DIVERSITY IN SPACE EXPLORATION

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Research Question: This paper focuses on the inclusion of people with disabilities and women in space exploration. Space exploration in the 21st century is an important area of development for humankind. However, it is still seen as an activity that lacks diversity. Analysis of the legal framework and the current status quo of including people with disabilities and women in the activities of the United Nations and the European Space Agency helps to set up the scene for the next generation of space exploration.

Purpose: Complex analysis of international human rights law and space treaties, including Article I of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and the practice of international organization show how much still needs to be done to fully include women and persons with disabilities in space exploration.

Method: The method used is typical for legal studies, including the dogmatic method and analyses of the official policies of the UN and ESA.

Results: Modern society still needs to do a lot to fully include women and persons with disabilities in space exploration. In the research, the most effective practice in this area was specified.

Organization: The papers open the question of the inclusion of marginalized groups in space and the way how diversity can be achieved.

Society: The research has a huge impact on society and social responsibility. It raises the self-confidence of those who are discriminated against and sensitizes society.

Originality: This is the first research on this issue done from an international law perspective. **Limitations / further research:** There are method limitations, concerning the lack of access to various policies and practices of organizations not published. The research could be expanded on the internal policy and practice concerning this issue. Further research can include members of other marginalized groups based on ethnicity component.

Keywords: women, persons with disabilities, space, inclusion in space, ESA, UNOOSA.

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