

**Address from the President of the International Institute of Space Law  
to the participants of the XV Blischenko Congress  
(22 April 2017, Moscow)**



The International Institute of Space Law (IISL) welcomes the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia in holding its annual XV Blischenko Congress and is very pleased for the opportunity to greet the participants of the space law round table. This year the space community is celebrating several major events, including the 60th anniversary of the first artificial Earth satellite's launch and the 50th anniversary of the most important source of space law, the Outer Space Treaty of 1967. Therefore, I am convinced that the round table discussion will cover numerous topical aspects of space law and will be of great interest to both professional and young space lawyers.

The IISL is a hub for strengthening the understanding and the dissemination of space law. It has half a century of history and is comprised of around 500 individual and institutional members from around 50 countries from all continents. Russian experts are playing a traditionally strong role in the IISL membership. They substantially contribute to all activities of the Institute, be it academic exchanges or conducting the Manfred Lachs Moot Court Competition. Also, in the IISL's flagship publication, the IISL Proceedings, Russian contributions are prominently represented.

I therefore invite the participants of the Blischenko Congress to take interest in space law as it is a rather young but rapidly developing and exciting branch of international law. I also invite those participants who develop a particular interest in space law to associate with the IISL ([iislweb.org](http://iislweb.org)) since it is the global institution, which brings together the global community in this field for an inclusive and open exchange.

Kai-Uwe Schrogl  
President IISL