

# **Toward Sustainable Exploration: An Urgency to Enlarge the Application of Sustainable Development into Outer Space?**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) consist of 17 goals that provide a shared blueprint to bring peace and prosperity for people and the planet, for the present and long terms. However, none of them regulates activities in outer space, where outer space itself needs sustainability, especially by the fact that there are several space activities that may potentially endanger the space environment, such as space mining. Currently, the space law regime governs the environmental protection on space based on Article IX Outer Space Treaty and also the Guidelines for the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, however the latter is not legally binding and also the procedure to the utilization of space resources still absent. The growing involvement of countries in space exploration, including both established space-faring nations and emerging space actors, like Indonesia, suggests an impending exploitation of outer space activities. This poses a significant concern as the absence of binding regulations on space resource utilization or the concept of sustainable development addressing outer space issues, potentially resulting in environmental harm. The aim of this paper is to examine the urgencies for the United Nations to adopt a new goal for Sustainable Development that covers not only issues happening on earth but also in outer space and to explore the urgencies to create both national especially Indonesia and international law that regulates sustainability of outer space resources. This paper use normative juridical research methods, by applying statute, conceptual, and case approach. This paper finds an absence in neither national nor international law that regulates sustainability of outer space resources. Therefore, it is necessary for Indonesia and the international community to enlarge the application of sustainable development into outer space to guarantee the long-term sustainability of outer space.

**Keyword : Sustainable Development; Space Law; Space Activities**