

Space Diplomacy

A special issue of The Hague Journal of Diplomacy
Edited by Mai'a K. Davis Cross

Workshop, 18 November 2021, Northeastern University

Remote via Zoom

Synopsis

A quantum leap is underway in outer space as a domain of human activity. The global space economy has rapidly grown to almost US\$400 billion in size, and will likely more than triple by 2040 (compared to 2017). There are hundreds of actors involved, from space agencies to private companies to start-ups. These developments have involved intense transnational and international cooperation, both across public and private sectors. It is now an ideal time to take stock of how these developments are impacting international relations, particularly in terms of the practice and impact of diplomacy. The Hague Journal of Diplomacy, with guest editor Professor Mai'a K. Davis Cross, will publish a special issue on *Space Diplomacy*. Space diplomacy is understood to be the formal and informal interactions, agreements, and deliberations that occur among actors involved in space, whether conducted by professional diplomats or non-state actors. This workshop, sponsored by Northeastern's Humanities Center and the Brooke Chair, features contributors to this special issue.

Program

Guidelines:

1. The workshop will take place on November 18th, from 10AM to 4PM. We will send a Zoom link to all workshop participants.
2. All participants are asked to participate in the 10am welcoming session. Professor Cross will outline the Special Issue's aims, the questions that all papers should address in some way, and lay out a preliminary, overarching framework.
3. The remainder of the workshop consists of optional paper presentations. Each participant should present their pre-circulated paper for 5 minutes. This will be followed by 5 minutes (each) of feedback and questions by reviewers 1 and 2 as well as a general Q&A session of 15 minutes (30 minutes total for each presenter's paper).
4. All draft papers should be submitted to the shared Dropbox or via Email by November 11, 2021.

5. We are concluding the day with a practitioner talk by Frank White (3 – 4PM). This session will be open to participants in the special issue as well as faculty and students in the College of Social Science and Humanities at Northeastern.

November 18, 2021
10:00AM – 4:00PM (EST)

10– 11:00AM <i>(Session for all)</i>	Welcome! <i>Mai'a K. Davis Cross – Introduction of the Special Issue and her paper "Space Diplomacy"</i>
11– 11:10AM	Coffee Break
11:10 – 11:40AM <i>(7:10 – 7:40PM presenter time)</i>	"Space Exploration and Non-State Actors" Presenter: Aurelie Trur Discussant: Nancy Riordan, Lucia Csajkova
11:40 – 12:10PM <i>(4:40 - 5:10PM presenter time)</i>	"Space as Peacemaker? – A Study of Space" Presenter: Nikita Chiu Discussant: William Stewart, Julie Garey
12:10-12:40PM	Coffee Break
12:40 – 1:10PM <i>(5:40 – 6:10PM presenter time)</i>	"More-than-Terrestrial Diplomacy: Assembling Internationalism in Orbit" Presenter: William Stewart Discussant: Nikita Chiu, Kirsten Rodine-Hardy
1:10 – 1:40PM <i>(7:10 – 7:40PM presenter time)</i>	"The Practices and Policies of the European Union's Space Diplomacy – contributing to cooperation?" Presenter: Marianne Riddervold Discussant: Maximilian Mayer, Jennifer Ostojski
1:40 – 1:50PM	Coffee Break
1:50 – 2:20PM <i>(7:50 – 8:20PM presenter time)</i>	"China's Bifurcated Science Diplomacy in Space" Presenter: Maximilian Mayer Discussant: Marianne Riddervold, Aurelie Trur
2:20 – 2:50PM <i>(8:20 – 8:50PM co-presenter time)</i>	"Space Diplomacy at the International Astronautical Congress - the role of epistemic communities in the advancement of peaceful uses of outer space" Presenter: Nancy Riordan Discussant: Denise Garcia , Miroslav Machon
2:50 – 3:00PM	Coffee Break

3:00 – 4:00PM Open to the CSSH Public	“The Overview Effect” Presenter: Frank White Moderator: Mai’a Cross
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Editor Bio

Dr. Mai’a K. Davis Cross

Mai'a K. Davis Cross is the Edward W. Brooke Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at Northeastern University and Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, Diversity, and Inclusion. She is the author of three books and co-editor of two books, the most recent of which is *European-Russian Power Relations in Turbulent Times* (University of Michigan Press, 2021) and *The Politics of Crisis in Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). Her second book, *Security Integration in Europe: How Knowledge-based Networks are Transforming the European Union* (University of Michigan Press, 2011), is the 2012 winner of the Best Book Prize from the University Association of Contemporary European Studies. Professor Cross has published on a wide range of topics related to European politics, especially foreign and security policy, the transatlantic relationship, diplomacy, and public diplomacy. She holds a PhD in Politics from Princeton University, and a bachelor's degree in Government from Harvard University.

