



THE UNIVERSITY of  
**MISSISSIPPI**  
SCHOOL OF LAW



# GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON 'RESOURCE MINING IN THE OUTER SPACE: ARTEMIS ACCORDS AND BEYOND'

*Jointly hosted by*

CENTER FOR AIR AND SPACE LAW  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI, USA

*In association with*

CENTRE FOR AVIATION AND SPACE LAWS  
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES, KOLKATA,  
INDIA

*and*

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN AIR AND SPACE LAW  
MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY MUMBAI, INDIA

**14 October 2023**



**CENTER FOR AIR & SPACE LAW**



THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE WOULD BE HOSTED ONLINE

## INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to announce that the Center for Air and Space Law at the University of Mississippi in association with the Centre for Aviation and Space Laws, West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences and Centre for Research in Air & Space Law, Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai will jointly host its **Global Conference on 'Resource Mining in the Outer Space: Artemis Accords and Beyond'** on 14th October 2023.

We look forward to meeting you and value your contribution to the ongoing success of this annual conference. The purpose of the Conference is to bring together scholars from India and abroad to interact, share ideas and build collegial networks which may facilitate dialogue and research collaborations.

We hope that this forum will be widely used to bring together collaborators in various projects. The Global Conference will be hosted **online**.

## ABOUT THE THEME

The advent of resource mining in outer space and the introduction of the Artemis Accords, a non-binding multilateral agreement that enables mining on the Moon for scientific missions, has shaken the international arena. The Accords, drafted by the US Department of State and NASA, provide a structure for collaboration in civil exploration and peaceful use of the Moon, planet Mars, and various other celestial objects.

The Artemis plan seeks to create a permanent presence of Humans on the Moon and a lunar orbiting station known as the 'Gateway'. The Artemis missions on the Moon will serve as a test bed for the first manned missions to Mars and beyond, ushering in a new phase in manned missions. The Artemis plan contemplates the utilisation of space resources to assure the long-term viability of human missions. For instance, mining the Moon's soil and minerals for oxygen and hydrogen. The Artemis Accords will define a vision for the principles to build a secure and transparent environment conducive to exploration, science, and economic operations for the benefit of all humanity, which is based on the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. Over a dozen countries have signed the Artemis Accords with India being the most recent entrant.

The current space treaties lack the point of governance on the usage of space resources. They also do not forbid it. The 1967 Treaty of the UN is the most commonly used space legislation which states that governments cannot claim ownership of sections of the Moon or other space objects. The worldwide war over resource extraction on the Moon might be one possible source of strife.

International competition over resource mining in outer space may result in conflict among nations. The Artemis Accords states that resource mining on the Moon does not give exclusive property rights to any one nation to extract materials. However, the Accords are unenforceable and are merely an understanding among the nations. The Accords aims to address this issue by establishing “safety zones” in which governments are not permitted to meddle with the resource exploitation operations of other nations.

The Accords lack a clear system for determining which states receive certain territories. Furthermore, others criticise the Artemis Accords for being excessively US-centric and potentially resulting in unfavourable consequences for other countries, with China and Russia leading the charge.

In light of these concerns as well as several others, it has become necessary to deliberate on the Artemis Accords and make necessary recommendations. This Global Conference is a perfect platform for such a discourse especially with the collaboration between the US and Indian universities.

This conference will focus on the following thematic areas:

1. Artemis Accords in the Current International Space Law Framework
2. Artemis Accords vis-a-vis Working Group on Space Resources
3. Space Resource Utilization
4. Preservation of Lunar Heritage
5. Debris Disposal Framework
6. Deconfliction of Activities and “Safety Zones”
7. Registration Aspects
8. Artemis Accords and India: Opportunities and challenges
9. China and Russia’s Response to the Artemis Accords

## IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract (300 words)	September 30, 2023
Decision on abstract	October 5, 2023
Submission of extended abstracts (800 words)	October 10, 2023
Date of the Conference	October 14, 2023

## REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration Link for submitting abstracts:  
<https://forms.gle/2L6sGzGrDwHETCvUA>

Registration Link (for attendees):  
<https://forms.gle/W3H3y8Sg86wffSZK8>

Payment Link:  
<https://paytm.me/VCX5-AL>

*Paper presenters would be contacted separately once their abstracts are accepted.*

## CONFERENCE FEES

<b>Paper Presentation Fee for Participants within India</b>	<b>Rs. 1400/-</b>
<b>Paper Presentation Fee for Participants outside India</b>	<b>USD 50/-</b>
<b>Registration Fee for Participants within India</b>	<b>Rs. 700/-</b>
<b>Registration Fee for Participants outside India</b>	<b>USD 20/-</b>

Invited resource persons, members of the Center for Air and Space Law at the University of Mississippi, Centre for Aviation and Space Laws (NUJS) and Centre for Research in Air & Space Law (MNLU Mumbai), faculty members and students of the hosting institution are exempted from the payment of the registration fee.

## PATRONS

**Prof. Frederick G. Slabach**

*Dean, University of Mississippi School of Law*

**Prof. (Dr.) Dilip Ukey**

*Vice-Chancellor, Maharashtra National Law University  
Mumbai*

**Prof. (Dr.) Nirmal K Chakrabarti**

*Vice-Chancellor, National University of Juridical Sciences,  
Kolkata*

## CONFERENCE DIRECTORS & CHAIRS

**Prof. (Dr.) Sandeepa Bhat B.**

*Professor of Law and Director,  
Centre for Aviation and Space Laws, WBNUJS Kolkata*

**Michelle L.D. Hanlon**

*Executive Director, Center for Air and Space Law  
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Space Law  
The University of Mississippi School of Law, USA*



## CONFERENCE CO-DIRECTORS & CO-CHAIRS

### **Adithya Variath**

*Assistant Professor of Law and Coordinator,  
Centre for Research in Air and Space Law, MNLU Mumbai*

### **Allison Lewis**

*Program Manager, Center for Air and Space Law  
Executive Editor, Journal of Space Law  
The University of Mississippi School of Law*

### **Amana Khare**

*Assistant Professor of Law and Co-Coordinator,  
Centre for Research in Air and Space Law, MNLU Mumbai*

For any queries write to us at [crasl@mnlumumbai.edu.in](mailto:crasl@mnlumumbai.edu.in) or  
[contactcrasl@mnlumumbai.edu.in](mailto:contactcrasl@mnlumumbai.edu.in) or contact us at  
+91 - 6265012280 (Nardeep Chawla, CRASL)

## ABOUT THE ORGANISERS



The Center for Air and Space Law at the University of Mississippi is the torchbearer of air and space law studies in the United States. It is the first and only LL.M. program in air and space law in the US and is home to the world's oldest journal devoted to space law.

Read more at [airandspacelaw.olemiss.edu](http://airandspacelaw.olemiss.edu)



The Centre of Aviation and Space Laws (CASL) of the National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata is an academic Centre that intends to explore, analyse and critique the legal developments in the aviation, space and allied industries.

Read more at [caslnujs.in](http://caslnujs.in)



Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai established the Centre for Research in Air & Space Law (CRASL) to engage in policy discourse as a forum for the exchange of ideas on the international law applicable to implementing international air and space law.

Read more at [crasl.in](http://crasl.in)