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Abstract

Space manufacturing is part of several major programs and concepts, which include the fields of space settlement, ISRU and OSAM. While never addressed in the canon of Space law, it will create several conundrums for practitioners as well as private and state parties operating in outer space or on the surface and within atmospheres or orbits of celestial bodies. Space objects with manufacturing abilities, as well as resource gathering and processing capabilities are going to leap over the discussion on space mining and its consequences, and redirect the conversation from article II of the OST, to articles VIII and XII. First and foremost, what should be the regulatory framework for jurisdiction, control and registry for such objects. Second - if they turn from mining and processing available natural resources in outer space, to salvaging debris and wrecks, how would it affect the registry, jurisdiction, control and even the composition of such a Frankenstein/Theseus craft. Third how would interaction between repairing and refurbishing crafts interact with national laws - import, patent laws etc. These are serious questions that require to be addressed

A short bio

Kamil Muzyka - PhD candidate at the Institute for Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Co-editor of Prawo i Kosmos - Prawo Kosmiczne. Member of the SGAC, Polish Astrobiological Society and the Polish Transhumanist Association.