

IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)  
Young Scholars Session with Keynote Lecture (1)

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## A LEGAL COMPASS FOR EMERGING SPACE NATIONS ON BENEFIT SHARING

**Abstract**

The importance of space resource activities and utilization is widely acknowledged, while the various binding treaties, non-binding principles, and current regional and national space legislations hold differing perspectives on the benefits sharing of space resources. Regardless of the interpretations of nations on these legal frameworks, each one contains specific provisions on the status and use of space and, consequently, has significant implications for developing countries and emerging space nations. This presentation does not focus on potential benefit-sharing mechanisms rather it aims to delve into the complex legal landscape on what constitutes the legal basis for benefit-sharing. *Is it a right of emerging nations, an obligation of spacefaring nations, or a limitation on freedom of use? Is it a binding contractual norm or merely just a philosophical guideline?* Furthermore, the presentation seeks to explore the legal definitions of emerging space nations, and developing countries, as well as the potential benefits they are entitled to based on treaties. While attention is often focused on the five treaties, the presentation will shed light on the often-overlooked *Space Benefit Sharing Declaration* and explore concepts connected to developing countries, embedded in various customary law principles (*such as remote sensing principles, un resolutions, and guidelines*), additionally, it will examine other UN-established concepts, including U.N. General Assembly Resolution 3201 (S-VI): *Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order*, the *Antarctic Treaty*, and different concept of *national equality*, among others.