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EXPLORING THE PROVIDENCE OF ALL [HU]MANKIND PRINCIPLE REGARDING OUTER
SPACE NATURAL RESOURCE ACQUISITION.

Abstract

The exploration of space, which is sometimes referred to as the "final frontier," has been the primary focus of human activity. There has never been a more pivotal time in history for spacefaring nations like the United States and others. The mining of space resources is on the horizon, and as a result, legally binding global agreements to control space resource exploitation are necessary. These kinds of agreements will not only secure space for states and enterprises, but they will also foster economic and scientific advancement in underdeveloped nations as well as rich nations. Although the United States is one of the few countries that is anticipated to start mining soon, in the spirit of the "common heritage of [hu]mankind," we need to build this industry in partnership with other nations that are already established as well as nations that are still developing. Mining for resources in space has the potential to exacerbate potential conflicts, which might then lead to antagonistic rhetoric about space among more isolationist states. This article discusses the origins and development of the current space legal system, as well as its influence on the expanding space industry, including the recently enacted laws in the United States and Luxembourg that permit private companies to mine in space. Specifically, this article focuses on the origins and development of the current space legal system. In the second part of this article, we will examine non-space related treaties such as the Law of the Sea and the International Seabed Authority. These treaties may include principles that may be used to an approach that is more concerned with the shared history of [hu]mankind. In the third section of this article, we will delve more into the concept of the Common Heritage of Humanity, as well as the legal and economic rules that govern mining for resources in outer space. In Part IV, it is recommended that spacefaring states investigate alternative proposed models to cultivate a more shared heritage. This can be accomplished by developing legislative frameworks that recommit to the spirit of Providence of All [Hu]mankind regarding the allocation of space resources while simultaneously promoting space demilitarization.