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THE ARTEMIS ACCORDS AS A TOOL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Abstract

One of the projects shooting for the Moon attracting the most attention no doubt concerns the Artemis project. Hereby, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) plans to land the first woman and the next man on the Moon and the Artemis Accords, and has meanwhile invited other countries to join the activities that are to be undertaken once arriving there. While the US authorities assure that the Accords are perfectly in compliance with current international (space) law, some criticism has been levelled against those plans and the Accords disputing that straightforward claim. The paper thus analyses and scrutinizes the 13 sections of the Accords from the perspective of international law, and in particular its cornerstone principle on international cooperation.