Space systems are strategic assets demonstrating independence and the capability of assuming global responsibilities. Initially developed for either defence or scientific purposes, space systems now provide commercial infrastructures on which important sectors of the economy depend. The importance of space has been given full recognition by the European Union and the European Space Agency with the development of an autonomous and comprehensive European Space Policy and the implementation of Galileo and GMES as flagship projects. The success of the European Space Policy much depends on whether space activities can rely on a coherent regulatory and legal environment and recognized contractual solutions.

The regulatory and legal framework for space activities is particularly complex. While contracts in the space sector also include standardised solutions common to other high-technology sectors, certain issues are unique to space projects. Highly individual solutions and best practices have been developed that allow the characteristics and special risks of space operations to be taken into account. A clear example is that of warranty clauses which take into account that hardware, once in earth orbit, can no longer be repaired or replaced.

Led by Professor Dr. Lesley Jane Smith of Leuphana University Lüneburg, the conference is part of a European research initiative which analyses the legal framework for contracts in the European Space Sector. It is designed to collate best practices and discuss reliable legal solutions used in drafting and negotiating space project contracts. The Research project contributes to the ongoing process of developing a true European Space Policy.

The conference will provide a forum for practitioners and academics alike to present and discuss diverse aspects of the legal framework applicable to space projects and the best practice approaches for dealing with the major legal issues when drafting and negotiating contracts within the European Space Sector.

The conference aims to actively support and shape a book publication scheduled for May 2010 to which all speakers and other recognised space law experts will contribute. The publication will offer a first systematic overview and analysis of the complex legal and contractual issues relevant to space projects and will serve as a standard-setting tool for drafting and negotiating contracts.

Please visit our conference website: www.contracting-for-space.eu
WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

PRE-WORKSHOP DINNER
25 November 2009
20:00 Pre-Workshop Dinner

DAY ONE
26 November 2009

WELCOME ADDRESS
8:45 – 9:00 Opening Speech – Prof. Lesley Jane Smith, Leuphana University, Lüneburg
9:00 – 9:15 Welcome Speech 1
Prof. H. J. Dittus, Director, DLR Bremen
9:15 – 9:30 Welcome Speech 2
Dr. Stephan Holsten, Director, CEON Bremen
9:30 – 9:45 Keynote Speech
Tanja Masson-Zwaan, President IISL, The Hague
9:45 – 10:00 Coffee Break

SESSION I – GENERAL PLENARY
10:00 – 11:15 Influence of Space Policy and Law on European Space Regulation
Session Convenor: Prof. M. Couston, University of Lyon
11:15 – 12:30 Legal Framework for Developing Space Projects in Europe
Session Convenor: Prof. Lesley Jane Smith, Leuphana Universität, Lüneburg
12:30 – 14:00 Conference Lunch Buffet

SESSION II – WORKSHOP
14:00 – 15:00 General Aspects of Space Industry Contracts
Session Convenor: Dr. Bernhard Schmidt-Tedde, Legal Department, DLR Bonn
15:00 – 16:00 Financial Parameters for Space Contracts
Session Convenor: Dr. Dietrich Weber-Steinhaus, Bremen
16:00 – 16:15 Tea Break
16:15 – 17:45 Specific Legal Aspects of Space Contracts
Session Convenor: Dr. Oliver Heinrich, BHO Legal, Cologne

GET TOGETHER
18:15 – 19:15 Reception
Hosted by WFB Wirtschaftsförderungsgesellschaft Bremen
20:00 Conference Dinner
Announcement of student award
Hosted by EADS Astrium

DAY TWO
27 November 2009

SESSION II – WORKSHOP
8:45 – 10:00 Particular Issues of EO/SME in European Space Projects
Session Convenor: Dr. Kay Uwe Hörl, EADS EFW, Dresden
10:00 – 10:15 Coffee Break
10:15 – 12:00 Particularities of Launch Service/Transponder Lease Agreements
Session Convenor: Prof. Walter Peters, Dean, ISU, Strasbourg

SESSION III – CONCLUSIONS
12:00 – 13:00 Panel Discussion
Session Convenor: Dr. Michael Gerhard, EASA, Cologne
13:00 – 13:15 Concluding Remarks and Perspectives
Session Convenor: Prof. Lesley Jane Smith, Leuphana University, Lüneburg; Dr. Inge Baumann, BHO Legal, Cologne
13:15 – 14:15 Conference Lunch Buffet
14:15 Post Conference Tour (ZARM)