

THE DAYBREAK OF COMMERCIAL USE OF OUTER SPACE IN THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND AND THE NEW POLISH SPACE ACT

ÚSVIT KOMERČNÉHO VYUŽÍVANIA VESMÍRU V POĽSKEJ REPUBLIKE A NOVÝ POĽSKÝ ZÁKON O VESMÍRE

Kristýna Šopková,¹ Jakub Handrlica²

<https://doi.org/10.33542/SIC2026-2-02>

ABSTRACT

On March 24, 2026, the President of the Republic of Poland, Karol Nawrocki, signed the long-awaited new Polish Act on Space Activities (Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej). Poland has thus joined the European countries that have already incorporated their international obligations regarding space use into their own legislation. As with other national regulations already adopted, the new Polish regulation also reflects the phenomenon of the privatisation and commercialisation of space. The new Polish Act on Space Activities aims to create a transparent and predictable legal framework for the implementation of activities by private entities in Outer Space, including rules for permitting, registration, and liability of private operators. One such operator is the Polish company SpaceForest, which plans to launch the Perun rocket from a spaceport in the Azores, from a floating platform in the North Sea, and also directly from the territory of the Republic of Poland in 2026. This article aims to present the new legal regulation of neighbouring Poland to the Czech and Slovak legal audience. The authors aim to present the new Polish law in a comparative perspective. Last but not least, attention will also be paid to the relationship between the new Polish law and the EU legislation being prepared in the field of space activities.

ABSTRAKT

Dne 24. března 2026 podepsal prezident Polské republiky Karol Nawrocki dlouho očekávaný nový polský zákon o kosmických aktivitách (Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej). Polsko se tak připojilo k evropským zemím, které ji začlenily své mezinárodní závazky týkající se využívání vesmíru do své vlastní legislativy. Stejně jako jiné již přijaté národní předpisy, i nová polská úprava odráží fenomén privatizace a komercializace vesmíru. Nový polský zákon o kosmických aktivitách si klade za cíl vytvořit transparentní a předvídatelný právní rámec pro realizaci aktivit soukromými subjekty ve vesmíru, včetně pravidel pro povolování, registraci a odpovědnost soukromých provozovatelů. Jedním z takových provozovatelů je polská společnost SpaceForest, která plánuje v roce 2026 vypustit raketu Perun z kosmodromu na Azorských ostrovech, z plovoucí plošiny v Severním moři a také přímo z území Polské republiky. Tento článek si klade za cíl představit české a slovenské právnické veřejnosti novou právní úpravu sousedního Polska. Autoři si kladou za cíl představit nový polský zákon v komparativní perspektivě. V neposlední řadě bude pozornost věnována také vztahu mezi novým polským zákonem a připravovanou legislativou EU v oblasti kosmických aktivit.

¹ Mgr., Univerzita Karlova, Právnická fakulta, Praha, Česká republika.

² Prof. JUDr., Ph.D., DSc., Univerzita Karlova, Právnická fakulta, Praha, Česká republika.

I. INTRODUCTION³

On March 24, 2026, the President of the Republic of Poland, Karol Nawrocki, signed the new Polish Act regulating activities in Outer Space.⁴ This marked the culmination of a long-standing process of adopting new Polish space legislation, which had been regularly covered in both Polish and English academic literature.⁵ The new Polish Act on Space Activities was published in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland⁶ on April 3, 2026, and entered into force two weeks later, i.e., on April 18, 2026.⁷

By adopting the new Act on Space Activities, the Republic of Poland fulfilled one of the objectives set out in its 2017 National Space Strategy.⁸ That strategy identified the space sector as one of the key segments for the further development of the Polish economy. The National Space Strategy of 2017 no longer conceives of the space sector as a state monopoly (*Old Space*). Still, it envisages a robust process of privatisation and commercialisation of space activities (*New Space, or Space 4.0*).⁹ Space activities are no longer to be carried out exclusively by the state for research, development, and defence. Still, they are to be opened up to commercial activities of Polish private companies. As the strategy explicitly states, globally and in Europe—and increasingly in Poland as well—the fact that a company has documented experience with space activities, for example through projects of the European Space Agency (ESA), functions as a kind of *quality certificate* confirming the credibility of a potential partner and its technological competence.

The activities of the company SpaceForest undoubtedly accelerated the adoption of the new Polish Act. In 2024, SpaceForest signed a contract with the European Space Agency (ESA) to develop and subsequently commercialise the new Perun rocket. This rocket was designed to reach a range of up to 150 km above Earth's surface and can carry a payload of up to 50 kg. The primary purpose of the Perun rocket is the commercial testing of new technologies in a microgravity environment.¹⁰ The Perun rocket enables testing of technologies in the Outer Space environment, thereby facilitating their further development for future use in space flights or for deployment on the Moon or other celestial bodies. The first test flight of the Perun rocket was carried out in November of last year (2025); further test flights are planned for 2026 – the Perun rocket is to be launched from a spaceport in the Azores, Portugal, and from a floating platform in the North Sea under Danish jurisdiction. In 2026, a test flight of the rocket is also to be conducted directly from Polish territory – from the Central Aviation Training Facility in the city of Ustka, Pomeranian Voivodeship, northern Poland.

³ Tento článok vznikl v rámci projektu GAUK „Aktivity ve vesmíru jako výzva pro správní právo“ (reg. č. 488126), realizovaného na Právnické fakultě Univerzity Karlovy v Praze, a současně v rámci projektu VEGA „Nová vesmírná éra a výzvy pro moderné vesmírné právo v krajinách strednej Európy“, realizovaného na Právnickej fakulte Trnavskej univerzity.

⁴ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Dziennik Ustaw Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, 3 kwietnia 2026 r., poz. 465.

⁵ Pozri JASIUK, E. The Draft of the Polish Space Law. In: KONERT, A., VAN DER DUNK, F. (eds), National Space Law in Poland. Past, Present, and Future. Leiden : Brill, 2023, s. 191 – 220. HOFMANN, M., MALINOWSKA, K. Poland Goes to Space: The Draft Polish Space Law. In: Proceedings of the International Astronautical Congress, vol. 66, 2022, s. 419 – 431. KŁODA, M., MALINOWSKA, K., MALINOWSKI, B., POLKOWSKA, M. Polskie prawo kosmiczne – wyzwania i kompromisy. In: Przegląd Sejmowy, vol. 3, 2022, no. 170, s. 94 – 119. PIOTROWSKI, M. Projekt polskiego prawa kosmicznego – regulacja na miarę XXI wieku? In: Studia Iuridica, vol. 77, 2018, s. 101 – 118. MYSZONA-KOSTRZEWA, K., KULINSKA-KEPA, Z. (eds.), Prawo kosmiczne międzynarodowe, europejskie i krajowe. Warszawa : Wydawnictwo C. H. Beck, 2025, s. 320.

