

# *The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation*

The current debate in the academic and political community

Lucia C. Marta  
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1. HCoC Debate
2. About proliferation
3. About the scope of the Code
4. About the universalization
5. About the implementation
6. Conclusions

## *HCoC Debate*

EU/FRS workshops in the frame of the EU Council decision on the HCoC

- Prague, June 2009
- Vienna, Mars 2010

About 40 Government representatives (subscribing and non subscribing states);

Between 7 and 10 international experts

- Study on the HCoC: international network of experts

## *About proliferation*

- Reasons behind proliferation:
  - Security concerns
  - The “weapon of the poor”
  - Symbolic and political value
- Transfer of technology/know how: not easy, it takes a long time for transferring engineering technologies and know how
- Horizontal versus vertical proliferation: the Code addresses both
- Human dimension: control HR? Labs?

## *About the scope of the Code*

- Cruise Missiles, UAVs: should they be included in the Code?
- SLV: light satellites, new public and private actors: should the Code adapt itself?
- Flexibility: should the Code be flexible?
- Missile defence: should it be addressed? By the Code or by another international tool?

## *About the Universalization*

- Incentives: several countries/experts agreed, but which ones?
  - cooperation programs
  - Economic/industrial incentives for accessing space
  - Security guarantees
  - ...
  
- Why some countries do not subscribe
  - Lack of interest
  - Security concerns
  - Perception of the Code as the “child” of the MTCR /  
Lack of formal link with the UN
  - Fear of limitations to their Space policy

## *About the implementation*

- Important to promote implementation by subscribing states: progress?
- The EU has proposed a secure and fast communication system to exchange information in almost real time
- Nil declarations?

## *Conclusions*

### *Many participants, experts agreed on:*

- Need to improve the implementation among subscribing states
- BM proliferation is a multilateral issue that concerns the whole international community
- Special attention needs to be paid to proliferation and human dimension

### *They disagreed on:*

- Enlargement of the scope of the Code
- Flexibility
- Which incentives