BACKGROUND

Establishment and functioning of the Gennadiy Zhukov International Space Law Centre became possible thanks to the potential of the scientific school of international law of the Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University).

Teaching students of the Patrice Lumumba People’s Friendship University (UDN), who studied in the specialty “International Law”, a special subject “International Space Law” began with the very launch of the Department of International Law of the University formed in 1963. Such scientists as prof. V.S. Vereshchetin (judge of the International Court of Justice of the United Nations, 1995-2006), I.P. Blischenko (Head of the Department of International Law from 1981 to 2000), prof. A.S. Piradov (represented the USSR at UNESCO), associate professor V.G. Emin and prof. M. N. Kopylov contributed to strengthening the scientific and educational potential of the Department of International Law of the UDN/RUDN University in the field of international space law.

The Center was established in 2011 following the initiative of prof. A.Kh. Abashidze and prof. G.P. Zhukov. After prof. G.P. Zhukov passed away, the Center was named after G.P. Zhukov in honor of his outstanding contribution to the formation of the science of international space law.

The scope of the Center's activities includes fundamental study of the international legal foundations of space activities; regular holding of specialized round tables and scientific conferences with the participation of leading Russian and foreign scientists; training of specialists in the field of space activities.
Gennady Petrovich Zhukov

(30.04.1924 – 21.07.2014)

A decisive role in the formation and strengthening of the RUDN University curriculum on international space law belongs to the Doctor of Law, Professor, Honored Lawyer of the Russian Federation, Gennady Petrovich Zhukov.

In 1966, G.P. Zhukov defended his doctoral dissertation on the topic "International legal problems of space exploration". He worked at the Department of International Law of the UDN/RUDN, taught the academic discipline "International Space Law" and provided scientific guidance to graduate students in 1965 - 1969 and 1987 - 2014.

Prof. G.P. Zhukov, as an internationally renowned scientist in international space law, was vice-president of the International Institute of Space Law (Paris) for 15 years, and then became its honorary director.

Prof. G.P. Zhukov took part in the work of the session of the Legal Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (1963 and 1979), in the Working Group on Live Broadcasting by Satellite (1970) and the UN Conference on Outer Space (Vienna, 1968). For his contribution to the scientific development of international space law problems, in 1968, prof. G.P. Zhukov was awarded a gold medal and diploma of the International Astronautical Federation and the International Institute of Space Law.

OUTSTANDING GRADUATES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW OF RUDN

JOSE MONTSERRAT FILHO
(Brazil) - Professor, Retired Director of the Office of International Affairs at the Brazilian Ministry of Science and Technology in charge of space activities, Vice President of the Brazilian Air and Space Law Association, Honorary Board Member of the International Institute of Space Law, Member of the Space Law Committee of the International Law Association, member of the International Academy of Astronautics.

OLGA ALEKSANDROVNA VOLYNSKAYA
An independent expert on space law and policy, defended her Ph.D. thesis at the Department of International Law of the RUDN University under the leadership of G.P. Zhukov.

NIKITA LAZAREV
Lawyer of the Legal Department of the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization (EUTELSAT).

EDUCATIONAL SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTER

RUDN University is included by the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs in the list of specialized educational institutions in international space law.

The academic discipline “International Space Law” (and its individual units) are taught at the level of bachelor's, master's and postgraduate studies.
Since 2021, the Center has been conducting research on key areas in the field of space law and policy using comparative legal research methods within the framework of project groups of bachelors in order to prepare a joint project and collective defense in the form of final qualifying work.

The results of the work are tested at all-Russian and international scientific and practical conferences and olympiads.

In 2020, by order of the Corporate Academy of Roscosmos, additional professional education programs were launched in Russian and English.

**Space Law and Policy: International and National Aspects (72 h)**

**Retraining program “International Space Law” (260 h)**

The programs are developed in accordance with the license for educational activities No. 1204 dated December 23, 2014 based on the professional part of the federal state educational standard of higher education for training in specialty 40.03.01 "Jurisprudence".
The staff of the Department of International Law of the RUDN University with colleagues from the Diplomatic Academy of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs co-authored the first textbook on international space law in the USSR, which was published in 1985.

2014 - the first textbook on international space law was published in Russia in the 21st century, eds. G.P. Zhukov, A.Kh. Abashidze;

www.spacelawresearch.com

ONLINE JOURNAL IN ENGLISH
“SPACE LAW RESEARCH”

• international journal for researchers in the field of international law
• founded in 2021

TOPICS

• international space law
• national space legislation
• international space organizations
• sustainability of space activities (security aspects, space debris, etc.)
• application of space technology (Earth observation, telecommunications, navigation, etc.)
• space traffic management, space awareness, aerospace research
• commercial uses of outer space such as in-orbit services, the use of space resources
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Executive Secretary - Irina Alekseevna Chernykh, RUDN University, Russian Federation
A unique collection of books in foreign languages was collected by one of the founders of the national science of international space law - prof. G.P. Zhukov.

The library maintains an electronic database of all materials on space law and policy.

The curator of the library is Irina Alekseevna Chernykh, Ph.D. Senior Lecturer, Department of International Law, RUDN University.

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In 2021, the Center won a grant from RUDN University to conduct a scientific research on the topic: "Ensuring the sustainability of space activities: international legal dimension".

The Center actively participates in the applying for and implementation of grants funded by various scientific foundations.


Grant of the President of the Russian Federation “Problems of exploration and use (including development) of space resources: international legal and comparative legal analysis”. 2021–2022 (PhD I.A. Chernykh).
ROUND TABLES ON INTERNATIONAL SPACE LAW

ANNUAL ROUND TABLE ON SPACE LAW IN THE FRAMEWORK OF BLISCHENKO CONGRESS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW.

It has been held since 2012. Co-organizer since 2017 - MOKS "Intersputnik".

JOINT ROUND TABLE ON SPACE LAW AND POLICY IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE IAA/AAS SciTech Forum

Since 2018, a round table on space law and policy has been held on a regular basis within the framework of the IAA/AAS SciTech Forum with speeches and their further publication.

ANNUAL ROUND TABLE PROCEEDINGS

Since 2012, materials of a round table on topical issues of international space law have been published annually within the framework of the annual international congress "Blischenko Congress on International Law".
Every year RUDN University takes part in the Colloquium on the Law of Outer Space held by the International Institute of Space Law in the framework of the International Astronautical Congress (IISL Colloquium on the Law of Outer Space, International Astronautical Congress).

RUDN University has been an institutional member since 2017.

Individual Membership:
Doctor of Law A. Kh. Abashidze,
PhD A.M. Solntsev,
D.A. Gugunsky,
PhD I.A. Chernykh

Since 2017, on the initiative of a member of the Board of Directors of the International Institute of Space Law E.L. Morozova, who is also the executive director of the International Organization of Space Communications "Intersputnik", an all-Russian meeting of members and supporters of the International Institute of Space Law is held annually at the RUDN University.
Since 2010, RUDN University has been taking part in the competition for imitation of court hearings in international space law named after M. Lachs under the auspices of the International Institute of Space Law (the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition).

EXPERT ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

Participation in the departmental Working Group on problems in the field of space law of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation under the Department of State Scientific and Scientific and Technical Policy. At the request of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, the members of the Group provide expert opinions and conclusions.

Participation in the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities (GEGSLA) at the NGO Moon Village Association.

Group Expert - PhD in Law I.A. Chernykh; Observer - Doctor of Law A.Kh. Abashidze.

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