



Hasan Abbas



Mr. Hasan ABBAS serves as Deputy Director in the Arms Control, Disarmament and International Security (ACDIS) Division at Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with a portfolio spanning arms control, disarmament, outer space governance, and emerging technologies. He previously served at Pakistan's Permanent Mission in Vienna, covering the IAEA, UNOOSA, UNODC, UNIDO and UNCITRAL. He co-chairs the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultations (ATLAC), and served as Second Vice-Chair and Rapporteur of the 67th session of COPUOS. Between 2023 and 2025, he coordinated the G-77 and China Task Force on Outer Space Affairs. He holds a Master's Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy, focusing on Outer Space governance and policy.

Almudena Azcárate Ortega (Secure World Foundation)



Dr. Almudena Azcárate Ortega leads Space Law and Regulation work at Secure World Foundation as a Senior Program Analyst. She has a decade of experience working in international law, primarily focused on outer space issues.

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Prior to joining SWF, Dr. Azcárate Ortega was the lead Space Security Researcher at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), where she was in charge of leading the design and implementation of the Institute's research projects and strategies on space issues. She has published widely, briefed UN Member States on the topics of space law and policy, and has presented her research in multiple fora. She has led UNIDIR's participation in several multilateral processes related to outer space matters. She currently retains an affiliation to UNIDIR as a Fellow.

Dr. Azcárate Ortega is also an Academic Fellow with the Center on National Security at Georgetown University. She is licensed to practice law in Spain, and prior to joining UNIDIR, she worked as a lawyer focused on high-stakes international litigation and arbitration for one of Spain's top law firms, Uría Menéndez.

Dr. Azcárate Ortega holds a doctorate in Space Security Law from Georgetown University, focused on the distinction between dual-use and dual-purpose space systems. She also holds an LL.M. in National Security Law from the same institution, where she was awarded Georgetown's Thomas Bradbury Chetwood, S.J. Prize for the most distinguished academic performance in the programme. She holds a dual Masters degree in Legal Practice and Corporate Law from the University of Navarra, Spain, and received her LL.B. from the same institution.

Ulpia Botezatu (UN COPUOS – Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC) / Romanian Space Agency)



Ulpia-Elena Botezatu is Co-Chair of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC) and Past Chair (2024–2026) of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. She serves as Space Policy Officer at the Romanian Space Agency (ROSA).

Her work focuses on the intersection of science, law, and diplomacy in outer space governance, with particular emphasis on lunar activities and the protection of space as critical infrastructure.

Matthew Craven (SOAS University of London)



Matthew Craven is Professor of International Law at SOAS, University of London. His main current area of research interest is in the history of international law. His publications include *The Decolonisation of International Law* (OUP, 2007) awarded the prize for outstanding scholarship by the European Society of International Law, *International Law and the Cold War* (CUP, 2019) and a forthcoming monograph entitled *Rival Legalities: the Practice of International Law in the Cold War* (CUP, 2026). He is a founding editor of the *London Review of International Law*, a member of the Advisory Board for the Harvard Law school Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP), and acted as legal advisor to the governments of Mauritius and Palestine in recent proceedings before the International Court of Justice.

Guido Dietl (University of Würzburg)



Guido Dietl studied Electrical Engineering and Information Technology at TUM, graduating in 2001 (Dipl.-Ing.) and 2006 (Dr.-Ing.), both with summa cum laude. From 2001 to 2006, he conducted research there on reduced-rank signal processing and wireless multi-user communication, including research stays in the USA and Australia. In 2006, he joined DOCOMO Euro-Labs in Munich, where he led the Advanced Radio Transmission Team in the field of multi-cell MIMO. From 2012 to 2022, he was Professor of Communications Engineering at Landshut University of Applied Sciences. Since 2022, he has been Professor of Satellite Communications and Radar Systems at the University of Würzburg. He is an Associate Editor of *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, a Senior Member of the IEEE, and a member of the VDE. His research covers 6G satellite networks, quantum communications, as well as radar and sensing technologies.