Participant Bios

Dr Nikita SW Chiu

Dr Chiu is Ad Astra Distinguished Fellow in Robotic & Outer Space Governance at the Space Engineering Research Center. She is also Head of Research at the Innovation Academy at University College Dublin. Dr Chiu was selected as one of [SSPI "20 under 35"](#) future leaders to watch in the space and satellite industry in 2019. Dr Chiu is the former Research Fellow in Robotics and Outer Space Technologies at the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford. She is also a former Research Affiliate at the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk at the University of Cambridge. Prior to a career in Technology Governance, Dr Chiu lectured on Foreign Policy and International Relations in Hong Kong and Tallinn, and was an Associate Lecturer on "War, Peacekeeping, and Military Operations" in the UK. Dr Chiu's ongoing research investigates the dynamics between technological advances and governance, with a focus on understanding the socio-economic, policy, and security impact brought by the increasing commercialization of robotics, [quantum](#), and [space technologies](#). An International Relations scholar by training, she read [Technology Policy](#) at St Edmund's College at the University of Cambridge, and holds a PhD from The Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva.

Lucia Csajkova

Lucia Csajkova is a master's student at the Prague University of Economics and Business. Her major is in International Studies and Diplomacy. She has already published an article about Joe Biden's perspectives on environmental policy for Slovak Foreign Policy Association. She has won Price for Excellent Student Thesis at the Faculty of International Relations for a seminar paper and bachelor thesis during her studies. She completed a 2-year study stay in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Lucia is interested in international relations, sustainable development, space, and environmental policy.

Dr. Jason Dittmer

Jason Dittmer is Professor of Political Geography and Head of Department at University College London, His current research explores the role of materiality in geopolitics, diplomacy, and heritage. He is the author of *Diplomatic Material: Affect, assemblage, and foreign policy* (Duke UP, 2017) and *Popular Culture, Geopolitics, and Identity*, 2nd edition (Rowman and Littlefield, 2019). His most recent work explores Gibraltar and its shifting role in empire.

Kunhan Li

Kunhan Li is a PhD History and Politics candidate at the University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China. He studied on the Committee on International Relations program at the University of Chicago, and before that he studied for his BA Hons International Relations at the University of Nottingham, UK. His PhD dissertation is titled "Emerging New Order in Outer Space: Explaining International Cooperation and Competition in the New Space Era". He is also part of the Comp-Core joint COVID policy research program which is led by Harvard and Cornell. His research interests include IR theories, global governance, great power politics, and politics of technology and science.

Dr Sarah Lieberman

Since 2007, Dr. Lieberman has been Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations at Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) where her teaching focusses largely on security, and her research is focused on European regulation and outer space policy. She completed her PhD on the European regulation of genetically modified crops and foods at Newcastle University in June 2007, supervised by Professor Tim Gray. She currently leads the Masters programme at CCCU in International Relations (Security Studies), she also teaches undergraduate level students and supervise PhD students. Dr. Lieberman is a member of UACES, specifically part of the European Space Policy standing group and BISA, in which she follows the European Security research group. She has published widely on space policy – discussing its place in security, military, economic structures, and culture. Since September 2020 she has also been a research

fellow at ESSCA, following several years of cooperation with ESSCA colleagues on European Space Policy. Dr. Lieberman also works with radio and TV stations in the UK, where she is often invited to discuss political issues emerging in the news, and she has been involved in consultation discussions with the UK recruitment sector, the organic sector and the grain import industry advising on post-Brexit regulation strategies.

