

Subject: Report on Amateur and Amateur Satellite Services **Document 5A/388-E**
5 May 2026
English only

Rapporteur of the Amateur and Amateur Satellite Services¹

REPORT ON AMATEUR AND AMATEUR SATELLITE SERVICES

1 Introduction

This report concentrates on relevant activities in the Amateur and Amateur Satellite Services that may be of interest to ITU-R Working Party (WP) 5A. Hyperlinks have been provided to respective documents for further detailed information. The Rapporteur invites input from the member states and sector members on the activities that might be included in future Liaison Rapporteur reports.

2 Regional and national updates

On April 28, 2025, the Brazilian Telecommunications Agency ([Anatel](#)) published the [Resolution 777](#), the General Regulation of Telecommunications Services (RGST) after a long process of regulatory simplification. Subsequently, Anatel produced specific normative acts, including in March 11, 2026, the [Act 3448](#) covering operational requirements for the Amateur Service in the country. According to the agency’s press release, the new Act “consolidates operational procedures, defines clearer rules for licensing stations and call signs, and regulates aspects related to qualification exams, operation of repeater stations, and use of radio frequency bands allocated to the service, (...) increased regulatory predictability for the operators, and the simplification of administrative procedures, making it more accessible for new operators to enter the service”. The agency also expressed that the regulation “reinforces the importance of amateur service as a field for technical training, innovation, and experimentation in radio frequencies, in addition to maintaining its social relevance in emergency communications, when conventional networks may be unavailable”.

The Norwegian Communications Authority ([Nkom](#)) updated in March 2026 their [regulation](#) for the Amateur Service to cover a new entry-level license with simpler examination requirements than the “full license”. Limitations on remote control of stations has been lifted, among other advances.

Federal Communications Commission ([FCC](#)) adopted in October 2025 a [Report and Order](#) to delete almost 400 obsolete rules pertaining to its wireless services, including four deletions in FCC Part 97 that govern the Amateur Service in the USA. FCC also released a [Report and Order](#) to implementation of the final acts of the WRC-15, including a 5 351.5-5 366.5 kHz to the Amateur Service according to the results of that conference, as well continuing their national allocation to four existing channels in this band.

¹ Contact: Dr Flávio A. B. Archangelo, E-mail: flavio.archangelo@gmail.com

3 Scientific, educational and technological activities

In March 2026, the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation program ([HamSci](#)) promoted their annual workshop in the Central Connecticut State University, USA, hosted also by the American Radio Relay League ([ARRL](#)). HamSci foster collaborations between professional researchers and amateur radio operators, to advance scientific research and understanding through amateur radio activities in the fields of upper atmospheric and space physics. This year's workshop featured more than 50 presentations, tutorials, demonstrations, posters, and drew researchers from Virginia Tech, Harvard University, MIT Haystack, Saint Francis University, Dartmouth College, Boston College, New Jersey Institute of Technology, University of Alabama, Case Western Reserve University, Auburn University, University of Cairo, University of Electro-Communications, Karabuk Science and Art Center; among others.

Kenya has been being selected to host the Amateur Radio on International Space Station 2026 program ([ARISS](#)), a global initiative that enables students, teachers and the public to communicate with astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS). The Kenya Space Agency ([KSA](#)) will oversee preparations for the event in collaboration with Pan-African Citizen Science e-Laboratory ([Pacs e-Lab](#)). KSA announced the selection, positioning the country at the heart of an international effort to advance space education and public engagement in science, a milestone expected to spark interest in STEM and inspire innovation across the country.

The National Polytechnic Institute of Cambodia ([NPIC](#)) developed in February 2026 an amateur radio satellite demonstration and training program to stimulate the passion for space communications among the youth. Students were engaged in hands-on learning, constructing and utilizing homemade antenna systems to track fast-moving satellites. Amateur radio operators and specialists from Japan, France and Australia provided the mentorship, guiding students to installing ground stations and successfully communicating with a variety of amateur satellites, including the geostationary QO-100 and LEO RS-44 and SO-50.

NASA selected 34 global volunteers to track the Orion spacecraft during the Artemis II mission around the Moon. While NASA's Space Communication and Navigation program ([SCaN](#)) provided primary communications and tracking to support Orion operations, [participants](#) selected by NASA, including organizations and individual amateur radio enthusiasts, used their respective equipment to passively track Orion during its journey. These volunteers submitted their data to NASA for analysis, helping the agency to better assess the broader aerospace community's tracking capabilities and identify ways to augment future Moon and Mars mission support. ARISS and AMSAT also participated in the monitoring under the auspices of the AREx (Amateur Radio Exploration) Ground Station Consortium, an international effort to develop and operate amateur radio systems for deep space.

