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THE LIFE AND WORK OF PROFESSOR VLADIMÍR MANDL - A PIONEER OF SPACE LAW

**Abstract**

A brief biography of Vladimír Mandl, including his studies at the Czech Faculty of Law, Charles University of Prague, and postgraduate studies at the University of Erlangen, Germany. His practice in civil law as an attorney in Pilsen and his publications relating to legal aspects of motor vehicles and aviation. The granting of *venia docendi* for the subject "Law of Industrial Enterprises" at the University of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Czech Technical University of Prague.

Main ideas of his monographical study on the Law of Outer Space, published in Germany in 1932. Mandl's concept of space law as an independent legal branch based on different principles than those of the law of the sea or air law. The sovereignty of states governing only the atmospheric space adjacent to their territories, and *coelum liberum*, the vast free area beyond the territorial spaces. The prediction of a scientific and technological revolution of our times and an essential change in relations between the States and individuals becoming equal subjects.

Vladimír Mandl was the first author who approached future legal problems of space flights by establishing a system of ideas and principles to govern space activities.