**TITLE OF THE PAPER: TOWARDS SPACE NON-WEAPONIZATION: LEGAL CHALLENGES**

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“As the space age unfolds, Man's first responsibility is to prevent the extension of his earthly conflicts into outer space.” - Author Goldberg.

This paper traces the importance of space non-weaponization in terms of security. Improving transparency in space is of interest to some space-faring nations (USA, Russia and China) who manufacture and deploy anti-satellite weapon system into space. If left unchecked, such a course of action would prompt others to deploy weapons in space and thus potentially launch an arms race in outer space which staggers the prospects in other areas of space development for peaceful purposes. In the absence of a legally binding instrument to restrict the development and deployment of outer space weapons, countries are more likely to protect their outer space properties by military means rather than depend on the good will of other countries. It discusses the concepts of “militarization” and “weaponization” of outer space and the legality of weapons and questions the sufficiency of the existing treaties and their practical application in protecting legitimate space activities in an increasingly complex environment.

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