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**The Role of International Cooperation in the Efficient Use of Radio Frequency
Spectrum and Orbital Location Resources**

by

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The issue of how to ensure an efficient use of, and equitable access to, radio frequency spectrum and orbital location resources is recently receiving heightened attention from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), national telecommunications administrations as well as satellite companies that use (or intend to use) these resources. Although the ITU Radio Regulations provide for a detailed procedure of allocation of radio-frequency spectrum at designated orbital slots, the practical application of the ITU filing process, especially with regard to frequency coordination, is in many instances influenced by political and anti-competitive agendas. This presentation will review the ITU procedures for registration of frequency assignments pertaining to space services (including priority status, coordination procedures, “bringing into use” deadlines), will identify some of the loopholes in the ITU regime which allowed for the “paper satellite” phenomenon and the “floater-for-hire” practices and will critically review the feasibility of several mechanisms and practical strategies based on international cooperation which can be employed to ensure efficient use of the spectrum/orbit resource and to improve the current international satellite spectrum management systems.