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LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF DEBRIS REMOVAL: CLEAN SPACE ONE UNDER INVESTIGATION

Abstract

The Swiss Space Centre recently announced development of a new generation of satellites to remove debris from low-Earth orbit. The 11-million satellite, called *CleanSpaceOne*, would rendezvous with a target, extend an arm to it, and remove objects that cannot de-orbit themselves. Aside from political and security implications stemming from the orbit of functioning space objects, there are legal issues surrounding space debris removal including ownership under international