⁶ Dziennik Ustaw Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, poz. 465.

⁷ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 74.

⁸ Pozri SMOLIK, B. Poland's Policy in the Space Sector: The Institutional Dimension Since The European Space Agency. In: Polish Political Science Review. Polski Przegląd Politologiczny, vol. 9, 2021, no. 1, s. 65 – 78.

⁹ CLECK, P. Towards a new legal ecosystem for the exploitation of space. In: SMITH, L., BAUMANN, I., WINTERMUTH, S. (eds.), Routledge Handbook of Commercial Space Law. Milton Park : Routledge, 2024, s. 20 – 35.

¹⁰ Například elektronika určená na použití vo vesmíre. Testují sa však aj potraviny – nevyhnutné pre pobyt človeka vo vesmíre.

There are several reasons why the above-outlined activities of SpaceForest posed a challenge for Polish domestic legislation:

1. Space 100 km and above sea level is, according to the existing expert consensus, Outer Space.¹¹ It is a space which, in accordance with the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Outer Space Treaty)¹², has the character of *res communis* – i.e., a space common to all states. The rules for the use of this common space are currently governed primarily by instruments of public international law. This simultaneously means that these rules bind, in the first instance, the contracting states of these instruments, and not commercial entities.

2. The Outer Space Treaty stipulates that contracting states bear international responsibility for national activities in Outer Space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, whether such activities are carried out by governmental agencies or by non-governmental entities, and for ensuring that national activities are carried out in conformity with the provisions contained in the Treaty. The launch of the Perun rocket to an altitude of 150 km above sea level therefore undoubtedly constitutes a national activity in Outer Space for which Poland bears international responsibility under the Outer Space Treaty.¹³ This implies the need to enact Polish domestic legislation to regulate the activities of commercial entities in Outer Space.¹⁴

3. The Outer Space Treaty further stipulates that each contracting state that launches or procures the launching of objects into Outer Space is internationally liable for damage caused by such objects or their parts to another contracting party or to its natural or legal persons on Earth, in airspace or in Outer Space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies.¹⁵ This regulation means that the Republic of Poland would be liable for any damage caused by the Perun rocket, regardless of whether a private entity operates it. The adoption of new domestic legislation was therefore an essential step from the perspective of the Republic of Poland, aimed at regulating the liability aspects of the commercial use of Outer Space. If there were no national legal framework in place, the Republic of Poland would bear direct and exclusive liability for any damage caused by the Perun rocket. At the same time, its right of recourse against the rocket operator would not be legally regulated, leaving the state without a clearly defined mechanism to recover such damages. In other words, in the absence of domestic legislation, damage caused by the Perun rocket would be compensated not from the operator's private funds but from the Republic of Poland's public budget.¹⁶

At this point, it should be noted that the adoption of the new Polish Act on Space Activities is not an isolated phenomenon in Europe. The process of privatisation and commercialisation of Outer Space is global. During the past decade, similar domestic regulations have been adopted in several other European jurisdictions – e.g., Greece (2017), Portugal (2019), Luxembourg (2020), Slovenia (2022), Cyprus (2023), and, most recently, Slovakia (2024). In 2025, the Italian Parliament also adopted a new act regulating commercial

¹¹ DODGE, M. Delimitation of Outer Space: where air ends, as space begins. In: HOFMANN, M., BLOUNT, P.J. (eds.), *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Space Law*. Cheltenham : Edward Elgar Publishing, 2025, s. 59 – 62.

¹² Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (adopted 27 January 1967, entered into force 10 October 1967) 610 UNTS 205.

¹³ Pozri KŁODA, M. Rzeczpospolita Polska „w przestrzeni” międzynarodowego prawa kosmicznego. In: *Przepis na Rzeczpospolitą. Subiektywny komentarz do wybranych regulacji Konstytucji*. Warszawa : Wolters Kluwer Polska, 2025, s. 67 – 76.

¹⁴ Pozri KYRIAKOPOULOS, G.D. Responsibility for national activities. In: HOFMANN, M., BLOUNT, P.J. (eds.), *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Space Law*. Cheltenham : Edward Elgar Publishing, 2025, s. 245 – 248.

¹⁵ Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (adopted 27 January 1967, entered into force 10 October 1967) 610 UNTS 205, Art. VII.

¹⁶ Pozri HETLOF, J., KUNERT-DIALLO, A. The Polish Vision on Space Activities: A Review of Current and Proposed Legislation and Space Policy Developments. In: KONERT, A., VAN DER DUNK, F. (eds.), *National Space Law in Poland. Past, Present, and Future*. Leiden : Brill, 2023, s. 255.

activities in Outer Space. Domestic regulations of similar content are currently being prepared in Spain¹⁷ and in the Czech Republic¹⁸. In 2025, the long-awaited proposal for an EU Regulation on the safety, resilience, and sustainability of space activities (*EU Space Act*) was also published.¹⁹ New domestic regulations on commercial activities in Outer Space have also been adopted outside Europe in recent times. An example is the new Brazilian regulation of 2024.

The Republic of Poland is one of the key economies in Central Europe and one of our most significant neighbours. The aim of this article is therefore to present the new Polish legal regulation to the domestic professional audience.

When presenting the new legislation in Poland, we aim to analyse the newly adopted Act in a comparative perspective. In this respect, the authors aim to compare the newly adopted Polish Act on Space Activities with other recently adopted legal regulations on space activities – primarily those adopted in other Central European countries (such as Slovenia and Slovakia). In selected cases, other recently adopted pieces of national space legislation in Europe will also be used as the subject of comparison.

Further, the authors also aim to identify selected aspects that could serve as inspiration for future Czech legislation. The fact remains that in the Czech Republic, as in the neighbouring Federal Republic of Germany, similar domestic legislation has not yet been adopted.

II. THE NEW POLISH SPACE ACT IN A BROADER CONTEXT

The adoption of the new Act on Space Activities in the neighbouring Republic of Poland must be understood and its content interpreted in the broader context of current developments. Its provisions primarily reflect the obligations arising for Poland from international conventions. At the same time, the adoption of the new Polish Act must be understood in the context of other domestic regulations adopted in individual European states in recent years. Last but not least, attention must be drawn to the EU context of the newly adopted Polish legislation – i.e., the preparation of an EU regulation on activities in Outer Space (*EU Space Law*), which has been repeatedly announced.

The following lines will be devoted to placing the newly adopted Polish Act on Space Activities in this context.

