

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ORGANIZATION FOR OUTER SPACE – 1965

1965 was the United Nations' "International Cooperation Year." In the United States, President Lyndon Baines Johnson declared that "International cooperation is essential to the achievement of a peaceful world order . . ." And, in the Senate, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, Clinton P. Anderson (D-NM) asked Eilene Marie Galloway to prepare a Staff Report, ***International Cooperation and Organization for Outer Space*** 89th Congress, 1st Session. Doc. 56 (April 12, 1965).

In a chart from this 580 page report, my mother identifies five patterns of international outer space activity –

1. United Nations and Related Agencies, e.g. COPUOS
2. Nations and Groups of Nations, e.g. ESRO and ELDO
3. International Scientific Community, e.g. COSPAR
4. Professional associations, e.g. IISL
5. Industrial Organizations, e.g. Comsat

Many space law students used this document as a bible during their studies in the 1960s, and it is a work of enduring value in explicating the great degree of international cooperation that existed in the early years of the Space Age. It is wrong to think of the Cold War years as ones of unrelenting conflict in a zero-sum game. There was significant international political, economic and scientific cooperation then and even more so now as I am sure that this – the 7th Eilene M. Galloway Symposium on Critical Issues in Space Law will demonstrate and confirm.

Jonathan F. Galloway
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