Dr. John M Logsdon

Dr. John M. Logsdon is Professor Emeritus at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs, where he was the founder and long-time director of GW's Space Policy Institute. Dr. Logsdon's research interests focus on the policy and historical aspects of U.S. and international space activities. He is author, among many articles, essays, and edited books, of the award-winning studies *John F. Kennedy and the Race to the Moon* (2010); *After Apollo? Richard Nixon and the American Space Program* (2015); and *Ronald Reagan and the Space Frontier* (2019). Logsdon was general editor of the seven-volume series *Exploring the Unknown: Selected Documents in the History of the U.S. Civil Space Program (1995-2008)* and of *The Penguin Book of Outer Space Exploration* (2018). Dr. Logsdon is a member of the Board of Directors of the Planetary Society. In 2003 he was a member of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, and formerly was a member of the NASA Advisory Council. He is a sought-after commentator on space issues by the electronic and print media.

Dr. Miroslav Machoň

Miloslav Machoň is a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of International and Diplomatic Studies, Prague University of Economics and Business. Recently he co-investigates Czech astronomers' involvement in international political organizations funded within a three-year interdisciplinary research grant by the Czech Science Foundation. In 2020, he was appointed as a postdoctoral visiting scholar at Northeastern University, Boston, and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, under Professor Mai'a K. D. Cross and Professor Peter M. Haas for six months. He dealt with the bureaucratic aspects of professionalism of epistemic communities. In 2017 he defended a dissertation thesis about epistemic communities' influence in the international regulation of the civil use of satellite technologies. During his Ph.D., MA, and BA studies, he closely collaborated with professor Luboš Perek and professor Vladimír Kopal, two former chiefs of the UN Outer Space Affairs Division, and various international organizations gathering epistemic communities, including IAF, IAU, and IISL, nominated from Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic.

Dr. Maximilian Mayer

Dr. Maximilian Mayer is Junior-Professor of International Relations and Global Politics of Technology at University of Bonn. He worked as assistant professor at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (2019-2020) and was research fellow at Renmin University Beijing (2018-2020). Prior, Maximilian taught as Research Professor at Tongji University, Shanghai (2015-2018), as senior researcher at the Munich Center for Technology in Society, Technical University Munich (2018-2019) and worked at University of Bonn's Center for Global Studies as managing assistant and senior fellow (2009-2015). Maximilian holds a master degree from Ruhr University Bochum and obtained his PhD at University of Bonn. His research interests include the global politics of science, innovation, and technology; China's foreign and energy policy; global energy and climate politics; theories of International Relations. Maximilian has authored seven books including *China's Energy Thirst: Myth or Reality?* (2007 together with Xuewu Gu), *Changing orders: transdisciplinary analysis of global and local realities* (2008, co-editor), two-volumes on *The Global Politics of Science and Technology* (2014, lead editor). He is coeditor of *Art and Sovereignty in Global Politics* (Palgrave, 2016) and edited *Rethinking the Silk-Road: Chinas Belt and Road Initiative and Emerging Eurasian Relations* (Palgrave, 2018). Maximilian was visiting scholar at Harvard Kennedy School, Program on Science, Technology and Society, and served as section co-chair of STAIR (Science, Technology, Arts and international relations) of the International Studies Association (2015-2017) and as STAIR program chair (2014-2015).

Dr. Saadia M. Pekkanen

Saadia M. Pekkanen is the Job and Gertrud Tamaki Endowed Professor at the University of Washington in Seattle. She is the founding Co-director of the Space Policy and Research Center; and the founding Director of the Qualitative Methods Program. She works at the intersection of international relations and international law, specializing in the commercial, legal, and security policies shaping outer space affairs. She also investigates contemporary geopolitical change through the lens of infrastructure investment in maritime ports. Her regional expertise is in the foreign affairs of Japan and Asia, engaging broader themes of states, strategy, and governance in the world order. She is interested in the teaching and practice of qualitative methods, and in leveraging their significance for big data studies in the social sciences.

