

# 56<sup>th</sup> Otago Foreign Policy School

## *Ascending into Space: New Zealand's Role as a Space-Faring Nation*

Friday 1 July – Sunday 3 July 2022

New Zealand's space industry has grown significantly over the few past years. Unlike its Five Eyes partners that have developed their respective space programmes upon the foundations military research and design within the Cold War context, New Zealand's space industry has built its foundation on the rapid development of commercial space activities. This presents both opportunities and challenges. Currently, New Zealand sits at an important juncture and has the potential to become a global leader as a premier nation-state for Low Earth Orbit activities given both its regulatory infrastructure and unique positioning on the globe. However, it also means that, now more than ever, New Zealand must consider the lessons learnt from its Five Eyes partners especially when shaping its foreign policy as it continues to mould its current space policy and framework.

To a large extent, this means that New Zealand's space posture must account for commercial (regulatory and technological), national (environmental and cultural), scientific (research development and global collaboration), and security (national and international) considerations.

This years' Foreign Policy School considers the following key themes:

- New Zealand commercial, defence, security, and regulatory, postures concerning space activities and development;
- International relations between New Zealand and other space-faring nations;
- Challenges and opportunities that technological developments, such as cyber security over space assets; and
- Collaborative scientific developments that consider environmental impacts from space activities and the maintenance of cultural heritage

**Dr. Maria A. Pozza:** Director and Principal Lawyer | Gravity Lawyers, New Zealand

**Day 1**  
**Friday 1 July**

3:30-5:00pm Registration

5:00pm Opening of the School

5:20pm Mihi whakatau, **Dr Shayne Walker**, Social and Community Work Programme, University of Otago

5:30pm **Dr. Maria A. Pozza**, Director 56<sup>th</sup> Foreign Policy School

5:40pm **Professor Richard Blaikie**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)

5:50pm **Mr Aaron Hawkins**, Mayor of Dunedin, **TBC**

6:00pm **Mr Iain Cossar**, New Zealand Space Agency

6:10pm **Hon. Nanaia Mahuta**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

7:00pm Cocktail Function

## Day 2

Saturday, 2 July

- 08:25am Welcome (Director)
- 08:30am **Dr Nicholas Rattenbury**, Department of Physics, University of Auckland. [In person](#)
- “Ascending into Space: New Zealand’s Role as a Space-faring nation”
- Chair: Dr Maria A. Pozza, Gravity Lawyers, New Zealand
- 09:15am **Ms Victoria Samson**, Washington Office - Director, Secure World Foundation, United States. [On Zoom](#)
- “Cyber Security in Outer Space”
- Chair: Professor Robert Patman, Politics Programme, University of Otago
- 10:00am **Professor Dale Stephens**, Director - Adelaide Research Unit on Military Law and Ethics, Law School, The University of Adelaide [On zoom](#)
- “International law governing military activities in outer space”
- Chair: Ms Cecile Hillyer, Head of International Security and Disarmament Division, MFAT
- 10:45am MORNING TEA
- 11:30am **Mr Chris Kunstadter**, Head of Space Insurance AON [On Zoom](#)
- “Insuring space activities and space-related liabilities: The issues that keep the space insurers up at night”
- Chair: **TBC**
- 12:15pm **Adjunct Professor Ricky Lee**, University of Notre Dame, Australia. [In person](#)
- “Space Tourism: New Zealand as a LEO space tourist operator and

legal measures to consider”

Chair: Associate Professor Marcelle Dawson, Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology Programme, University of Otago

1:00pm LUNCH

2:00pm **Mr Robin McNeill**, Chief Executive Officer, SpaceOps New Zealand

“Commercial Space Activities from Aotearoa” [In person](#)

Chair: **TBC**

2:45pm **Ms Ashely Tokic and Mr Mark Saavedra**, US Embassy [In person](#)

Title: Space Activities – What it means for the US and New Zealand relationship (**TBC**)

Chair: **TBC**

3:15pm AFTERNOON TEA

3:45pm **Professor Fabio Tronchetti**, Co-Director, Institute of Space Law and Strategy, Beihang University, Beijing China [On Zoom](#)

“The Future of China’s Space Programme”

Chair: Dr Peter Grace, Politics Programme, University of Otago

4:45pm **Professor K R Sridhara Murthi**, Hon. Director, International Institute of Space Law and Director, Jain University, India. [On Zoom](#)

“Transformational trends in India’s Space Programme”

Chair: **TBC**

5:30pm End of Day 2

**Day 3**

**Sunday 3 July**

- 08:25am Welcome (Director)
- 08:30am **Ms. Dovilė Matuleviciute, Luxembourg Space Agency** [On Zoom](#)  
“Luxembourg’s space legal framework: The future potential collaboration work between Luxembourg and New Zealand in space  
Chair: **TBC**
- 09:15am **Ms. Val Sim and Ilija Tolich, New Zealand Space Agency, Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment** [In person](#)  
“New Zealand’s Legal and Policy Framework over space activities: Current changes underway”  
Chair: Dr Maria A. Pozza, Gravity Lawyers, New Zealand
- 10:00am **Mr Michael Gaskin, Ministry Foreign Affairs and Trade** [In person](#)  
“New Zealand’s Strategic Direction in Space”  
Chair: **TBC**
- 10:45am MORNING TEA
- 11:15am **Emeritus Professor of Astronomy John Hearnshaw, University of Canterbury** [In person](#)  
“Light pollution and the future of space science and astronomy”  
Chair: **TBC**
- 12:00pm **Professor Craig Roger, Department of Physics, University of Otago** [in person](#)  
“Space Weather - a global hazard from space to New Zealand's technological infrastructure”  
Chair: **TBC**

12:45pm LUNCH

**1:45pm** **Professor Joerg Frauendiener**, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Otago [In person](#)

“LISA: New Zealand and European Collaboration in Outer Space”

Chair: Kevin O’Connell, Delegation of the European Union to New Zealand.

2:30pm **Ms Toni Hoeta and Mr Andrew Mills, Ngāti Rangi**, Te Atihaunui-ā-papa-rangi, Ngāti Porou, Te Atiawa, Otago Museum [In person](#)

“Our cultural heritage relationship with the Stars”

Chair: Ms Eva Wagner, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Canberra

3:15pm AFTERNOON TEA

3:45pm Panel Session: New Zealand’s role as a Space-faring nation [In person/on Zoom](#)

Chair: Professor Philip Nel, Department of Politics, University of Otago.

Panellists: James Powell, Dawn Aerospace, New Zealand

4:30pm MFAT Representatives’ Reflections

4:40pm Closing Remarks (Director)

4:45pm End of School

## **Sponsors (in alphabetical order)**

The organisers gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the following organisations and agencies:

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung – Canberra

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

University of Otago, Vice-Chancellor's Fund

Delegation of the European Union to New Zealand

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## **Academic Committee of the 56th University of Otago Foreign Policy School**

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