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BASED AND BOOTED MOON TROOPS: THE LAWFUL EXTENT OF MILITARY LUNAR OPERATIONS

Abstract

Eight States signed the Artemis Accords virtually at the 2020 International Astronautical Congress, the Cyberspace edition, on October 13 last year, marking a significant development for international space exploration and international space law. Meanwhile, the United States Space Force is imagining lunar operations, which must comply with international legal obligations. In observance of these indications for future lunar activities, this article will analyze the Accords and international space law, explaining the lawful extent to which a military may operate and contribute to the peaceful exploration and use of the Moon.