

IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)
Moon and Mars Settlement: Open Legal Issues (2)

Author: Ms. Zeina Ahmad
University of Cologne, Germany, zeina.a.ahmad@hotmail.com

THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF LONG-TERM HUMAN SETTLEMENT IN OUTER SPACE SPACE
COLONIZATION**Abstract**

Current Plans for Human Settlement on Celestial Bodies: Human advances into outer space have developed rapidly in recent times. Following this, the significance of space law continues to be highlighted. The concept of human settlements in outer space has come along with many new possibilities as humans push closer and closer to making it a realization. There are currently several plans by several entities for long-term human settlement in outer space. These plans have been presented by both governmental agencies and private agencies as interests in further space exploitation heighten. Presently, key plans of settlements in outer space include the following: The Moon Village, The Mars One Project, Elon Musk (Space X), The United Arab Emirates Mars Does Long-term Human Settlement in Outer Space. Have to be regulated through law? Following human settlement in outer space, there will be the need for rules and regulations to govern these settlements. This is because human communities are inherently prone to conflicts and disputes, and regulations are necessary in order to maintain order in settlements and ensure their sustainability. Key areas that require regulations include, sovereignty, jurisdiction, resource appropriation, salvage rights, liability for damages as well as minor, yet highly complex disputes between individuals in such settlements. Essentially, there is a need for detailed regulations that are legally binding and adequately address issues concerning outer space settlements with special focus on the context of outer space. The proposed study is, therefore, of the view that outer space human settlements need to be regulated by international treaties and agreements. The proposed research mainly seeks to examine the current legal frameworks related to space activity towards an understanding of how they address long-term human settlements in space. It seeks to contribute to the development of a legal framework for long-term human settlement in outer space. Specifically, the proposed research seeks to achieve the following objectives: 1. To identify the current regulations in international space law that are applicable to long-term human settlement in outer space. 2. To examine the current regulations in international space law for long-term human settlement in outer space. 3. To explain how the formulation of a legal regime for long-term human settlement in outer space can be facilitated. To explore the possible structure of a legal regime for long-term human settlement in outer space.