



Call for papers
Astronomics Society inaugural workshop:
The Economics and Law of Space

This workshop will focus on economic and legal analysis of commercial development of space (basically the economics and governance of business in space). We are interested in a range of topics, where possible examples include:

- Regulation of Commerce (taxation of extraterrestrial activity; trade between Earth and space facilities; trade between extraterrestrial facilities)
- Natural Resource Extraction and its Implications (mining of celestial bodies; salvage in space; rules governing such activities)
- Contract Issues (property rights and contract enforcement without governing bodies; liability and insurance challenges for commercial launch service providers; arbitration)
- Sovereignty Concerns (competition among governments in space; anti-piracy enforcement; extraterrestrial sovereignty)
- Competition Policy Issues (rules; effective enforcement; lack of governing authority; market access to space; allocating orbits)
- Technology and Innovation (spillovers between aerospace and other industries; scale economies and market power in commercial launch services and communication services; the development and application of machine learning)
- Multilateral Agreements (design of agreements; dispute settlement and arbitration; managing space trash)

The goal of the workshop is twofold. The first goal is to identify promising areas for future research, along the lines outlined above. We are interested in the cross-disciplinary mix of economics, law, political science, and applied science. The second goal is to enlist interested researchers in setting up a research and workshop agenda and loose organizational/coordinating structure based on the areas identified.

The workshop will be hosted by the World Trade Institute, University of Bern.
Date: 3-4 April 2020.

Organizers:

Ron Davies, University College Dublin
Joseph Francois, University of Bern
Rodrigo Polanco, University of Bern

Submission Guidelines

Please submit paper proposals on original and unpublished research related to this call for papers. Abstract submissions must be between 300-500 words in length and should be accompanied by a short CV. To submit your proposals, for further details, or to express interest, please contact Sophia Thompson, sophia.thompson@wti.org. Deadline for abstracts: **15 December 2019**.