Isabel Feichtner (University of Würzburg)



Isabel Feichtner is Professor of Public Law and International Economic Law at the University of Würzburg. Her research interests cover the distributive effects of law, the democratization of society, and the law of the commons and commoning. Her publications include the edited volume “Constitutions of Value. Law, Governance, and Political Ecologies” (with Geoff Gordon) and the articles “Mining for Humanity in the Deep Sea and Outer Space: The Role of Small States and International Law in the Extraterritorial Expansion of Extraction”, *Leiden Journal of International Law* (2019) 32 (2), 255-274; “Sharing the Riches of the Sea: The Redistributive and Fiscal Dimension of Deep Seabed Exploitation”, *European Journal of International Law* (2019) 30 (2) 601-633 and “Commoning Outer Space”, in: Samantha Besson (ed), *The “Province of All Mankind”? Property in Outer Space under Public and Private International Law & Philosophy* (2026 forthcoming).

Clara Grundwald



Clara Grundwald is a Research Assistant and Doctoral Candidate at the chair of Prof. Dr. Eva-Maria Kieninger at the University of Würzburg. She started her career in media and journalism, before switching to law and graduating at the University of Würzburg in 2024. In her research she examines Private International Law and Comparative Law, focussing on rights in rem and secured credits in mobile assets. In addition to her research for her doctoral thesis on European mobile security interests, she publishes on the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and contributed to the EAPIL Working Group on Property Law.

Michael Hennessey Picard (University of Edinburgh)



Michael Hennessey Picard is a lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, where he teaches and researches the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes, from the recycling of shipwrecks and the mismanagement of outer space debris. Picard has worked for the UKSA on the global spillover effect of end-of-life satellites in areas beyond national jurisdiction, such as the atmosphere and the marine environment. With colleagues, he is also working on a green toolkit of global standards and laws concerning space sustainability, including space debris management, sustainable manufacturing, procurement, rocket fuel, and mission design choices across the lifecycle of space activities.

Hakan Kayal (University of Würzburg)



Hakan Kayal has been Professor of Space Technologies at Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (JMU), Germany, since 2008. His research centers on the design, development, and operation of space systems, especially highly autonomous nanosatellites for exploration, SETI, and the scientific study of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP).

In 2016, he established the Interdisciplinary Research Centre for Extraterrestrial Studies (IFEX) at the University of Würzburg, which he continues to lead. IFEX is dedicated to the exploration of outer space, the development of enabling technologies, and research into the future use of planets and other celestial bodies within the Solar System in support of human settlement. It is the first and, to date, only institutional academic research center in Germany whose statutes explicitly include research on UAP.

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Among the space missions under his responsibility is SONATE-2, launched in March 2024, which successfully demonstrates advanced AI technologies in space, including pioneering in-orbit AI training.

Prof. Kayal studied aeronautics and astronautics at the Technical University of Berlin (TUB). He later worked in satellite operations for TÜRKSAT 1B in Ankara, served as Deputy Project Manager of DLR's BIRD satellite mission, and went on to become Project Manager of TUB's first CubeSat, launched in 2009.

Eva-Maria Kieninger



Prof. Dr. Eva-Maria Kieninger studierte Rechtswissenschaft an der Universität Passau und am King's College, London (1983-1989). Nach dem Referendariat und der Zweiten Juristischen Staatsprüfung (1992) war sie wissenschaftliche Assistentin an der Universität Augsburg (1992-1995) und an der Freien Universität Berlin (1995-1997), jeweils bei Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Jürgen Basedow.

Sie promovierte 1995 mit einer Arbeit über "Mobiliarsicherheiten im Europäischen Binnenmarkt". 1997-1998 war sie wissenschaftliche Referentin am Max-Planck-Institut für ausländisches und internationales Privatrecht, Hamburg, 1999-2001 Habilitationsstipendiatin der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft. Im Juli 2001 wurde sie mit einer Arbeit zum Thema "Wettbewerb der Rechtsordnungen und Europäischer Binnenmarkt" vom Fachbereich Rechtswissenschaft der Universität Hamburg für die Fächer Bürgerliches Recht, Handels- und Gesellschaftsrecht, Rechtsvergleichung und Internationales Privat- und Prozeßrecht habilitiert. Seit Dezember 2001 ist sie Inhaberin des Lehrstuhls für Deutsches und Europäisches Privatrecht sowie Internationales Privatrecht an der Universität Würzburg. Ein paralleles Berufungsangebot an die Universität Jena (2001) sowie Rufe an die Universitäten Zürich (2008) und Marburg (2009) hat sie abgelehnt.

