

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW - USING THE EXAMPLE OF OUTER SPACE LAW

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Describing the political-legal value of UN-Resolution 1721 (XVI) of December 20, 1961 (Declaration on the international co-operation of States in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer space), Professor Andrzej Gorbiel - one of the most internationally esteemed Outer Space lawyers - came to the following conclusion: "... although it did not possess as yet a character of the international legal norm binding for all States its fundamental significance as a factor shaping the contents of the treaty disposition of the future *jus spatiale* resulted, first of all, from the fact that States expressed unanimously a conviction that principles expressed in it should constitute a basis for this regulation."¹

Sharing this opinion, we have, at the same time, to ask: How can one use it in other fields of international law? Is the conclusion drawn by Professor Gorbiel capable of being generalized - taking into account the tendency to conclude the codification work done by institutions of the United Nations System and the efforts undertaken in order to strengthen the role and effectiveness of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and in the solution of global problems, including the possibility of "monitoring the implementation of General Assembly resolutions"?²

These questions lead us to the attempt to examine the topic outlined.

The increasing international intertwinement in all spheres of social life aimed at stabilizing *detente* and at implementing the principles of peaceful coexistence and of mutually advantageous co-operation among the world

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