The California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo held in April 2026 the Cubesat Developers Workshop ([CDW26](#)). Attendees were engaged in technical presentations, Q&A panels, exhibit booths, and networking opportunities focused on CubeSat and small satellite design, development, testing, launch, and operations. The workshops were especially valuable for newcomers, offering direct access to experienced developers and lessons learned from real missions. Amateur satellite communication was involved in the sections covering project updates and live demonstrations with real-time amateur radio satellite contacts. Participants explored collaboration opportunities with universities and educational organizations.

4 Emergency communications

In December 2025, the Radio Society of Sri Lanka ([RSSL](#)) released the "Emergency Communication Resilience Proposal". This [report](#) describes their contributions and proposes

strategies for increasing emergency communication resilience with partnership of the global amateur radio community. RSSL stations work alongside the Disaster Management Centre ([DMC](#)), the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka ([TRCSL](#)), and other government agencies. The proposal remembers the Tsunami Readiness Exercise (IOWave25), the Ditwah Cyclone Flood Response (2025), and previous historic deployments during the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and 2017 Floods, highlighting the value of strengthening emergency radio communications capabilities.

In February 2026, severe weather brought winds, rainfall, flash flooding, power outages, and hazardous surf conditions across Honolulu and the State of Hawai‘i, USA. Authorities declared emergency to mobilize resources and protect public safety. Amateur radio operators were activated inside the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in support of the Department of Emergency Management ([DEM](#), City and County of Honolulu). Volunteer communicators reported and stood ready to provide backup communications. amateur stations provide a statewide HF net ([Hawaii ARES](#)) at different times.

A historic blizzard paralyzed much of the Northeast USA also in February 2026, and amateur radio operators were on the air to help forecasters keep track of the storm’s impact. Massive amounts of snow and damaging winds caused loss of power in parts of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and some coastal flooding issues. [ARES-SKYWARN](#) Amateur Radio Nets across southern New England were activated to support the National Weather Service ([NWS](#), Boston), as well as local and state emergency management with timely updates on the storm. The amateur radio net plan was sent to the Massachusetts Emergency Management as part of a closer work with state emergency management. Over 1000 reports of incidents were made through these nets and were shared with partner agencies.

In December 2025, the Argentinian Federal Emergency Agency ([AFE](#)) promoted a training exercise for emergency response emphasizing the need for amateur radio clubs and operators interested to assisting with emergency communications; to integrate the systems with their local organizations (municipalities, civil defense, etc.) and the National System for Comprehensive Risk Management ([SINAGIR](#)). Radio Club Argentino ([RCA](#)) participated in the training and provided a [report](#) to reinforce amateur radio on communication efforts during emergencies.

In April 2026, the Peruvian Emergency Response Network celebrated its 49th anniversary of their network, formed primarily by operators of the National Amateur Radio Emergency Network ([RENER](#)). Under the support of the Radio Club Peruano ([RCP](#)), the network serves as a focal point for communications in emergency situations operating daily on HF. The network provides ongoing training, ensuring a fast response to disasters and provide national and international communications during critical events.

5 NGOs and industry activities

The Amateur Radio Software Award ([ARSA](#)) is an annual international award recognizing open-source amateur radio software projects that enhance and promote digital innovation. This year the award was related to a software that enables interface with transceivers and other devices using stable and flexible shared digital libraries that simplify the development of control and command applications. The award was granted in the past years to projects involving online multi-user SDR receivers; codecs for digital voice communication on HF and VHF; weak-signal communication applications and Arduino educational projects.

The Amateur Radio Relay League ([ARRL](#)) granted to the amateur radio physicists Dr Ethan Miller and Dr Nathaniel A. Frissell the “Bill Orr Technical Writing Award” for their article about radio propagation on Travelling Ionospheric Disturbances. The award is an annual honor presented by the

ARRL Foundation Grant Funds to stimulate and recognize outstanding technical writings in the amateur radio community.

6 Input for future reports

The Rapporteur welcomes input from the member states and sector members on these activities that might be included in future editions of this report to ITU-R WP 5A.
