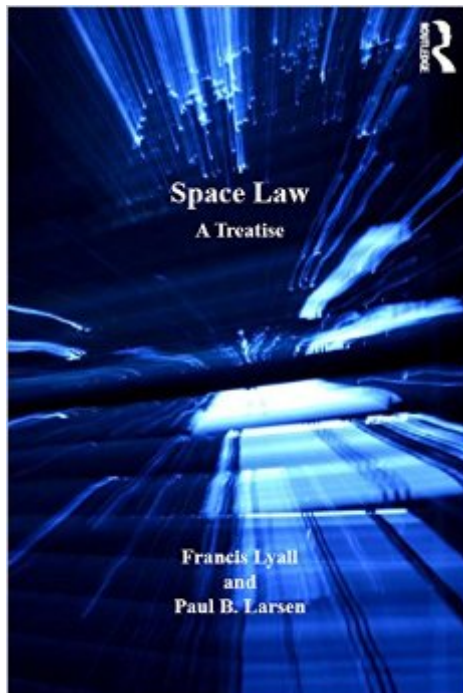


The book was found

Space Law (Library Of Essays In International Law)



Synopsis

The opening of space to exploration and use has had profound effects on society. Remote sensing by satellite has improved meteorology, land use and the monitoring of the environment. Satellite television immediately informs us visually of events in formerly remote locations, as well as providing many entertainment channels. World telecommunication facilities have been revolutionised. Global positioning has improved transport. This book examines the varied elements of public law that lie behind and regulate the use of space. It also makes suggestions for the development and improvement of the law, particularly as private enterprise plays an increasing role in space.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is an excellent book. Not only is it a richly-annotated reference that one can dip into about specific topics, but it's very readable straight through. I read it from cover-to-cover over several days, in preparation for an introductory space law course I'll be teaching for the first time, and I didn't get bored. (Well, almost: some details of the history and governance of INTERSPUTNIK and other telecommunications organizations (Chap. 9) are no doubt more fascinating when, if ever, you

actually need to know them.) The authors are especially helpful in pointing out gaps and inconsistencies between various treaties and other instruments of public international space law, and more generally in mentioning concrete examples of where gaps in the law could become problematic in the future. While this is important to practitioners, it was also a tremendous help to me as a novice teacher: my students can probably expect an exam question someday about, for example, who has jurisdiction over a space tourist who commits a crime aboard the International Space Station, if that person isn't a national of an ISS participant state. (Hint: the law's not clear on this point.) The authors are refreshingly supportive of public international law, and from time to time at least nod towards legal traditions outside the common law. They're also admirably level-headed about both the legality and the wisdom of indulging Silicon Valley millionaires' fantasies of mining asteroids and the rest of the Solar System.

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