1. International space law

Although the newly adopted Act represents the first comprehensive domestic regulation of activities in Outer Space in the Republic of Poland, it is not the first legal framework regulating this area in Poland. The Republic of Poland is a party to several international conventions governing the exploration and use of Outer Space.²⁰ These include, in particular, the Outer Space Treaty, the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched

¹⁷ Pozri GONZALES FERREIRO, E. Principales ítems que debería incluir la ley espacial española. In: *Revista Española de Derecho Aeronáutico y Espacial*, 2023, no. 3, s. 371 – 421.

¹⁸ Pozri HANDRLICA, J. České právo na prahu nové kosmické éry a skica budoucího zákona o kosmických činnostech. In: HAVEL, B., VOSTRÁ, L. (eds.), *Pocta Karlu Eliášovi*. Praha : Wolters Kluwer, 2025, s. 27 – 40.

¹⁹ Pozri Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety, resilience and sustainability of space activities in the Union, Brussels, 25 June 2025, COM(2025) 335 final.

²⁰ Pozri KŁODA, M. Rzeczpospolita Polska „w przestrzeni” międzynarodowego prawa kosmicznego. In: *Przepis na Rzeczpospolitą. Subiektywny komentarz do wybranych regulacji Konstytucji*. Warszawa : Wolters Kluwer Polska, 2025, s. 67 – 76.

into Outer Space (Registration Convention),²¹ and the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (Liability Convention).²²

The aforementioned international conventions enshrine fundamental requirements that the Republic of Poland is obliged to fulfil in relation to entities other than the state – *so-called non-state actors*. The Outer Space Treaty, in this regard, requires Poland to *authorise* and *continuously supervise* the activities of non-state actors in Outer Space.²³ The requirement of authorisation and continuous supervision applies not only to the space above the territory of the Republic of Poland but also to the entirety of Outer Space, which is common to all states. The Registration Convention further enshrines the requirement that the Republic of Poland maintain a registry of space objects and register therein objects launched into orbit around the Earth or beyond. The fact remains, however, that international conventions establish rights and obligations that exist at the level of public international law – i.e., between the contracting parties to the convention. Their transposition in relation to non-state actors, which include, for example, the company SpaceForest, requires the form of domestic legislation.²⁴

The use of Outer Space by non-state actors simultaneously poses a challenge to the state under the Liability Convention. As outlined above, this convention enshrines that the state bears liability for damage caused by its space objects. The Liability Convention thus links a state's jurisdiction over space objects to liability for damage caused by them.²⁵ A state that permits non-state actors to carry out activities in Outer Space within its jurisdiction must simultaneously regulate the question of their liability for damage in its domestic legal order. For this reason, the newly adopted Polish legislation also contains provisions regulating the permit holder's liability and the state's right of recourse against the permit holder in cases of liability for damage arising under international law.²⁶

The instruments of international space law are also crucial for domestic regulation because they define the content of fundamental concepts²⁷, such as *Outer Space*²⁸, *space objects* and *activities in Outer Space (space activities)*.²⁹

2. The Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law

The fact is that while the aforementioned international conventions contain obligations that individual contracting states are to implement in relation to private persons, they do not provide any guiding template for what domestic legislation should look like. A key role is played here by the text of the Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law on National Space Legislation, adopted at the 75th Congress of the International Law Association (ILA) in Sofia, Bulgaria, on August 30, 2012.³⁰ These were prepared under the auspices of the Space Law Committee established by the International Law Association. The Sofia Guidelines for a

²¹ Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (adopted 12 November 1974, entered into force 15 September 1976) 1023 UNTS 15.

²² Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (adopted 29 March 1972, entered into force 1 September 1972) 961 UNTS 187.

²³ Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (adopted 27 January 1967, entered into force 10 October 1967) 610 UNTS 205, Art. VI.

²⁴ Pozri FROEHLICH, A., SEFFINGA, V. Rationale for the Enactment of National Space Legislation. In: FROEHLICH, A., SEFFINGA, V. (eds.), National Space Legislation. A Comparative and Evaluative Analysis. Heidelberg : Springer, 2018, s. 1 – 15.

²⁵ Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (adopted 29 March 1972, entered into force 1 September 1972) 961 UNTS 187, Art. II.

²⁶ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 27 – 30.

²⁷ Pozri PIETKIEWICZ, M. Polska ustawa kosmiczna. Kilka postulatów de lege ferenda. In: Ad Astra. Program badań nad astropolityką i prawem kosmicznym, 2023, no. 9, s. 19 – 20.

²⁸ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 2.10.

²⁹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 8.1.

³⁰ International Law Association (ed.), Report of the 75th ILA Conference in Sofia. International Law Association (ILA), 2012, s. 307 – 313.

Model Law are therefore not a source of public international law and do not have a binding character per se.

The Sofia Guidelines define the so-called building blocks of domestic legislation (authorisation regime, continuous supervision, registration regime, operator liability for damage caused, right of recourse by the state) and contain model provisions for their implementation.³¹ Despite their non-binding character, after 2012, all European domestic regulations governing activities in Outer Space were influenced, to varying degrees, by the text of the Sofia Guidelines.³² Specifically, one can cite the legal regulations of Denmark (2016), Greece (2017), Finland (2018), the United Kingdom (2018), Portugal (2019), Luxembourg (2020), Slovenia (2022), Cyprus (2023), and Liechtenstein (2023). The text of the Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law has also recently influenced the new Slovak (2024)³³ and Italian (2025)³⁴ regulations on activities in Outer Space. Likewise, the new Polish legislation is also built on the building blocks of the Sofia Guidelines.

At this point, it should also be noted that, while adopting individual domestic regulations, legal systems also influence one another. The text of the new Cypriot legal regulation was influenced by the British regulation, which is understandable given that both states follow the *common law* tradition.³⁵ The fact remains, however, that the process of mutual influence does not always respect the boundaries delineated by traditional families of legal traditions. For example, the text of the newly adopted Slovak Space Act was influenced, among other things, by New Zealand's regulations on space activities.³⁶

3. EU Space Act

Binding EU legislation for the commercial activities of non-state actors in Outer Space has been absent to date. The rapid onset of commercial use of Outer Space by private entities and the wave of adoption of domestic legislation in individual Member States of the European Union raise the question of the extent to which conditions for the commercial use of Outer Space should be harmonised in the future through EU law. The intention to adopt a new EU regulation governing activities in Outer Space (EU Space Law) was first announced in Ursula von der Leyen's letter to the President of the European Parliament on September 13, 2024. In April 2024, it was decided that the intention would be implemented only by the new European Commission following the European Parliament elections. The use of Outer Space became one of the priorities for this new Commission, as demonstrated by the establishment, for the first time, of a Commissioner with a portfolio for defence and space. On June 25, 2025, the European Commission published its proposal for a new Regulation on the safety, resilience, and sustainability of space activities in the Union.³⁷ At present, this is merely a proposal that

³¹ GERHARD, M., MOLL, K. The Gradual Change from "Building Blocks" to a Common Shape of National Space Legislation in Europe – Summary of Findings and Conclusions. In: HOBE, S., SCHMIDT-TEDD, B., SCHROGL, K. (eds.), Towards a Harmonised Approach for National Space Legislation in Europe. Cologne : Carl Heymanns Verlag, 2004, s. 28 – 30.

