Security and Politics of Space

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**Dr. Deganit Paikowsky**

Email: deganit.paik@gmail.com

Cell: 052-2222359

What will we learn in the course?

The course will discuss policy, security and economic issues relating to the relationship between global politics and technology through exploring the strategic status of space as both an area and a technological field. Matters to be discussed include the changing nature of power in the international arena; the fight for dominance; the changes in the nature of war; strategies and mechanisms for influencing the flow of knowledge and technology, and more. All of these in historical and contemporary view of the interconnected fight in the Cold War, today and in the future.

Progression of the lesson and the reading list:

The lesson will be conducted in the form of a discussion of the various issues therefore, it is recommended to review the reading list and to select one reading item before each lesson as background material for reference. The lessons will not focus on the details as these are intended to enrich the discussion as well as to provide a starting point for a reading list for the final paper.

Writing assignment or what needs to be done in order to finish the course?

Submit a short paper on a topic chosen by the student:

Topic Examples:

1. Evaluating the motives for developing or failing to develop space capabilities in any country based on its characteristics and recommending policies for the future.
2. Analyzing the international and national implications of new technological realities and formulating a policy recommendation for a specific country.
3. Strategies for addressing threats in the space market from the point of view of the country of private market.
4. Assessing the influence of private actors on the design of the rules of the game in space management.

Guidelines: Up to 7 pages; font: David 12; spacing: 1.5; margins: 2.5 each side (not including bibliography).