Transcending Societal Issues for Space Exploration (12) Transcending Societal Issues for Space Exploration (1) (1)

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GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL VALUES IN OUTER SPACE

Abstract

The passion and dedication among both space enthusiasts and space leaders in seeing human civilisation extend its influence into outer space carries a wide array of legal considerations. This research intends to contribute to discussions regarding long term presence of humans in outer space and, in particular, the governance of human activity in outer space. The research draws distinction between legal governance and institutional governance in order to examine the fundamental traits of humanity which are like to carry over to humans living or operating long-term off of Earth. The present paper argues that citizenship and sovereignty will be paramount in determining how governance will form and function in outer space. The intention of this research is to offer another legal-societal perspective among the efforts in which states and non-state actors address the practical and strategic challenges associated with space habitats, space settlements and long duration space missions.