³² Pozri MARBOE, I. The Influence of the Work of the ILA's Space Law Committee on the Development of International Law. In: KESSEDIJAN, C., DESCAMPS, O., FABRIZI, T. (eds.), Au service du droit international. Les 150 ans de l'Association de droit international. Paris : Éditions Panthéon-Assas, 2023, s. 535 – 550.

³³ Pozri HANDRLICA, J. Nad novým slovenským zákonom o regulácii vesmírnych aktivít. In: Právny obzor, roč. 109, 2026, č. 1, s. 28 – 41. Pozri tiež HANDRLICA, J., NOVOTNÁ, M. The Dawn of National Space Legislation in Central Europe and the New Act on Space Activities in the Slovak Republic. In: Juridical Tribune – Review of Comparative and International Law, vol. 15, 2025, no. 4, s. 614 – 634.

³⁴ Pozri CAPURSO, A. The Italian Law on Space Economy: A Model of 'New Space Law'. In: Air & Space Law, vol. 51, 2026, no. 1, s. 83 – 108.

³⁵ Pozri HANDRLICA, J., DEVETZIS, D. Ο νέος «περί Διαστήματος Νόμος (93(I)/2023)» της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας. In: Κυπριακή Νομική Επιθεώρηση, vol. 4, 2025, no. 2-3, s. 50.

³⁶ Pozri ŠOPKOVÁ, K., MATOUŠKOVÁ, M. III. soirée kosmického práva na pražské právnické fakultě – Co přinese nové unijní nařízení o bezpečnosti, odolnosti a udržitelnosti kosmických aktivit v Unii? In: Právník, vol. 165, 2026, no. 3, s. 301.

³⁷ Pozri Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety, resilience and sustainability of space activities in the Union, Brussels, 25 June 2025, COM(2025) 335 final.

must undergo the ordinary legislative procedure. The proposal envisages entry into force from January 1, 2030.

In relation to the newly adopted Polish Act, it can be stated that the proposed EU Regulation does not aspire to replace this domestic regulation in the future. The EU Space Act, by contrast, is intended to operate in parallel with existing national regimes, establishing a comprehensive structure for the governance of space activities within the European Union, comprising both national and EU bodies. The conditions for authorising space activities and their supervision should, in the future, be harmonised; however, the competence for authorisation and supervision is, even under the planned EU regulation, to remain with the relevant national supervisory authorities.³⁸ At this point, it should also be emphasised that the newly proposed EU Space Act does not aim to harmonise the regulation of liability for damage caused by operators of space technologies. Thus, even in the future, liability for damage caused by space objects will remain a matter of regulation within domestic legal frameworks.

It can therefore be assumed that in the future, not only the newly adopted Act but also the planned EU Regulation will apply to the conduct of activities in Outer Space within the Polish legal order.

III. WHAT DOES THE NEW POLISH REGULATION OF SPACE ACTIVITIES BRING?

As is the case with other recently adopted regulations abroad, the newly adopted Polish Act on Activities in Outer Space is essentially built on the building blocks contained in the Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law. The new Polish regulation on space activities thus regulates:³⁹

1. The conditions for the conduct of activities in Outer Space;
2. The registration of space objects;
3. The procedure in the event of an unforeseen incident related to the conduct of space activities, or in the event of the discovery of an object that could be space debris.

From the above enumeration, it is apparent that, like several other newly adopted regulations abroad, the new Polish Act does not contain a comprehensive regulation of the use of Outer Space. In particular, rules governing the conduct of research and development, rules promoting education in the field of space technologies, and rules on public procurement in this area are absent. This subject matter is left to be regulated by special legal provisions under the newly adopted Act.

1. Scope of the Act

The definition of the scope of the newly adopted Act reflects the international obligations arising for the Republic of Poland from the international conventions concluded by it. The use of Outer Space represents what the Outer Space Treaty classifies as *national activities*.⁴⁰ Regardless of whether these activities are carried out by state or private (non-state) actors, the Republic of Poland is always responsible for them under international law. This gives rise to the state's need to define the scope of domestic legislation clearly and to establish corresponding rules for the entities and activities that fall within it.

³⁸ Pozri BARTÓKI-GÖNCZY, B., MALINOWSKA, K. Paradigm Shift in the European Union's Space Policy: Institutional Restructuring and Its Possible Consequences for the CEE Region. In: *Frontiers in Political Science*, vol. 7, 2025, no. 1, s. 1 – 13.

³⁹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 1.

⁴⁰ Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (adopted 27 January 1967, entered into force 10 October 1967) 610 UNTS 205, Art. VI.

In accordance with the text of the Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law, the newly adopted Polish Act defines⁴¹ its scope through a combination of territorial and personal criteria, applying to activities in Outer Space carried out:

1. from the territory of the Republic of Poland;
2. from a vessel or aircraft registered in the Republic of Poland:
 - a) a maritime vessel;
 - b) a civil or state aircraft;
3. by an operator from the territory of a foreign state or from an area not subject to the sovereignty of any state.

This broadly defined scope aims to subject to the Act all activities that, from the perspective of instruments of international law, may be considered national activities and for which the Republic of Poland may be liable under international conventions. In addition to all activities carried out by any person from the territory of the Republic of Poland, or by persons on maritime vessels and aircraft registered under the Polish flag, this includes any activities of persons registered in Poland carried out abroad. If a Polish commercial entity launches space objects from a spaceport in the Azores, this will still constitute a national activity of the Republic of Poland.

Unlike several other European legal regulations already adopted⁴², the new Polish regulation expressly envisages a situation in which a legal person registered in Poland carries out space activities from territory not subject to the sovereignty of any state. In practice, one could consider, for example, the use of Antarctic territory. Even in such a case, the Polish entity would be subject to the regime of the newly adopted space act.

At this point, it can also be mentioned that, in the same vein as many other national space acts, neither the newly adopted Act does provide rules for activities such as:

1. support of research & development in the space sector,
2. public procurement for space activities,
3. university education in space technologies.

All these issues have been left to regulation by separate legal norms of the legal framework of the Republic of Poland.

