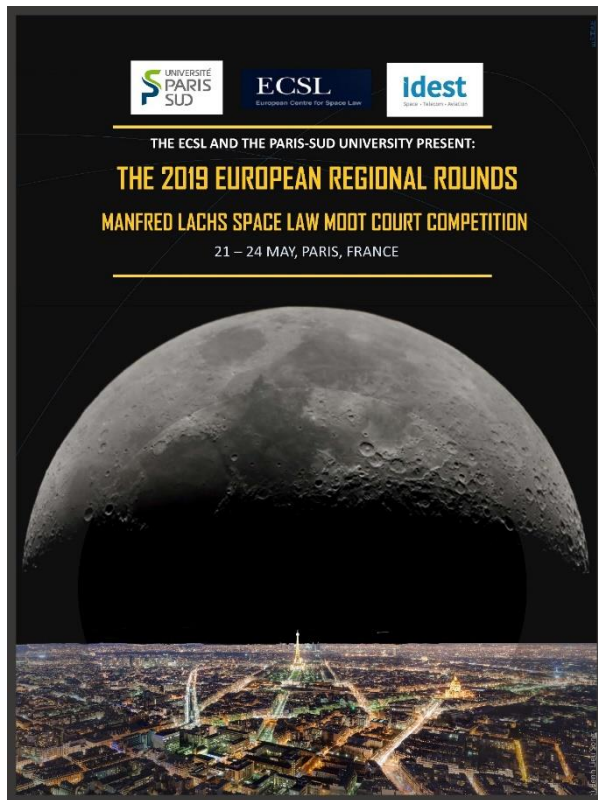


- An opportunity for young scholars and professionals to present a paper on a space law-related topic:
  - discuss with the community
  - publish on ECSL website
- Topics for 2019:
  - 1) The Future of the Moon Agreement
  - 2) Commercial Mining of Celestial Bodies
  - 3) Protection of Cultural Heritage Sites on the Moon



# Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court

21-24 April 2019, Paris



- ECSL organises the **European Rounds**
- New city and new university every year
- ECSL sponsors European winners to world finals
- World finals: *IAC 2019, Washington (USA)*



# ECSL Executive Course: Space Law and Regulations

2nd half of 2019, ESA ESTEC, the Netherlands



- **3- day course for space professionals**
  - regulating space activities
  - implementing space laws
- **to facilitate expert discussions relevant for the practical aspects of regulating space activities**



- **An ECSL flagship event**
- 40-50 students from across Europe and beyond
- Two weeks, +/- 50 lectures, practice day, theme project
- Free for students from, or studying in, ESA Member States



## Capacity

*Capacity building and facilitate  
for dialogue across sectors*

## Communication

*Where Europe meets to discuss  
space law*

## Community

*Europe's network for space law*

## Cooperation

*Reaching out to ... Japan!*

