Contents

List of figures                          xi
List of tables                           xii
List of contributors                    xiii
Foreword                                xx
Preface                                 xxiv
List of abbreviations                   xxxi

1. The background and history of space law
   Peter Jankowitsch                     1
      1.1 A political overview             1
      1.2 Space law and the new majority in the United Nations 9
      1.3 Space law and the United Nations 10
      1.4 Space law and space arms control 14
      1.5 New branches of space law: An unfinished history 20
      1.6 The future of space law          26

2. International space law
   Frans von der Dunk                    29
      2.1 Introduction                     29
      2.2 The key characteristics of international space law 37
      2.3 The core substance of international space law: The UN space treaties 49
      2.4 Beyond the core of international space law 106
      2.5 Concluding remarks               125

3. National space law
   Irmgard Marboe                        127
      3.1 Introduction                     127
      3.2 International law requirements  130
      3.3 Examples of national space laws  139
      3.4 International initiatives       179
      3.5 Conclusion                       184
4. European space law 205
   Frans von der Dunk
   4.1 Introduction 205
   4.2 Operational integration of space activities: The European space organizations 208
   4.3 Regulatory integration of space activities: The European Community/Union 239
   4.4 The convergence of the European Space Agency and European Union 251
   4.5 Concluding remarks 267

5. International organizations in space law 269
   Frans von der Dunk
   5.1 Introduction: Intergovernmental organizations and outer space 269
   5.2 Regulatory intergovernmental organizations and outer space: A survey 271
   5.3 Operational intergovernmental organizations and outer space: An introduction 282
   5.4 INTELSAT 283
   5.5 INMARSAT 290
   5.6 EUTELSAT 295
   5.7 INTERSPUTNIK 301
   5.8 ARABSAT 305
   5.9 IGO involvement in space law: A legal assessment 307
   5.10 Satellite communication IGO privatization: A legal assessment 317
   5.11 Concluding remarks 329

6. Legal aspects of the military uses of outer space 331
   Fabio Tronchetti
   6.1 Introduction 331
   6.2 Militarization versus weaponization of outer space 333
   6.3 The legal framework regulating military uses of outer space: The UN space treaties 334
   6.4 The legal framework regulating military uses of outer space: Other relevant international regimes 342
   6.5 The legal framework regulating military uses of outer space: General public international law 350
   6.6 Other legal regimes affecting military activities in outer space 359
Contents   vii

6.7 Recent developments                          377
6.8 Conclusion                                    381

7. Legal aspects of launch services and space transportation                          382
Peter van Fenema
7.1 Introduction                                    382
7.2 The main categories of actors and their relevance from a legal perspective          384
7.3 The existing regulatory framework              403
7.4 Legal aspects of launch safety and space traffic management                      405
7.5 Legal aspects of market access and competition issues                             417
7.6 Conclusion                                    452

8. Legal aspects of satellite communications                                456
Frans von der Dunk
8.1 Introduction: The definitional issues                                                456
8.2 The ITU regime and satellite communications                                       458
8.3 The UN ‘regime’ on direct broadcasting by satellite                                493
8.4 Concluding remarks                                                                500

9. Legal aspects of satellite remote sensing                                             501
Fabio Tronchetti
9.1 Introduction                                                                  501
9.2 Remote sensing from space: Characteristics and applications                      502
9.3 The evolution of remote sensing activities                                         505
9.4 The legal framework for remote sensing activities                                 513
9.5 Conclusion                                                                  553

10. Legal aspects of satellite navigation                                                  554
Lesley Jane Smith
10.1 Introduction                                               554
10.2 The current GNSS systems                                         556
10.3 Legal aspects of the use of GNSS in the transport sector                   577
10.4 Regional and national GNSS: Legal aspects                                  594
10.5 Alternative heads of liability: Certification and augmentation               599
10.6 Civil aviation: Liability for navigational aids and development of CNS/ATM systems 602
10.7 GNSS and the maritime transport sector                                      607
10.8 The road sector and autonomous driving systems                               610
10.9 GNSS in the context of the rail transport sector                             613
Contents ix

14.4 The legal status of celestial bodies and extraterrestrial natural resources 777
14.5 International seabed mining 792
14.6 The use of the geostationary orbit 798
14.7 Mineral activities in Antarctica 803
14.8 A legal regime for the exploitation of extraterrestrial natural resources 809
14.9 Conclusion 812

15. International trade aspects of space services 814
   Frans von der Dunk
   15.1 Introduction: The development of an international trade regime 814
   15.2 The general aspects of the GATT, GATS and WTO regimes 818
   15.3 Launch services: International trade regime issues 836
   15.4 The international trade regime for satellite communications 843
   15.5 Prospective candidates for application of the GATS/WTO regime? 853
   15.6 Concluding remarks 872

16. Financing space ventures 874
   Mark Sundahl
   16.1 Introduction 874
   16.2 The nature and challenges of financing space ventures 876
   16.3 Secured transactions under Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code 882
   16.4 The UNIDROIT Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Space Assets Protocol 887

17. Insurance in the context of space activities 910
   Cécile Gaubert
   17.1 Introduction 910
   17.2 Third-party liability insurance 912
   17.3 Property damage insurance 930
   17.4 Space debris in the context of insurance 937
   17.5 Astronauts’ insurance 941
   17.6 The role of the insurance broker 943
   17.7 Conclusion 944

18. Intellectual property rights in the context of space activities 949
   Catherine Doldirina
   18.1 Introduction 949
x  *Handbook of space law*

18.2  Copyright  952  
18.3  Patent  972  
18.4  Conclusions  989  

19.  Dispute resolution regarding space activities  995  

*Maureen Williams*

19.1  The background – the law in force: Public international law/space law  995  
19.2  The landmarks and precedents for progressive development of the law  1014  
19.3  Redesigning the system: The indispensable reform  1031  
19.4  The conclusions so far: Sparkles of hope  1045  

*Index*  1047