2. Conditions for the conduct of space activities under the New Polish Act

The newly adopted Polish Act on Activities in Outer Space reflects the legal regime enshrined in the Outer Space Treaty. This regime renders the Republic of Poland internationally liable for any space activity conducted under its jurisdiction. As in several other recently adopted domestic regulations, the newly adopted Polish regulation implements international obligations by establishing relatively strict conditions for the conduct of space activities under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Poland. These conditions consist of two interconnected regimes: On the one hand, there is the authorisation regime, which is intended to ensure that space activities under Polish jurisdiction are operated safely by qualified operators. On the other hand, there is the regime of operator liability for damage caused by space objects operated by the operator to third parties.

⁴¹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 3 – 5.

⁴² Pozri napríklad Art. 2.1. Decreto-Lei n.º 16/2019 de 22 de janeiro, Diário da República, 1.ª série – N.º 15 – 22 de janeiro de 2019; Art. 2 Zakon o vesoljskih dejavnostih (ZVDej), Uradni list Republike Slovenije, Št. 43, Ljubljana, 25. 3. 2022. Naopak, obdobné ustanovenie obsahuje aj vnútroštátny zákon o vesmírnych aktivitách Luxemburského veľkvojvodstva (Loi du 15 décembre 2020 portant sur les activités spatiales, Journal officiel du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg, A 1086/2020) v čl. 1.1. Slovenský zákon o regulácii vesmírnych aktivít neobsahuje žiadne ustanovenie o svojej územnej pôsobnosti.

2.1. Authorisation of space activities

The conduct of activities in Outer Space is, under the new Polish legal regulation, conditional upon the issuance of an authorisation (*zezwoleńie*). The President of the Polish Space Agency is competent to issue the authorisation.⁴³ An authorisation is required for:

- the launch of a given carrier rocket into Outer Space with or without another space object;
- the launch of a given space object that is not a carrier rocket into Outer Space;
- the operation of a given space object in Outer Space;
- the control of a given space object in Outer Space;
- the removal of a given space object from Outer Space, including its deorbiting.

In accordance with the provisions of the Sofia Guidelines, Polish legislation establishes several prerequisites that the applicant must fulfil to obtain authorisation.⁴⁴ These include technological, safety, and personnel prerequisites. The applicant should also be financially capable of fulfilling its obligations. These relatively rigorous requirements aim to ensure that, under Polish jurisdiction, the risk of damage from activities in Outer Space is minimised to the greatest extent possible.⁴⁵

At this point, it can be stated that the new Polish regulation introduces several innovative elements in the area of authorisation of activities in Outer Space:

1. As is the case with the Portuguese legal regulation⁴⁶, the Polish Act also allows⁴⁷ the issuance of a single authorisation for the handling of *multiple space objects*.

2. The regulation differentiates the authorisation process depending on whether the space object is to be launched from the territory of Poland or from abroad.⁴⁸

3. The Polish regulation also provides a very detailed regulation of the transfer of the authorisation to a new acquirer.⁴⁹ For example, under Luxembourg or Portuguese law, the new Polish regulation creates the prerequisites for commercial transfers of space objects, with the acquirer able to obtain the right to operate them by transferring the authorisation (i.e., a new authorisation procedure will not be necessary).

At this point, it should be noted that the authorisation regime enshrined in the new Polish Act will likely be supplemented in the future by the regulation in the proposed EU Regulation. This envisages that, within the European administrative space, a regime of mutual recognition of national authorisations for the conduct of space activities will be established.⁵⁰ Under this regime, authorisations issued by the competent authorities of other Member States should also be recognised as equivalent by the Polish supervisory authority, provided they comply with the minimum standards set out in this Regulation.

2.2. Liability of the authorisation holder for damage

One of the reasons several states adopted their own domestic regulations governing activities in Outer Space over the past decade was the need to create a transparent and effective framework for liability and compensation for potential damage caused by space objects. The Liability Convention, to which the Republic of Poland is bound, distinguishes between two liability regimes in this regard. First, there are cases where damage is caused by a space object on Earth's surface or to an aircraft in flight. In these cases, the Liability

⁴³ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 11.1.

⁴⁴ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 12.

⁴⁵ Pozri POLKOWSKA, M. Prawo kosmiczne. Kilka uwag tytułem wprowadzenia. In: Ad Astra. Program badań nad astropolityką i prawem kosmicznym, 2022, no. 5, s. 54 – 56.

⁴⁶ Decreto-Lei n.º 16/2019 de 22 de janeiro, Diário da República, 1.ª série – N.º 15 – 22 de janeiro de 2019, Art. 6.1.

⁴⁷ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 11.3.

⁴⁸ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 12.5.

⁴⁹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 22.

⁵⁰ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety, resilience and sustainability of space activities in the Union, Brussels, 25 June 2025, COM(2025) 335 final, Art. 6.2.

Convention stipulates that the state's liability for damage is absolute.⁵¹ This reflects the assumption that in these cases, damage will be caused to those entities that did not voluntarily expose themselves to risk. This, in turn, determines the character of the state's liability for damage caused in these situations. Second, if damage is caused elsewhere than on the surface of the Earth to a space object of one launching state or to persons or property on board such a space object by a space object of another launching state, the launching state is liable only if the damage is due to its fault or the fault of persons for whom it is responsible.⁵² The Liability Convention thereby reflects the fact that while in the first case the liability was in relation to injured parties who did not themselves expose themselves to any risk, in the second case the liability relationships are with injured parties who themselves carried out activities in Outer Space and thus had to reckon with a certain degree of risk.

The Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law expressly recommend that liability for damage caused by space objects under domestic regulation be linked to the relevant authorisation holder. Otherwise, the state would bear liability for damage caused by non-state or commercial entities. The new Polish legal regulation, therefore, explicitly declares that "the operator shall be liable for damage caused by a space object".^{53,54} The regime of liability for damage is also linked to the regime of mandatory insurance.⁵⁵ Following the above-mentioned liability regime enshrined in the Liability Convention, the Polish legal regulation distinguishes the following situations:

1. First, the authorisation holder is liable for damage caused by a space object on the Earth's surface or to an aircraft in flight. In these cases, liability is conceived as strict, i.e., regardless of fault, and applies even if the damage was caused as a result of force majeure. Liability may neither be excluded nor limited.⁵⁶

2. Conversely, for damage caused by a space object at a location other than on the Earth's surface, or for damage other than that caused to an aircraft in flight, the operator shall be liable in accordance with general principles.⁵⁷

3. At this point, it should also be noted that the Polish regulation does not target exclusively the liability of persons who hold an authorisation. The Polish Act simultaneously stipulates that liability for damage is also borne by "an entity that, in contravention of the law, carries out space activities without an authorisation".⁵⁸

The fact remains, however, that the liability of the State (in this case, the Republic of Poland) under the Liability Convention persists even in this arrangement. This means that the State continues to bear liability under international law for damage caused by activities under its jurisdiction. The Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law recommend addressing this situation in domestic legislation by establishing a right of recourse by the State against the authorisation holder.⁵⁹ This recommendation is also reflected in the newly adopted Polish Act,⁶⁰ which governs cases in which the Republic of Poland must compensate another State for damage under the Liability Convention. In this case, the State Treasury has a right of *recourse* primarily against the insurer and secondarily against the authorisation holder. The new Polish

⁵¹ Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (adopted 29 March 1972, entered into force 1 September 1972) 961 UNTS 187, Art. II.