2012 bis 2014 war sie Prodekanin, 2014 bis 2016 Dekanin der Juristischen Fakultät der JMU Würzburg. Von 2011 bis 2015 war sie Mitglied des Universitätsrats der Universität Passau. Seit 2021 ist sie Mitglied des Ausschusses für die Vergabe von Humboldt-Forschungspreisen und seit 2023 Mitglied des Fachbeirats des Max-Planck-Instituts für ausländisches und internationales Privatrecht in Hamburg.

Frau Prof. Dr. Kieninger ist u.a. Mitglied des Deutschen Rates für Internationales Privatrecht (seit 2003), der Académie Internationale de Droit Comparé (seit 2009), des European Law Institute, des Rates der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Internationales Recht (seit 2013) und des Vorstands der Gesellschaft für Rechtsvergleichung (seit 2023). Von 2017 bis 2023 war sie stellvertretende Vorsitzende der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Internationales Recht. Sie ist

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Mitbegründerin und war Mitglied des Scientific Council der European Association of Private International Law.

Frau Kieninger ist ordentliches Mitglied der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Akademia Europaea. Zum 1.2.2026 wurde Frau Kieninger vom Bundespräsidenten zum Mitglied des Wissenschaftsrats berufen.

Frau Prof. Dr. Kieninger ist Mitherausgeberin der Zeitschrift für Europäisches Privatrecht (ZEuP), der Zeitschrift für die gesamte Privatrechtswissenschaft (ZfPW) und des European Property Law Journal (EPLJ).

Franziska Knur



Dr. Knur is an expert in international space law and an adviser on UN affairs at the German Space Agency at DLR. Since 2023, she has served as Chair of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space within the Legal Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) in Vienna.

As a member of the German delegation to COPUOS, and in particular to its Legal Subcommittee since 2018, she has actively contributed to the Committee's work, including the drafting of the UNISPACE+50 resolution, the Space2030 agenda, and the establishment of the Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resources Activities. Under her leadership, the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space is implementing a workplan focused on promoting the implementation of Article XI of the Outer Space Treaty regarding the sharing of information on activities in outer space. At the German Space Agency at DLR, her responsibilities include coordinating and preparing contributions to various multilateral and regional bodies related to outer space, advising the German government on space law and policy, and advancing initiatives that enhance the contribution of space technologies, data, and applications to sustainable development.

Dr. Knur holds a doctorate in international law from Dresden University of Technology (Germany), a master's degree in international relations and a bachelor's degree in European studies. She has lectured on international and European law and has published on space law and policy, human rights and general international law. She is a member of the International Institute of Space Law (IISL), the German Society of International Law (DGIR), the International Law Association (ILA) as well as the German United Nations Association (DGVN).

Alexandra Kemmerer (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law)



Alexandra Kemmerer is Senior Research Fellow and Academic Coordinator at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, and Head of the Institute's Berlin Office. In 2025, she was a Kathleen Fitzpatrick Senior Visiting Fellow at the Laureate Program in Global Corporations and International Law, University of Melbourne. Her research includes histories and theories of international law and European law, comparative constitutional law, and the media theory and communicative praxis of law. As an academic, writer and journalist, she is particularly interested in interrelations between biography, doctrine and theory, and in interconnections between constitutionalism, commons and the common good.

Kevin Madders (King's College London / KU Leuven)



Kevin Madders has been active for four decades in the fields of space and digital transformation. He has been a European Space Agency official, an academic, a government and corporate adviser, an entrepreneur and company director, an arbitrator, and author of the first comprehensive work on Europe in space, *A New Force at a New Frontier* (Cambridge University Press). He has designed and taught a series of research-based postgraduate courses at two major European universities, ranging from space policy, law and organization to fundamentals of law and technology, electronic commerce law and big data/AI and the law. He co-founded and leads the multidisciplinary innovation consultancy Systemics Network International and, with former MEP Niklas Nienäß, recently initiated an NGO in Brussels, European Space Vision, which aims to boost citizen engagement in realizing European leadership in space. Over his career, Kevin has among other things drafted or contributed to telecoms legislation and sectoral policies, been a treaty negotiator and managed major studies including on IP policy in space and space cooperation with China. In the background, Kevin

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has built up Systemics Network International's unique collection of published and unpublished materials on space and ICT and helped develop internal and partners' competences, including in areas from systems theory/analysis to AI.