Dr. Marianne Riddervold

Marianne Riddervold is professor of political science (international relations/comparative politics) at Innlandet Norway University of Applied Science and research professor at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, NUPI. She is also a senior fellow at the Institute of European Studies at UC Berkeley, US. Her research interests include EU foreign and security policy, EU crises and transatlantic relations, theories of European integration, and international relations in the global commons. Selected recent books and

special issues include *The Palgrave Handbook of EU Crises* (Palgrave 2021), *The Maritime Turn in EU Foreign and Security Policies. Aims, Actors and Mechanisms of Integration'* (Palgrave, 2018), *Cooperation, conflict and interaction in the Global Commons* (in *International Relations* 35: 3) and *Transatlantic relations in times of uncertainty: crises and EU-US relations'* (in *Journal of European Integration* 40:5).

William Stewart

William Stewart is a PhD student in the Department of Geography at University College London. His current research on the geopolitics of the International Space Station focuses on the diplomacy and politics of microgravity and life in orbit. His research interests include the politics of materials, outer space, and popular culture. Before coming to academia, he was a military intelligence language analyst and Non-Commissioned Officer in the US Air Force. He has previously worked with the State Department Mission to the United Nations and the Department of Homeland Security.

Dr. Rick W. Sturdevant

Rick W. Sturdevant (BA and MA, University of Northern Iowa; PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara) joined the U.S. Air Force History & Museums Program in 1984 and became deputy director of history for Headquarters, Air Force Space Command (HQ AFSPC) in 1999. He remained in that position when Congress redesignated HQ AFSPC as HQ United States Space Force in 2019 and after it was renamed as HQ Space Operations Command in 2020. In addition to classified periodic histories and special studies related to that organization's operational activities, his writing on topics related more generally to military space history has appeared in numerous edited volumes and scholarly journals over the past thirty years. Over the same period, Sturdevant also has presented his research at annual academic and professional engineering conferences, including those held by the Organization of American Historians (OAH), Western History Association (WHA), American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), and the American Astronautical Society (AAS). The U.S. Air Force Academy has hosted him as a guest lecturer in space history classes, and he frequently speaks to local audiences in Colorado's Pikes Peak Region. Sturdevant was military editor for *Space Exploration and Humanity: A Historical Encyclopedia* (2010), and he currently serves on the editorial board of *Quest: The History of Spaceflight Quarterly* and is editor of the *International Academy of Astronautics history series*. His professional honors include the Air Force Exemplary Civilian Service Award (1995-1999), the American Astronautical Society (AAS) President's Recognition Award (2005), and election as an AAS Fellow (2007).

Dr. Aurelie Trur

Dr. Trur graduated from a Ph.D. in public policy from the Tokyo-based National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) writing her dissertation on space debris governance.

She has been involved in diplomacy and international affairs for more than a decade in various capacities, analyzing more specifically space diplomacy and strategy since her master's in space studies with the International Space University (ISU) and her master's in international relations studies at Ecole des Hautes Etudes Internationales in France. She started her career in the space industry providing project management and policy consultancy to the leading satellite operator SES at their Brussels office, following policy analysis internships with George Washington University's Space Policy Institute and the United States Navy. Her research interests combine space policy, diplomacy, global governance, international cooperation, security, and sustainability issues affecting the future of humankind and its living environment. Dr. Trur is a member of the International Institute of Space Law (IISL). She occasionally participates in some United Nations space governance initiatives such as regional capacity-building workshops and NGO-led open-letters to the General Assembly. She is also a supporting editor for the spaceagenda.com platform, a media partner of major space events. A scholar with global experience, she provides independent policy and strategy consultancy and publishes in international journals such as Acta Astronautica and Eurasian World.

Frank White

Frank White is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard College, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and a Rhodes Scholar. He earned an M.Phil. in Politics from Oxford, where he was a member of New College. The fourth edition of Frank's best-known book, *The Overview Effect: Space Exploration and Human Evolution*, was published by Multiverse Publishing, a division of Multiverse Media LLC, this year. *The Overview Effect* includes transcripts of Frank's interviews with numerous astronauts, both active and retired. A film called "Overview," based largely on his work, has had more than 8 million plays on Vimeo. He is the founder of the Overview Effect Film Festival and is a frequent speaker at space-themed events. Frank is president of The Human Space Program, Inc., a nonprofit organization based on an idea for a global space project initially proposed in *The Overview Effect*. Frank teaches at Harvard Extension School, Harvard Summer School, Boston University's Metropolitan College, and Kepler Space Institute. For additional information: frankwhiteauthor.com or <https://multiversepublishingllc.co>