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## **GEOETHICS: A NEW PARADIGM FROM EARTH TO PLANETARY SCIENCES AND ASTROBIOLOGY**

Planetary research and exploration is one of the humankind's most outstanding and exciting challenges, which requires not only scientific and technological interdisciplinary cooperation, but also the thoughtfulness of potential ethical and scientific integrity issues. The advance of our knowledge allows us now to understand the Earth, our planet, taking into account a more general perspective, as a part of our solar system. The basic grounds and application of geoethics are crucial, in particular in the context of astrobiological investigation, given all the multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary links, which also involve Bioethics and Planetary Protection issues. In the framework of space missions and projects, the scientific information — and also human behaviours and practices —, have an ambivalent significance as the Earth is being used as a general model to understand other planetary systems (and vice versa). Thus, it is extremely important not to repeat on the Moon, Mars, Europa or even the asteroids (and their meteorites) some methodological and conceptual errors of the past. Here it is proposed that geoethics, in the original sense proposed by Dr. Václav Němec regarding the whole geosphere, is a new paradigm from Earth which gives an additional dimension to the geological and astrobiological research and exploration of the solar system and beyond.