

**FIRST COLLOQUIUM**  
**ON**  
**THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE**  
**THE HAGUE 1958**  
**PROCEEDINGS**

**EDITED BY**

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## Foreword

The concept of the International Astronautical Federation Colloquium on Space Law evolved from conversations between the undersigned during the course of a lecture tour of American Universities which we undertook in the Fall of 1957, and at subsequent meetings in Europe. Lectures on "The Law of Outer Space" were given at the Universities of Princeton, Detroit, Chicago, Michigan, Northwestern, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Montana, Montana State, Gonzaga, Washington, California (Berkeley), California (UCLA), Utah, Colorado, St. Louis, Washington (St. Louis), Harvard, Georgetown, American, Maryland, and so on; and in Europe by one or the other of your editors at the Universities of Paris, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Berlin, Munich, Stuttgart, Madrid, Lisbon, Belgrade, Prague, Warsaw, Moscow, Leningrad, The Evangelical Academy at Loccum, and so on; and before numerous learned societies and many technical institutes and groups.

The attendance at these lectures pointed up the profound interest of world-renowned teachers and practicing jurists, on the one hand; and thousands of students and members of the public, on the other hand, in the subject of the law of outer space. The intimate importance of space jurisprudence to thinking men, and especially experts in the social sciences, was demonstrated beyond question.

Throughout the world there are many local committees and local centers of learning supporting space law studies and investigations—but there was no concerted international effort devoted to this subject as a special effort of mankind. We decided to call the First Colloquium on Space Law and it was obvious that one of the most appropriate centers in the world would be the Rolzaal, in The Hague, a birthplace of human rights and a city rich in the tradition of international arbitration and adjudication—and indeed the world center of such activities.

As will be seen from this volume of Proceedings, the First Colloquium was well attended and many excellent papers were presented. During the course of the Colloquium the participants voted to establish a Permanent Legal Committee of the International Astronautical Federation—an action which was later ratified by the Council of the Federation. In cooperation with the Member Societies of the International Astronautical Federation there has been assembled the Permanent Legal Committee, which comprises many leading jurists and social scientists from all parts of the world. The current membership of this Committee appears as an appendix to these Proceedings.

It is expected that the Second Colloquium, which will be held in London at Lincoln's Inn (of hallowed fame) on September 4, 1959, will develop ideas and legal formulations also of outstanding merit and interest.

We take this opportunity to express our appreciation and thanks to Mrs. BEN SANDERS for having made local arrangements in The Hague; to Dr. and Mrs. J. M. J. KOOY and Mrs. A. F. P. VOLTEN for their great and continuing efforts on behalf of the Colloquium; to Springer-Verlag for its efforts in arranging for the publication of these Proceedings; and to all those good and serious participants who actually were the "substance" of the Colloquium.

April 1959

**Andrew G. Haley**

**Dr. Welf Heinrich Prince of Hanover**

## Contents

<b>Rauchhaupt, Fr. W. von:</b> Introduction. A Light from the Past to Show Up the Legal Problems of Our Age of Space .....	1
<b>Haley, A. G.:</b> Space Age Presents Immediate Legal Problems .....	5
<b>Hanover, Welf Heinrich Prince of:</b> Problems in Establishing a Legal Boundary between Air Space and Space .....	28
<b>Alessandrone-Gambardella, V.:</b> Contribution .....	31
<b>Bevilacqua, L. de Gonzaga:</b> A Contribution to the Problem of Space Law Establishing a Technical and Practical Limit to Political Sovereignty in Space ....	33
<b>Cocca, A. A.:</b> Principles for a Declaration with Reference to the Legal Nature of the Moon .....	34
<b>Cooper, J. C.:</b> The Problem of a Definition of "Air Space" .....	38
<b>Feldman, G. J.:</b> An American View of Jurisdiction in Outer Space .....	45
<b>Fulton, J. G.:</b> A Definitive Study of the Concept and Scientific Strategy of Outer Space. The Challenge to all Nations to Support a Just System of Space Law .	51
<b>Galloway, E.:</b> The Community of Law and Science .....	59
<b>Gatland, K. W.:</b> Contribution .....	63
<b>Gerlach, F.:</b> Contribution .....	66
<b>Gorove, S.:</b> On the Threshold of Space: Toward a Cosmic Law. Problems of the Upward Extent of Sovereignty .....	69
<b>Herr, D. L.:</b> Technical Proposals .....	77
<b>Homburg, R.:</b> Comments .....	79
<b>Jastrow, R.:</b> Definition of Air Space .....	82
<b>Keating, K. B.:</b> Space Law and the Fourth Dimension of Our Age .....	83
<b>Pépin, E.:</b> Observations .....	91
<b>Pereira, F. A.:</b> The Internationalization of Outer Space and the Unification of World Astronautical Strategy; the Ecumenical Nature of Astronautics .....	93
<b>Plakidis, S.:</b> The Hellenic Contribution in Astronautics .....	96
<b>Rivoire, J.:</b> Design for a Law of Space .....	97
<b>Rode-Verschoor, I. H. Ph. de:</b> The Responsibility of States for the Damage Caused by Launched Space-Bodies .....	103
<b>Smirnoff, M.:</b> The Need for a New System of Norms for Space Law and the Danger of Conflict with the Terms of the Chicago Convention .....	105
<b>Strughold, H.:</b> Definitions and Subdivisions of Space. Bioastronautical Aspect .	110
<b>Tuneld, B.:</b> Remarks .....	114
<b>Wolczek, O.:</b> Remarks .....	115
<b>Yeager, Ph. B.:</b> A Code for a New Frontier .....	116
<b>Members of The Permanent Legal Committee of the International Astronautical Federation .....</b>	<b>122</b>