⁵² Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (adopted 29 March 1972, entered into force 1 September 1972) 961 UNTS 187, Art. III.

⁵³ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 27.1.

⁵⁴ V tejto súvislosti je potrebné poznamenať, že slovenská právna úprava aktivít vo vesmíre neobsahuje obdobné explicitné ustanovenie o zodpovednosti držiteľa povolenia.

⁵⁵ Povinnosť povinného poistenia sa nevzťahuje (Art. 32.2. Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej) na výskumné a obranné (vojenské) aktivity vo vesmíre.

⁵⁶ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 28.1.

⁵⁷ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 29.1.

⁵⁸ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 27.1.

⁵⁹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 31.

⁶⁰ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 11.1.

regulation stipulates that the amount of the right of recourse is *limited* to the amount of mandatory insurance held by the authorisation holder. The right of recourse of the State Treasury is unlimited only⁶¹ in cases where the damage:

1. arose as a result of intentional conduct or gross negligence of the operator;
2. was caused by a space object launched into Outer Space by an entity that, in contravention of the law, carries out space activities without authorisation.

For comparison, it can be noted that a similar approach to resolving this issue was adopted, for example, in the legal regulations of Portugal and Slovenia.⁶² Conversely, the national space act of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg⁶³ (and, under its influence, the legal regulation adopted in the Principality of Liechtenstein⁶⁴) does not in any way limit the volume of the state's right of recourse against the authorisation holder.

At this point, it is appropriate to emphasise that, unlike the above-outlined issue of authorisation, the newly proposed EU Regulation (EU Space Act) does not address questions of liability for damage. It can therefore be inferred that, even in the future, this area will remain primarily regulated at the level of international law, or within the legal orders of individual Member States.

3. Registration of space objects

Another building block of domestic regulation, in accordance with the Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law, is the legal regulation of the registration of space objects, which must comply with the requirements set out in the Registration Convention. This requires, in particular, that:

1. Domestic legislation regulates the maintenance of a registry of space objects, into which each object must be entered without delay after its launch into orbit around the Earth or beyond;⁶⁵

2. A competent domestic authority should be designated as responsible for fulfilling the obligations arising from the Registration Convention. These include, in particular, the obligation to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the establishment of the registry of space objects⁶⁶ and the obligation to transmit information about space objects that have been entered in the registry;⁶⁷

3. The Registration Convention further stipulates that "*the contents of each registry and the conditions under which it is maintained shall be determined by the State of registry concerned*".⁶⁸ Domestic legislation must therefore establish both the conditions regarding the content of the registry of space objects and the conditions under which this registry will be maintained.

The newly adopted Polish regulation reflects these obligations by establishing a national registry (*Krajowy Rejestr Obiektów Kosmicznych*).⁶⁹ The Sofia Guidelines for a

⁶¹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 30.2.

⁶² Pozri Art. 18.2. Decreto-Lei n.º 16/2019 de 22 de janeiro, Diário da República, 1.ª série – N.º 15 – 22 de janeiro de 2019 a Art. 16.4. Zakon o vesoljskih dejavnostih (ZVDej), Uradni list Republike Slovenije, Št. 43, Ljubljana, 25. 3. 2022.

⁶³ Pozri Art. 12.4. Loi du 15 décembre 2020 portant sur les activités spatiales, Journal officiel du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg, A 1086/2020.

⁶⁴ Art. 9 Gesetz vom 5. Oktober 2023 über die Genehmigung von Weltraumaktivitäten und die Registrierung von Weltraumgegenständen.

⁶⁵ Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (adopted 12 November 1974, entered into force 15 September 1976) 1023 UNTS 15, Art. II.1.

⁶⁶ Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (adopted 12 November 1974, entered into force 15 September 1976) 1023 UNTS 15, Art. II.1. in fine.

⁶⁷ Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (adopted 12 November 1974, entered into force 15 September 1976) 1023 UNTS 15, Art. IV.

⁶⁸ Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (adopted 12 November 1974, entered into force 15 September 1976) 1023 UNTS 15, Art. II.3.

⁶⁹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 10.1.

Model Law recommend that, in this regard, the national registry be administered by the same authority that decides on the authorisation of activities.⁷⁰ The Polish legislator reflected this recommendation and entrusted the operation of the national registry to the President of the Polish Space Agency.⁷¹

In connection with the registration of space objects, it should also be noted that the newly proposed EU Regulation envisages establishing a unified EU registry of space objects.⁷² This EU registry (*the Union Register of Space Objects*) should, in the future, exist alongside national registries of space objects. Its administration should be entrusted to the EU Agency for the Space Programme, headquartered in Prague.

4. Regulation of special situations

At this point, it is appropriate to note that the newly adopted Polish Act not only provides a general regulation, but also expressly addresses several specific situations that have hitherto been overlooked in comparable legal regulations.

Space activities are generally perceived as highly risky: although they are based on cutting-edge technologies and contingent upon the fulfilment of several demanding requirements, the occurrence of unforeseeable events associated with their conduct, which may lead to significant damage, including threats to human life, cannot be ruled out. It is precisely this potentially serious impact that the Polish legislator seeks to address by conferring upon the President of the Polish Space Agency the power to establish a special commission to examine these extraordinary situations.⁷³

In the event of its establishment, the competences of the commission shall include:

1. ascertaining the circumstances and causes of the event and determining its consequences;
2. cooperation with entities and services involved in clarifying the circumstances of the event and with the relevant crisis management centres;
3. Preparation of a final report on the work of the commission, which shall contain, in particular, a discussion of the circumstances and causes of the event, as well as conclusions and recommendations, and submission of this report to the President of the Polish Space Agency.

The second special situation that the Polish regulation now addresses is the discovery of an object that could be space debris on the terrestrial surface.⁷⁴ Anyone who discovers an object on the territory of the Republic of Poland suspected of being space debris is obliged to inform the police immediately. The police shall inform the President of the Polish Space Agency of the discovery of the object no later than 24 hours after discovery. The storage of the found object is within the President's competence, who shall determine the place and duration of storage and ensure its proper safeguarding.

