



Commercial Space Exploration: Ethics, Policy and Governance (Emerging Technologies, Ethics and International Affairs)

By Jai Galliott

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Not since man set foot on the moon over four decades ago has there been such passion and excitement about space exploration. This enthusiasm and eagerness has been spurred on by the fact that for the first time since the very beginning of the space age, space travel is no longer limited to an elite group of highly trained and well-disciplined military officers and test pilots. Instead, we must understand that the possibility of commercial space travel is already on our horizon and that it comes with a number of significant practical and moral challenges. Our level of scientific development and ability to influence international affairs and policy confers upon us an obligation to study the ethical, legal and social considerations associated with space exploration and understanding the potential consequences from the beginning is critical. This volume provides the first comprehensive and unifying analysis concerning the rise of private space exploration, with a view toward developing policy that may influence real-world decision making. The plethora of questions demanding serious attention - privatisation and commercialisation, the impact on the environment, health futures, risk assessment, responsibility and governance - are directly addressed in this scholarly work.

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Review

'This extraordinary collection launches our thinking about ethics, law, and public policy at the dawn of commercial spaceflight. Using a variety of literary styles...the authors enable serious consideration of practical, ethically informed policy governing space advertising, asteroid mining, colonization, astronaut enhancement, and others. A must read for anyone who dreams of spacefaring.' Margaret R. McLean, Santa Clara University, USA 'The "Final Frontier" is now of commercial interest to a growing number of companies and organisations, beyond the huge governmental agencies traditionally associated with space. This book provides an excellent overview of the ethical concerns raised by space commerce and exploration, providing contrasting perspectives on all the most important ethical issues in this rapidly growing field of interest.' Stephen Coleman, UNSW Canberra, Australia

About the Author

Jai Galliott is a Research Fellow at The University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. His work revolves around the ethical, legal and social implications of emerging military technologies. He is co-editor of Ashgate's Emerging Technologies, Ethics and International Affairs series and prior to entering academia, served briefly as an officer of the Royal Australian Navy.

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