ARTEMIS AND ACTÆON: from the Moon Treaty to international accords

Mukesh Chiman Bhatt <u>m.bhatt@physics.org</u> Law, Birkbeck

ARTEMIS, ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVERED BATHING BY ACTAEON,

TURNED HIM INTO A DEER, THEN TORN TO SHREDS BY HIS OWN HUNTING DOGS

THE USA REFUSED TO SIGN THE MOON TREATY, BUT NOW WANTS SOMETHING SIMILAR

ANALYSIS FROM PUBLIC INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020 & MINING COMPANIES

- 2017 changes 2010 EO to Moon before Mars
- Extends 2015 Commercial Launches Act
 - Encourages investment
- 1st 4 Outer Space Treaties accepted
- Moon Treaty is dismissed

- Planetary Resources
 - ConsenSys, public IP, communication, blockchain
- Shackleton Energy
 - No progress, no legal mining
- Deep Space Industries
 - Propulsion technologies
- Many have disappeared lack of capital
- Luxembourg (2015) and Belgium (2019) financial opportunities
- Moon1979 EIF
- rewrite
- replace
- no need for a treaty

- Peaceful Purposes
 - Cooperation per OST67
- Transparency
- Interoperability
 - Open standards
- Emergency Assistance
 - Extend Return and Rescue Agreement ('68)
- Registration of Space Objects
 - Encourage register, accession to reg75
- Release of Scientific Data
 - Open and free access
- Deconfliction of Activities (OST67)
 - Avoid & report harmful contamination, environmental change and extraneous matter

- Protecting Heritage
 - Extension of jurisdiction
 - Customary law
- Space Resources (under OST67 II, VI, XI)
 - Reaffirms non-appropriation by any means
 - National responsibility through international (non-UN) body
 - Activity reports to UN
- Orbital Debris & Spacecraft Disposal
 - UNCOPUOS guidelines
 - Soft law
- 7 CUSTOMARY (TREATY) PRACTICE
- 3 NEW (NON-TREATY) PRACTICE

10 ARTEMIS ACCORDS

PROBLEMS AND POSSIBLE SOLUTION

- International regime
- Customary Law
 - Precedent
 - Consistency
- Ownership and property
 - Investment
 - Occupation/possession
- No mention of sample return, assay or in-situ resource utilization

- Intergovernmental Agreement
 - International Space Station
 - Agreement, not contract
 - Not celestial body
 - No UN reporting
 - No UN international regime
 - Intellectual Property
 - Property and ownership analogue

REACTIONS

• NASA

- USAF and the US Space Force
- Russia (possible)
- Luxembourg & Belgium (Finance)
- Australia (Mining industry)

• ESA

- Moon Village
- Canada (Vancouver Recommendations)
- IISL (Hague Building Blocks)
- General

• China ("no shared values [USA]")