

# **Ownership and liability while space mining on the Moon and asteroids**

## **Abstract**

This paper explores the legal framework regarding property rights to space resources and the issue of liability for space mining activities. The exploration and utilization of space resources are becoming increasingly important, given the potential economic and scientific benefits that could result from such activities. However, the lack of a clear legal framework regarding property rights and liability in space poses significant challenges to the development of the space industry.

The paper begins by examining the existing space law regime, including the Outer Space Treaty and the Moon Agreement, which provide the foundational principles for space exploration and utilization. The paper then discusses the legal debates surrounding property rights to space resources, including the debate between the United States and other countries regarding the interpretation of the Outer Space Treaty and emerging national space legislation. The paper also examines the issue of liability for space mining activities and the challenges in determining responsibility or liability in the event of accidents or damages.

The paper concludes by highlighting the need for a clear legal framework that balances the interests of different stakeholders in the space industry, including space-faring nations, commercial entities, and the international community. Such a framework should clarify property rights to space resources and establish clear guidelines for liability in space mining activities. The paper argues that the development of a comprehensive legal regime for space activities, including space mining, is essential for the continued growth and success of the space industry.

**Klíčová slova: space law, space mining, space resources**