



The Status of the International Code of Conduct

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- A Quick History of the European Proposal
- Main Principles of the CoC
- What is in the CoC, or what are TCBMs in Space?
- What Could be Achieved in 2010?

A Quick History of the European Draft Code

- Context of the early 2000's : evolution towards space weaponization and an arms race in space
- Europeans cannot and will not join, but need to protect their space assets. Coincides with Chinese test of January 2007
- Italian paper, Berlin conference, French diplomacy: draft Code adopted by 27 in December, 2008

Principles of the CoC

- 1. Not a Treaty
 - CoC is meant to be feasible: up to last year, opposition of the U.S.A. ; difficulty of agreeing on legal definitions
 - CoC meant to complement existing body of space law and pave the way for future treaties
- 2. TCBMs in Space
 - Based on examples from the 1970's, TCBMs are meant to reassure international partners

A Typology of Space TCBMs

- **General space-related activities**
- **Launch-related activities**
- **During the spacecraft's lifetime in orbit**
- **Decommissioning and re-entry of space-crafts**
- **Recommendations on harmful interference**

Adapted from Lars Hstbeck, « A Small Nation's View of TCBM's for Space Security », presented at the conference *Improving our Vision II : Building Transparency and Cooperation* (CDI, Eisenhower Center, SWF), London, October 2007.

General space-related activities:

- Having a declared national space policy
- Sharing information on planned activities
- Developing co-operative space projects

Launch-related activities:

- Launch notification
- Launch demonstrations
- Invite observers to launches

During the spacecraft's lifetime in orbit:

- Space traffic management (including special caution zones around satellites and notification of orbital manoeuvres)
- Set up a register of operational satellites and spacecrafts with regular updates
- Space surveillance system with information available to all parties (preferably a common system)

Decommissioning and re-entry of spacecrafts:

- Re-entry notification
- Debris mitigation (graveyard orbits, fuel exhaustion, atmospheric burn-up, etc)

Probably the most important :
Recommendations on harmful
interference,
often phrased as “refrain from
debris-creating activities”

Structure of the Code (1)

- **Preamble**
- **1. Core Principles and Objectives**
Lists existing treaties and international texts
- **2. General Measures**
Contains art.4.2 :« refrain from any intentional action that may damage or destroy space objects », and art 5. on debris control and mitigation.

Structure of the CoC (2)

- **3. Cooperation Mechanisms**

- Notification
- Registration
- Information
- Consultation

- **4. Organisational Aspects**

- Biennial meetings
- Point of contact
- Database

Timeframe 1 (2009)

- Consultation of space-faring countries outside the EU:
 - Continuation of debate on treaty versus code; on the right forum for discussion
 - Debate on actors to be included : private companies? What status for the EU?
 - Constructive comments on technical or organisational aspects; rendez-vous clause

Timeframe 2 (2010)

- What could be done this year:
 - Integration of remarks
 - Presentation in international forum?
 - Adhesion Conference under Belgian Presidency of the EU?