



**NASA  
Policy  
Directive**

**NPD 1360.2B**  
 Effective Date: April 16, 1999  
 Expiration Date: April 16, 2024

**COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY FOR NASA EMPLOYEES**

[Printable Format \(PDF\)](#)

**Subject: Initiation and Development of International Cooperation in Space and Aeronautics Programs (Revalidated w/Change 2)**

**Responsible Office: Office of International and Interagency Relations**

**Change Log**

Change #	Date	Description
1	August 28, 2014	Update with 1400 compliance and administrative changes, title changes, and corrected authority
2	April 26, 2019	Update with 1400 compliance and updated policy statement.

**1. Policy**

a. It is NASA's policy for the initiation and development of international cooperation in space and aeronautical programs:

- (1) NASA encourages mutually beneficial foreign participation in its programs, projects, and activities when such participation is appropriate and significantly enhances technical, scientific, economic, or foreign policy benefits. Exploratory discussions with prospective foreign partners are encouraged and should be done in coordination with the Office of International and Interagency Relations. However, Agency commitments to proceed with a potential cooperative effort will not be made or implied prior to full coordination and approval of a proposed joint effort.
- (2) Proposals for international cooperation are encouraged, both during project planning and after project approval. Such proposals may relate to foreign participation in NASA activities or to NASA participation in foreign activities, as well as joint international collaborative efforts.
- (3) Because space and aeronautical research projects generally require long lead times, are technically and scientifically challenging, and involve major investments of resources, and because NASA is a Government agency, NASA's counterparts will generally be foreign government agencies rather than foreign universities or private organizations.
- (4) Technical and scientific projects will merit support as contributions to NASA programmatic objectives. Projects will be within the known scientific, technical, and budgetary capabilities of the cooperating partners. Each partner is to assume full financial responsibility for its own commitments, although the respective contributions of the cooperating partners need not be equivalent.
- (5) The division of responsibilities between NASA and the cooperating partner should be clearly defined.
- (6) Arrangements for cooperative activities will take into consideration the need to protect against the unwarranted transfer of technology abroad, in accordance with U.S. export laws and regulations. Issues related to U.S. industrial competitiveness will also be considered.
- (7) Each cooperative activity will demonstrate a specific benefit to NASA and the United States. Such benefit may be in the form of data, services, or contribution to flight mission or operational infrastructure systems, or it may directly support broader U.S. policy or interests. Science projects will include a commitment to make any scientific results available to the international scientific community as soon as possible.
- (8) Each cooperative activity will be established in a formal written and signed international agreement. General agreements that establish intent to explore and facilitate cooperation may be necessary under exceptional circumstances. However, commitment by the Agency to cooperate in a specific research or flight project is only made in a project-specific agreement after full coordination and approval of the proposed joint project.

**2. Applicability**

- a. This Directive applies to NASA Headquarters and NASA Centers, including Component Facilities, and Technical and Service Support Centers. This language applies to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC), to the extent specified or referenced in the applicable contracts.
- b. In this directive, all document citations are assumed to be the latest version unless otherwise noted.
- c. In this directive, all mandatory actions (i.e., requirements) are denoted by statements containing the term "shall." The terms "may" or "can" denote discretionary privilege or permission, "should" denotes a good practice and is recommended, but not required, "will" denotes expected outcome, and "are/is" denotes descriptive material.

**3. Authority**

National Aeronautics and Space Act, as amended, 51 U.S.C. 20102(d)(7), 20113(c), and 20164.

**4. Applicable Documents and Forms**

None.

**5. Responsibility**

- a. Early contacts with prospective foreign participants are helpful in ensuring that all possibilities for cooperation are assessed, and in determining the feasibility of both foreign and U.S. support for international cooperative activities. All contacts with potential foreign participants in international cooperation will be referred promptly to the Office of International and Interagency Relations (OIIR), NASA Headquarters, for coordination both within NASA and with other U.S. Government agencies, in conjunction with the relevant Mission Directorate(s) or organization(s).
- b. The OIIR shall:
  - (1) coordinate with the Office of General Counsel and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to ensure that all international cooperation is consistent with relevant law, policy, and the notification requirements of the Office of Management and Budget.
  - (2) ensure that all international cooperation is consistent with Administration policy.
  - (3) work with the cognizant Mission Directorate in considering and developing and formalizing proposals for international cooperation and embodying them in an agreement covering the specific elements of the undertaking.

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c. Discussions and negotiations of international cooperative activities (including all associated agreements and documentation) will be conducted by OIIR in consultation with the relevant Mission Directorate(s) or organization(s). The relevant Mission Directorate(s) or organization(s) will be responsible for determination of technical, scientific, and programmatic desirability, feasibility, content, cost impact, timing, adequacy of the proposed management structure, and policy related to specific programmatic aspects of the cooperation, including safety and mission assurance requirements. OIIR will be responsible for policy aspects from the Administration's and Agency's perspective, the negotiating framework and all coordination related thereto.

## 6. Delegation of Authority

None.

## 7. Measurement/Verification

Compliance with this policy will be measured by senior management's evaluation of performance.

## 8. Cancellation

NPD 1360.2A, Initiation and Development of International Cooperation in Space and Aeronautics Programs, dated April 16, 1999.

**Revalidated April 26, 2019 with change 2, original signed by:**

**/s/ Daniel S. Goldin  
Administrator**

### Attachment A: References

Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. 1341.

Executive Order (EO) 13803, June 30, 2017, 82 CFR 31429 I

A.1 NPD 2190.1B, NASA Export Control Program.

A.2 NPD 8700.1, NASA Policy for Safety and Mission Success.

A.3 NPR 1600.1, NASA Security Program.

A.4 NPR 2810.1, Security of Information Technology.

A.5 NAII 1050-1, Space Act Agreements Guide.

A.6 National Space Policy of the United States of America , June 28, 2010.

A.7 National Space Transportation Policy, November 21, 2013.

### (URL for Graphic)

None.

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