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## LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR MITIGATING SPACE DEBRIS

**Abstract**

The authors through this research paper have tried to analyse the recent developments of legal framework for mitigation of space debris. The Outer Space is becoming choked with Space Debris. Only recently the States have realized that the past practices of unfettered disposition of space debris may not have been the most prudent. Firstly, this paper will focus upon the efficacy of the three major United Nation Treaties such as the Outer Space Treaty (Magna Carta of Space Law), the Liability Convention and the Registration Convention in mitigating the creation of space debris by sufficiently addressing the issue and providing for a proper legal framework. Secondly, whether the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space for the mitigation of Space Debris has reflected the existing practices as developed by a number of national and international organizations or not. Finally, this paper discusses whether the duty to mitigate space debris has become customary international law. This paper concludes that although the existing legal treaties alone are insufficient, the duty should be further strengthened by Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space and customary International Law.