

account, notably the partners' desire to formally extend the exercise of some of their national powers to the module constituting their contribution to the station.

Some provisions of the agreement seek to recognize the jurisdiction of the partners' courts and make it possible to apply national rules of substantive law in criminal, civil (especially where civil liability is concerned) and administrative matters (mainly where questions of intellectual property and the transfer of goods and data are concerned). This legal regime does not necessarily claim to be exhaustive, since in many cases there will be similar applications of law on earth and in space, and the earthly rule can be applied.

In sum, the intergovernmental agreement for the cooperative space station project and the related memoranda are international instruments designed to set, in relation to each other, the scientific, technical and political parameters, not to mention the legal, economic and commercial aspects of the vast joint international undertaking of the space station project in the 1990s, and for the 30 years thereafter.