

## **ABSTRACT**

This thesis aims to provide a comprehensive outlook on the EU's position in the system of international space law. It delves into the structure, legal regulations, nature, and individual components of the EU's space programme. Furthermore, it examines the space dimension in relations between the EU and the UN, and the EU's position on the selected UN space treaties. Additionally, the thesis discusses the cooperation between the EU and ESA, and the nuances of their relations.

The first chapter provides a historical overview of the EU's involvement in space and explores the nature and limitations of the EU's space competence within the framework of EU law.

In the second chapter, the EU's present space activities are analysed, focusing on the recent legal regulations governing the EU's space programme. This chapter also assesses the objectives, structure, and governance of the EU's space activities and explores the individual components of the EU's space programme and their character.

The third chapter examines the EU's stance on the Outer Space Treaty, the Liability Convention, and the Registration Convention. It discusses their impact on the EU's space legislation, as well as the issues connected with the registration and liability for the EU space objects. The chapter also briefly discusses the EU's status within the UN and its respective space organs, focusing on essential aspects relevant to the thesis.

The fourth and final chapter explores the relationship between the EU and ESA. It introduces ESA, analyses the legal framework governing their cooperation, and highlights differences in their operations. Moreover, the chapter evaluates the existing relationship between the EU and ESA, providing an outlook on the prospects for their future cooperation.

Through a comprehensive analysis of the EU's position in the system of international space law, this thesis offers valuable insights into the EU's space activities, its engagement with the UN in space-related matters, and its cooperation with ESA, thus contributing to a deeper understanding of the European space sector as a whole.