

Contents

<i>List of contributors</i>	ix
<i>Commercial uses of space and space tourism: setting the scene</i>	xiv

PART I LEGAL CHALLENGES

1. The concept of the 'launching State' in commercial launch ventures	3
<i>Armel Kerrest</i>	
1. Introduction	3
2. The importance of the notion of the 'launching State'	4
3. The nature of the liability of the 'launching State(s)'	7
4. Liability of the 'launching State(s)' and activities of private entities	9
5. Who will bear the burden of risk in the case of private activity in outer space?	11
6. Conclusion	18
2. Taking a stance: managing liability for commercial space activities	19
<i>Lesley Jane Smith</i>	
1. Introduction: technology drive and regulation	19
2. Liability regimes: from fault to strict liability	22
3. Liability for aerospace activities	25
4. Out of scope: delimitation and definitions	29
5. Paradigm shift: the approach of international advisory bodies	32
6. Facilitating market entry through national law	33
7. Similar or distinct patterns of liability: what about aerospace?	35
8. Legal tools and legal culture: informed consent and exclusion of risk	37
9. The cuckoo's egg: creating common denominators for liability	41

3. The scope of international obligations to extend rescue assistance to ‘astronauts’ and ‘personnel’ under the Outer Space Treaty and the Return and Rescue Agreement	44
<i>Steven Wood</i>	
1. Introduction	44
2. Historical contexts of the Outer Space Treaty and Return and Rescue Agreement	45
3. Interpretation of treaties under the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties	47
4. Humanitarian underpinnings of the rescue provisions under the OST and ARRA	48
5. Who qualifies as an astronaut under OST Article V?	49
6. Article V OST: what assistance is required in outer space?	51
7. Who qualifies as personnel of a spacecraft under ARRA Article 3?	53
8. Article 3 ARRA: what assistance is required?	55
9. Conclusions	62
4. Small satellites, large constellations and space debris: <i>in dubio pro LEO?</i>	64
<i>Ward Munters</i>	
1. Introduction	64
2. Small satellite technology and large constellations: a practical overview	65
3. Increased awareness in international forums	69
4. Legal considerations relating to large constellations and the long-term sustainability of space activities	75
5. Conclusion	110

PART II REGULATORY RESPONSES

5. US State Spaceflight Liability and Immunity Acts in context	115
<i>Andrea J. Harrington</i>	
1. Introduction	115
2. Definitions	116
3. Orbital and sub-orbital travel	119
4. Safety issues	123
5. US federal space law	124
6. Liability in US federal space law	125
7. US State space law	127
8. Conclusion	132

6. Commercial space operations within an existing national legal framework: some lessons learned and the challenges ahead	134
<i>Daniel P. Murray</i>	
1. Introduction	134
2. Overview of the AST's regulatory approach	135
3. Challenges	139
4. The way forward	141
5. Conclusion	141
7. Developing a new safety regulatory system for commercial sub-orbital spaceplanes in the UK – the challenge!	143
<i>Jeremy Stubbs</i>	
1. Introduction	143
2. Government task	144
3. Scope of the review	145
4. Education and consultation	147
5. Barriers	148
6. Legal considerations	150
7. Risk	154
8. The 'certification' word	156
9. A proposed UK solution	157
10. Conclusions	158
11. Thoughts for the future	160
8. Red tape in the final frontier: Bigelow Aerospace's adventures in export control	162
<i>Mike N. Gold and Christopher M. Hearsey</i>	
1. Introduction	162
2. A brief history of the evolution of United States export control laws	165
3. Bigelow's space-related export control reforms	191
4. Conclusions and observations	200

PART III SPACE GOVERNANCE

9. Regulatory choices for sub-orbital flights carrying humans: elements for consideration	205
<i>Thierry Herman and Alexander Soucek</i>	
1. Introduction	205
2. Identifying sub-orbital flights	206
3. Fostering the development of commercial public air transport in its early days: the equation to be solved	207
4. Ingredients for securing legal certainty	208

5. Elements for consideration under air law	209
6. Elements for consideration under space law	213
7. Two examples of regulatory choices offering additional elements for consideration	220
8. Concluding remarks	226
10. Establishing a regulatory framework for the development and operation of sub-orbital and orbital aircraft in the EU: the role of the EASA	227
<i>Jean-Bruno Marciacq</i>	
1. Introduction	227
2. The SOA industry	228
3. The international legal context	229
4. Objectives/variable configuration	237
5. Proposed options	239
6. Proposed requirements	243
7. Conclusions	245
Appendix: Why are sub-orbital aircraft indeed aircraft, and not rockets?	247
11. The role of UNCOPUOS in the international regulation of non-governmental space activities	254
<i>Jean-François Mayence</i>	
1. The role of UNCOPUOS in the regulation of space activities from the historical perspective	254
2. The role of UNCOPUOS in the regulation of space activities: the methodological perspective	257
3. The role of UNCOPUOS in the regulation of space activities: conclusion and proposals for a way forward	264
12. National and international regulatory aspects of commercial space activities: self-regulation as the way forward?	266
<i>Katrin Nyman-Metcalf</i>	
1. Introduction	266
2. What is self-regulation?	268
3. Forms of regulation of outer space activities	270
4. Self-regulation: from cyberspace to outer space?	274
5. Issues for self-regulation of outer space activities	276
6. Some concluding remarks	280
<i>Index</i>	283