

**Summary of a Ph.D. thesis entitled:
“Mineral mining on the Moon and other celestial bodies as regards international law”**

The Ph.D. thesis is entitled “Mineral mining on the Moon and other celestial bodies as regards international law” and its main purpose is to address the question of whether international public law adequately regulates the issue of space mining. Thus, the main aim of the conducted research was an analysis and evaluation of the current regulations of international public law regarding mining on the Moon and other celestial bodies.

Although space mining is still a hypothetical branch of the space industry, it has already had an impact on international law. Debates on the framework of space mining are currently being conducted not only at science conferences, but also at the level of international organization forums, including the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. The adoption by the USA and Luxembourg of internal acts regarding the possibility of mining activities on the Moon and other celestial bodies has shown that there is no coherent interpretation of international law in this manner. The choice of the topic of this thesis is not only a consequence of such debates, but is also dictated by the lack of comprehensive publications about space mining in the Polish doctrine.

This work consists of six chapters. The first chapter is of an introductory nature and presents basic information regarding space mining, including its technical and economic aspects. Particular emphasis is placed on an analysis of current space activities which reflect that space mining may quickly become a new way of obtaining mineral resources. The second chapter defines the legal framework for space mining. It discusses the international regulations that may apply to this activity and the national space acts that apply in the space industry. The third chapter is devoted to an analysis of the legal status of outer space. It presents the possibility of the use the concept of *res nullius*, *res communis* and *the common heritage of humanity* to space. This analysis was conducted on the basis of the terms and rules developed for the needs of other common territories, including, in particular, Antarctica and the open sea. The fourth chapter presents the issue of the legal status of mineral resources. Particular emphasis is placed on the concept of a celestial body in international space law and the possibility of acquiring ownership to resources obtained from the Moon and other celestial bodies. The fifth chapter contains an analysis of the management of common territories: Antarctic areas, the seabed and the geostationary orbit. The thesis ends with a presentation of the international responsibility for activities related to mineral resources mining on the Moon and other celestial bodies.