

22nd IAA SYMPOSIUM ON VISIONS AND STRATEGIES FOR THE FUTURE (D4)
Interactive Presentations - 22nd IAA SYMPOSIUM ON VISIONS AND STRATEGIES FOR THE
FUTURE (IP)

Author: Ms. Rachita Agrawal
India

HARMONY BEYOND EARTH: VISION AND RELEVANCE OF 'VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM'
FOR SPACE DIPLOMACY

Abstract

1. Introduction: The concept of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," which embodies the idea of world being one family, holds profound ethical implications for human activities beyond Earth. As nations embark on ambitious space exploration and utilization, understanding and embracing the ethical dimension of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam becomes crucial. Space is considered as common heritage of mankind, an intrinsic resource shared by whole mankind. Space activities encompass a wide range of endeavours. Advances in space technology and increased role of private players have ramifications for humanity as a whole. Non-collaborative space activities, characterized by independent pursuits and limited international cooperation, can have far-reaching effects that impact scientific advancement, space sustainability global resiliency. 2. Objectives: This research study attempts to analyse potential benefits and challenges of incorporating the ethos of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' into international space policy and decision-making processes. The aim of study is to address pressing space-related issues and encourage peaceful responsible use of space without any discrimination. The research endeavours to propose policy recommendations and strategies for attaining a more inclusive and equitable space governance framework, ensuring that space exploration and utilization serve the collective interests of humanity. 3. Methodology: This research paper is based on doctrinal method of research which involves analysis of existing literature, theories and concepts, without involving any empirical data or experiments. It involves an extensive analysis of legal conventions/treaties, policy, books, research papers and studies related to space. 4. Results and Significance: The question of collaboration emerges as a critical factor in shaping the future of space exploration and utilization as state and non-state actors explore the cosmos. Collaboration allows countries to pool their expertise, data, and research outcomes, enriching scientific knowledge and benefiting from a global perspective on space exploration. The effect of non-collaborative space activities extends beyond the boundaries of individual nations. It leads to duplication, inefficiency, limited scientific knowledge sharing, increased space debris, mistrust, and missed opportunities to address global challenges. The benefits of international collaboration in space exploration and utilization are necessary to shape a sustainable and inclusive future in space. Countries in order to address issues of common interest, share information and resources can cooperatively explore the great expanse of Universe by embracing the 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' ethos in space operations and policy at all levels. This research will be relevant to draw implications for policymakers, space agencies and other stakeholders involved in space activities and policy.