

Transcending Societal Issues for Space Exploration (12)
Transcending Societal Issues for Space Exploration (3) (3)

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THE INCLUSION OF SPACE TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE EXPLORATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF
THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Abstract

The generation of people born in 60s and 70s will remember from the popular Star Trek Show that Space is the Final Frontier. It represents an infinite of possibilities to mankind and to public. Whether its for the issue of designing new technologies which can be used by the public or using space technologies for global tasks such as fisheries, forestry, research of materials, space solar research, telemedicine or other daily events. Moreover, space exploration also opens up vast resources with space mining of resources on the moon as well as in the asteroids. In addition, space exploration provides the vital expansion need of humanity for the future. However, the concept of space technology and space exploration (unlike aviation) has been monopolized by governments and very few corporations and as a result, the public has been largely left out of it. However, it must be remembered that while it was NASA that went to the moon in 1969, it was public determination that made it possible. It is not a coincidence that in 2021 mankind has never been able to return back to the Moon and hasn't been able to establish outposts in planets such as Mars (unlike envisioned by futurists in 1960s). In order to truly conquer space, public must be an essential stakeholder and in order to achieve this, its important to include the global public in space related activities. While nations may have their own space programs and corporations their own for-profit space ventures, its essential to organize activities to include the global public need as well. This paper outlines the necessary criteria and plan for making each global citizen to have his say and to feel included in such efforts.