IV. CONCLUSION

The adoption of the new Polish Act on Space Activities marks a significant milestone in regulating the commercial use of Outer Space in Central Europe. It is not merely a formal filling of a legislative deficit, but a qualitative shift towards the systematic regulation of non-state actors' activities in Outer Space. As demonstrated in this article, this step cannot be understood in isolation but rather as a natural culmination of several concurrent processes. On the one hand, there are obligations arising from international space law that impose on states

⁷⁰ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 44.1.

⁷¹ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 44.2.

⁷² Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety, resilience and sustainability of space activities in the Union, Brussels, 25 June 2025, COM(2025) 335 final, Art. 24.

⁷³ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 52.1.

⁷⁴ Ustawa z dnia 13 lutego 2026 r. o działalności kosmicznej, Art. 57.

the duty to authorise and supervise the activities of non-state actors and to bear international responsibility for them. On the other hand, the dynamic development of commercial space activities creates pressure on the government to provide a predictable and functional domestic framework.

It could be said that a significant accelerator for the adoption of the new Act was the activities of the company SpaceForest, which in 2024 concluded a contract with the European Space Agency for the development and commercialisation of the Perun rocket, designed for the commercial testing of new technologies in a microgravity environment at altitudes of up to 150 km above the Earth's surface with a payload of up to 50 kg. The planned launches of the Perun rocket from a spaceport in the Azores in Portugal, from a floating platform in the North Sea under Danish jurisdiction, and also directly from Polish territory – from the Central Aviation Training Facility in the city of Ustka – subsequently gave rise to the need for the urgent adoption of domestic legislation.

The new legal regulation systematically draws on the building blocks of international space law and the Sofia Guidelines for a Model Law, which it transposes into a domestic framework encompassing the conditions for the conduct of space activities, the registration of space objects, and the resolution of extraordinary situations. The Polish legal regulation must also be perceived in the context of the forthcoming EU Space Act. According to current developments, this will likely lead to the harmonisation of conditions for the authorisation of space activities at the EU level, without intervening in the area of liability for damage, which will continue to remain the domain of domestic law. In the future, the parallel operation of national and EU regulation can therefore be expected.

In the area of authorisation, the Act introduces elements that reflect the needs of commercial practice, in particular the possibility of issuing a single authorisation for multiple space objects, the differentiation of the regime by place of launch, and the regulation of the transferability of authorisation. In the area of liability, the legal regulation preserves the international framework of state liability. It supplements it at the domestic level with mechanisms aimed at transferring the economic impacts to the operator, in particular through the state's right of recourse and the mandatory insurance system. The liability of the Republic of Poland under the Liability Convention thus persists but is modified precisely by the existence of the right of recourse against the insurer and the authorisation holder. Its amount is fundamentally limited to the extent of mandatory insurance, except in cases of intentional conduct, gross negligence, or the conduct of space activities without the relevant authorisation. In the area of registration, the new Polish regulation establishes a national registry of space objects (*Krajowy Rejestr Obiektów Kosmicznych*), the administration of which is entrusted to the President of the Polish Space Agency. This approach aligns with the Sofia Guidelines, which state that the administration of the national registry should be carried out by the same authority that decides on the authorisation of space activities.

A rather interesting element of the legal regulation is its approach to special situations, which reflects the inherently risky nature of space activities. The Act in this regard empowers the President of the Polish Space Agency to establish an ad hoc commission for the examination of unforeseen events, the task of which is, in particular, to clarify the factual circumstances, causes, and impacts of the given event, to coordinate cooperation with relevant entities and crisis services, and to prepare a final report for the President of the Agency. A special regime also applies to discoveries of potential space debris, under which the Act imposes on the finder the obligation to immediately inform the Police, which, without delay and no later than 24 hours, transmits the information to the Polish Space Agency for further expert assessment.

In the broader European context, the new Polish regulation thus ranks among modern regulatory frameworks reflecting the onset of the so-called New Space era. It simultaneously

represents a relevant source of inspiration for states that have not yet adopted comprehensive domestic regulation of space activities. This also applies to the Czech Republic, where the adoption of a similar act is expected in the foreseeable future. This contribution therefore seeks to contribute to the professional discussion on its future form.

KEY WORDS

space law; Outer Space; space activities; New Space Era; space law in Central Europe

KLÍČOVÉ SLOVÁ

kosmické právo; kosmický prostor; kosmické aktivity; New Space Era; kosmické právo – Střední Evropa

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. BARTÓKI-GÖNCZY, B., MALINOWSKA, K. *Paradigm Shift in the European Union's Space Policy: Institutional Restructuring and Its Possible Consequences for the CEE Region*. In: *Frontiers in Political Science*, vol. 7, 2025, no. 1, s. 1 – 13. Dostupné online: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpos.2025.1536170>. DOI 10.3389/fpos.2025.1536170.
2. CAPURSO, A. *The Italian Law on Space Economy: A Model of 'New Space Law'*. In: *Air & Space Law*, vol. 51, 2026, no. 1, s. 83 – 108. Dostupné online: <https://doi.org/10.54648/aila2026017>. DOI 10.54648/aila2026017.
3. CLECK, P. *Towards a new legal ecosystem for the exploitation of space*. In: SMITH, L., BAUMANN, I., WINTERMUTH, S. (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Commercial Space Law*. Milton Park : Routledge, 2024, s. 20 – 35. Dostupné online: <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003268475-4>. DOI 10.4324/9781003268475-4.
4. DODGE, M. *Delimitation of Outer Space: where air ends, as space begins*. In: HOFMANN, M., BLOUNT, P.J. (eds.), *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Space Law*. Cheltenham : Edward Elgar Publishing, 2025, s. 59 – 62. Dostupné online: <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781802207361.00021>. DOI 10.4337/9781802207361.00021.
5. FROEHLICH, A., SEFFINGA, V. *Rationale for the Enactment of National Space Legislation*. In: FROEHLICH, A., SEFFINGA, V. (eds.), *National Space Legislation. A Comparative and Evaluative Analysis*. Heidelberg : Springer, 2018, s. 1 – 15.
6. GERHARD, M., MOLL, K. *The Gradual Change from "Building Blocks" to a Common Shape of National Space Legislation in Europe – Summary of Findings and Conclusions*. In: HOBE, S., SCHMIDT-TEDD, B., SCHROGL, K. (eds.), *Towards a Harmonised Approach for National Space Legislation in Europe*. Cologne : Carl Heymanns Verlag, 2004, s. 28 – 30.
7. GONZALES FERREIRO, E. *Principales ítems que debería incluir la ley espacial española*. In: *Revista Española de Derecho Aeronáutico y Espacial*, 2023, no. 3, s. 371 – 421.
8. HANDRLICA, J. *Nad novým slovenským zákonom o regulaci vesmírných aktivit*. In: *Právny obzor*, roč. 109, 2026, č. 1, s. 28 – 41. Dostupné online: <https://doi.org/10.31577/pravnyobzor.2026.1.02>. DOI 10.31577/pravnyobzor.2026.1.02.
9. HANDRLICA, J. *České právo na prahu nové kosmické éry a skica budoucího zákona o kosmických činnostech*. In: HAVEL, B., VOSTRÁ, L. (eds.), *Pocta Karlu Eliášovi*. Praha : Wolters Kluwer, 2025, s. 27 – 40.
10. HANDRLICA, J., DEVETZIS, D. *Ο νέος «περί Διαστήματος Νόμος (93(I)/2023)» της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας*. In: *Κυπριακή Νομική Επιθεώρηση*, vol. 4, 2025, no. 2-3, s. 49 – 55.
11. HANDRLICA, J., NOVOTNÁ, M. *The Dawn of National Space Legislation in Central Europe and the New Act on Space Activities in the Slovak Republic*. In: *Juridical Tribune*

