IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)
Interactive Presentations - IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (IP)

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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) IN SPACE: EXAMINING THE LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS OF AI IN AEROSPACE

Abstract

Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be used in a variety of ways in aerospace. In particular, AI can be used to prevent or limit certain liabilities that occur in space such as satellite failure, collision of satellites, the self-destruction of satellites and the destruction between two satellites, as well as the cyberattacks of satellites. However, AI in space can also give rise to certain vulnerabilities such as interference, hacking and, coincidently enough, further destruction of satellites. This paper will explore the unique dichotomy that AI presents in space with satellites: in one aspect, AI tools can provide the ultimate cybersecurity by protecting the space device from unauthorized access, while, on the other hand, certain AI tools can make satellites more susceptible to cyberattacks in space, such as the breach of data. Since AI in space is growing and evolving, this paper will delve into the legal implications associated with the information gathered and the collection of data on space devices, if a cyberattack were to occur. Because satellites can potentially collect and gather data across multiple jurisdictions, and said jurisdictions have their own privacy and data protection rules, this paper will examine the legalities of information gathering and collection across these multiple jurisdictions who each have their own national security restrictions, including those restrictions that may apply to their own airspace. Furthermore, this paper will explore who would actually own the data or have standing should a cybersecurity incident happen. Finally, this paper will determine what remedies, including legal remedies, would be available in the event of a cyberattack.