Martin Müller (Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA))



Dr. Martin Müller is Executive Director of Science Anticipation at GESDA (Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator). In this pivotal role, he spearheads the foundation's core mission of anticipating scientific breakthroughs and understanding their profound implications for humanity, society and our planet. At GESDA, Dr. Müller oversees the development and continuous evolution of the GESDA Science Breakthrough Radar, a comprehensive anticipatory framework that emerges from collaboration with nearly 2,500 researchers spanning 90 countries and over 40 fields of science and technology. This work addresses the critical need to understand how accelerating scientific and technological advances will shape our collective future, providing essential insights for policymakers, researchers, and society at large.

Before joining GESDA in September 2019 as Executive Director of the Academic Forum, Dr. Müller contributed to key discussion in European science, innovation and education policy and programme areas during his tenure at SwissCore – the Swiss Contact Office for Education, Research and Innovation (ERI) – in Brussels. First as Advisor for Research then as Co-Director, he played a crucial role in navigating the complex landscape of Swiss-EU relations, ensuring Swiss ERI organizations maintained their influence and involvement vis-à-vis European Union institutional bodies and programmes, during a particularly challenging period in bilateral relations. Dr. Müller served as Chair of the Science Europe working group on Horizon Europe, the European Union's ambitious €80 billion research and innovation programme. Additionally, he coordinated a major pan-European initiative focused on strategic planning and funding for large research infrastructures of pan-European relevance. Dr. Müller holds a doctoral degree in biomedical engineering, providing him with both the technical expertise and analytical skills essential for his work at the intersection of science, policy, and diplomacy. Throughout his career, Dr. Müller has consistently worked to bridge the gap between scientific innovation and policy implementation. His unique position at GESDA allows him to contribute to global conversations about how emerging technologies and scientific breakthroughs can be harnessed for the benefit of humanity while addressing potential risks and challenges.

Anna Raab (University of Würzburg)



Anna Raab is a Research Assistant and Doctoral Candidate at the University of Würzburg. Her research examines outer space law, emerging technologies, and diplomatic processes. She is also a Junior Fellow at the Outer Space Institute. Anna's work bridges legal analysis and policy practice, with a particular focus on the governance and security implications of space activities.

Anna Raab's professional experience includes two years at the United Nations, where she worked as Legal Assistant to a member of the International Law Commission. She has held roles at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, concentrating on military uses of outer space, and at the Legal Administration of the City of Munich during her dual bachelor programme. Anna holds an LLM in International Law from the Geneva Graduate Institute and a Bachelor of Laws from FOM Munich.

Her expertise in international law and multilateral diplomacy has been particularly shaped by participation in UN COPUOS sessions, the OEWG on PAROS at the Disarmament Forum, as well as conferences and workshops hosted by the European Space Agency, Space Center at EPFL Lausanne and NATO.

Caroline S. Rapatz (University of Kiel)



Caroline Sophie Rapatz studied English Philology at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg from 2002 to 2005, and obtained an MPhil in Medieval and Renaissance Literature at the University of Cambridge (Newnham College) in 2006. In 2011, she completed her law studies at the Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg with the First State Examination in Law. She received her doctorate in Würzburg in 2015 for her comparative law dissertation on mortgage

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models in Europe, supervised by Prof. Dr. Eva-Maria Kieninger. During her legal traineeship at the Hamburg Higher Regional Court, she was a research assistant at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law in Hamburg. From 2016 to 2022, she held a junior professorship in civil law, European and international private and procedural law, and comparative law in Würzburg; in 2022, she completed her Habilitation with a thesis on national, treaty and European private international law. Since 1 October 2022 she has been Professor of Civil Law, European and International Private and Procedural Law and Comparative Law at the Law Faculty of the Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel and Co-Director of the Institute for European and International Private and Procedural Law.

Philipp Sauter



Philipp Sauter leads the Junior Research Group “Legal Questions of Fusions Energy” at the University of Würzburg and he is a Senior Research Fellow at the Max-Planck-Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. He has studied law and physics at the universities of Tübingen and Aix-en-Provence. He holds a PhD in law from the Goethe-University Frankfurt. His research focuses on interdisciplinary questions between science and law.