- Review of Comparative and International Law, vol. 15, 2025, no. 4, s. 614 – 634. Dostępne online: <https://doi.org/10.62768/TBJ/2025/15/4/01>. DOI 10.62768/TBJ/2025/15/4/01.
12. HETLOF, J., KUNERT-DIALLO, A. *The Polish Vision on Space Activities: A Review of Current and Proposed Legislation and Space Policy Developments*. In: KONERT, A., VAN DER DUNK, F. (eds.), *National Space Law in Poland. Past, Present, and Future*. Leiden : Brill, 2023, s. 254 – 282. Dostępne online: https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004542860_011. DOI 10.1163/9789004542860_011.
13. HOFMANN, M., MALINOWSKA, K. *Poland Goes to Space: The Draft Polish Space Law*. In: *Proceedings of the International Astronautical Congress*, vol. 66, 2022, s. 419 – 431. Dostępne online: <https://doi.org/10.5553/IISL/2022065006003>. DOI 10.5553/IISL/2022065006003.
14. INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION (ed.), *Report of the 75th ILA Conference in Sofia*. International Law Association (ILA), 2012, s. 307 – 313.
15. JASIUK, E. *The Draft of the Polish Space Law*. In: KONERT, A., VAN DER DUNK, F. (eds.), *National Space Law in Poland. Past, Present, and Future*. Leiden : Brill, 2023, s. 191 – 220. Dostępne online: https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004542860_009. DOI 10.1163/9789004542860_009.
16. KŁODA, M. *Rzeczpospolita Polska „w przestrzeni” międzynarodowego prawa kosmicznego*. In: *Przepis na Rzeczpospolitą. Subiektywny komentarz do wybranych regulacji Konstytucji*. Warszawa : Wolters Kluwer Polska, 2025, s. 67 – 76.
17. KŁODA, M., MALINOWSKA, K., MALINOWSKI, B., POLKOWSKA, M. *Polskie prawo kosmiczne – wyzwania i kompromisy*. In: *Przegląd Sejmowy*, vol. 3, 2022, no. 170, s. 94 – 119.
18. KYRIAKOPOULOS, GD. *Responsibility for national activities*. In: HOFMANN, M., BLOUNT, PJ. (eds.), *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Space Law*. Cheltenham : Edward Elgar Publishing, 2025, s. 245 – 248.
19. MARBOE, I. *The Influence of the Work of the ILA’s Space Law Committee on the Development of International Law*. In: KESSEDIJAN, C., DESCAMPS, O., FABRIZI, T. (eds.), *Au service du droit international. Les 150 ans de l’Association de droit international*. Paris : Éditions Panthéon-Assas, 2023, s. 535 – 550.
20. MYSZONA-KOSTRZEWA, K., KULINSKA-KĘPA, Z. (eds.), *Prawo kosmiczne międzynarodowe, europejskie i krajowe*. Warszawa : Wydawnictwo C. H. Beck, 2025. 390 s. ISBN 978-83-8356-941-3.
21. PIETKIEWICZ, M. *Polska ustawa kosmiczna. Kilka postulatów de lege ferenda*. In: *Ad Astra. Program badań nad astropolityką i prawem kosmicznym*, 2023, no. 9, s. 19 – 20. Dostępne online: <https://doi.org/10.53261/adastra20230906>. DOI 10.53261/adastra20230906.
22. PIOTROWSKI, M. *Projekt polskiego prawa kosmicznego – regulacja na miarę XXI wieku?* In: *Studia Iuridica*, vol. 77, 2018, s. 101 – 118. Dostępne online: <https://doi.org/10.5604/01.3001.0013.1869>. DOI 10.5604/01.3001.0013.1869.
23. POLKOWSKA, M. *Prawo kosmiczne. Kilka uwag tytułem wprowadzenia*. In: *Ad Astra. Program badań nad astropolityką i prawem kosmicznym*, 2022, no. 5, s. 54 – 58. Dostępne online: <https://doi.org/10.53261/adastra20220507>. DOI 10.53261/adastra20220507.
24. SMOLIK, B. *Poland’s Policy in the Space Sector: The Institutional Dimension Since The European Space Agency*. In: *Polish Political Science Review. Polski Przegląd Politologiczny*, vol. 9, 2021, no. 1, s. 65 – 78. Dostępne online: <https://doi.org/10.2478/ppsr-2021-0005>. DOI 10.2478/ppsr-2021-0005.

25. ŠOPKOVÁ, K., MATOUŠKOVÁ, M. *III. soirée kosmického práva na pražské právnické fakultě – Co přinese nové unijní nařízení o bezpečnosti, odolnosti a udržitelnosti kosmických aktivit v Unii?* In: Právník, vol. 165, 2026, no. 3, s. 300 – 302.

AUTHORS' CONTACT DETAILS

Mgr. Kristýna Šopková

Ph.D. Candidate (full-time)

Department of Administrative Law and Administrative Science

Faculty of Law, Charles University, nám. Curieových 7, 116 40 Praha 1, Czech Republic

Phone: +420 221 005 311

E-mail: kristyna.sopkova@prf.cuni.cz

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0008-1349-1183>

prof. JUDr. Jakub Handrlica, PhD., DSc.

Professor of Administrative Law

Department of Administrative Law and Administrative Science

Faculty of Law, Charles University, nám. Curieových 7, 116 40 Praha 1, Czech Republic

Phone: +420 221 005 312

E-mail: jakub.handrlica@prf.cuni.cz

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2274-0221>