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Abstract

In this session, we explore the governance rules for private and public access and utilization of space resources and property. A clear understanding the rules of the road will be important for any nation, any investor and any space settler. What are the basic and universal human rights that must be respected? How can nations protect their own interests while allowing for some level of self-governance in space communities? How can investors protect their interests in such a framework? How should different actors in space arbitrate disputes? What are the terms of using space resources? When does a resource become property? It is possible to follow a path that respects long-standing treaties forged in the heat of the Cold War, while embracing current approaches, such as the Artemis Accords, but is it sufficient? International space law does not currently address the full needs as we anticipate the emergence of a thriving civilization in space. This session will explore how we can correct this in the near-term to ensure that over the long-term we can protect human rights, enable prosperity, and adjudicate disputes before they become wars?

A short bio

Tony DeTora is Beyond Earth Institute co-founder and Vice President of of Policy Coherence. He is also VP, Government Relations at Lynk Global, Inc., a satellite telecommunications company bringing mobile phone connectivity to unmodified mobile phones worldwide. Tony was Senior Professional Staff at the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the U.S. House of Representatives. Tony was Senior Policy Advisor to Congressman Dana Rohrabacher, leading activity on the Space Exploration, Development, and Settlement Act of 2015. Tony has served as an Analyst and Business Manager at PoliSpace and as Executive Director of the Space Frontier Foundation. Tony was Vice President for March Storm for ProSpace.