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**SPACE ACTIVITIES OF UKRAINE:
ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND NEW
APPROACHES TO LEGAL REGULATION**

**КОСМІЧНА ДІЯЛЬНІСТЬ УКРАЇНИ:
ДОСЯГНЕННЯ, ВИКЛИКИ ТА НОВІ ПІДХОДИ
ДО ПРАВОВОГО РЕГУЛЮВАННЯ**

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After gaining independence, Ukraine inherited a unique industrial and scientific and technical resource, which became the basis for the development of many key sectors of the economy, including space. Space activity, which has strategic importance for a sovereign state, has played an important role in ensuring defense capability and technological progress since Soviet times. At the time of the declaration of independence, Ukraine had one of the world's most powerful human resources, scientific and technical, technological and production potentials in the field of rocket and space technology. During the Soviet period until 1991, more than 10,000 space and military rockets were mass-produced in Ukraine [1, p. 6].

At the beginning of the 1990s, the young country faced the question of preserving the space industry, its modernization and further development in the interests of national security and integration into the world community. The transition to entrepreneurial space activities required the implementation of clear legal mechanisms and state regulation.

A fundamental step in this direction was the adoption of the Law of Ukraine "On Space Activities" [2], which defined the general legal principles for carrying out space activities in Ukraine and under the jurisdiction of Ukraine outside its borders. One of the key legal instruments of state regulation was the development and implementation of the National Targeted Scientific and Technical Space Programs of Ukraine (hereinafter –

the space program), which are formed for five years and approved by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine at the request of the Cabinet of Ministers.

However, practice shows that the space programs did not produce the expected results. The main tasks of these programs remained at the level of unimplemented plans, which significantly complicated the development of space activities in Ukraine. Despite the adoption of a number of strategic documents, in particular the Strategy for the Development of Space Activities until 2022 [3] and the Concept of State Space Policy Implementation until 2032 [4], problems with the production of rocket and space equipment and the stable functioning of state space enterprises remain unresolved.

The growing financial difficulties of space enterprises forced the state to intervene. The Government of Ukraine approved the State Program for their development [5]. In addition, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine provided for the financial recovery of the state enterprise by restructuring the debt to the government. The government provides support in the form of compensation of interest rates on loans raised to fulfill international obligations, as well as through state orders, including defense [6].

In addition, subjects of space activities are provided with tax preferences in the form of exemption from taxation on the added value of operations on the sale of space complexes, launch vehicles, spacecraft and other products manufactured at the expense of state funds. Some enterprises in the space industry are also exempted from paying land tax for production sites [7].

The abolition of the state monopoly on the development, testing, production and operation of launch vehicles was supposed to provide a new impetus to the development of private initiatives in the space industry. However, despite the initial expectations, significant progress in this direction has not been achieved yet. At the same time, hopes rest on the implementation of draft laws concerning such areas as remote sensing of the Earth and satellite navigation.

Another obstacle to the development of the space industry is the problem of coordination between the central bodies of executive power, which ensure the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of space activities. The irregularity of powers between the Ministry of Strategic Industries of Ukraine and the State Space Agency of Ukraine has a negative impact on the stability of the industry.

The current state of the space industry requires innovative legal approaches to its legal regulation. In the conditions of global threats, in particular, war and changes in international relations, Ukraine urgently needs to update its space legislation to preserve and develop its space potential. This should include not only the review of current legal acts, but also the development of effective state regulatory instruments that will meet

the current conditions of space activity. It is important not to be limited to situational decisions, but to create a clear strategic vision of legal regulation that will encompass long-term goals and comprehensive measures.

Thus, the solution to existing problems should begin with the formation of new legal bases for conducting space activities, adapted to modern challenges. This will allow Ukraine to preserve and develop existing space capabilities, as well as effectively integrate them into the national development strategy.

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