Wars With Heaven: Can Celestial Securitisation Produce Effective Planetary Defence?

Abstract:

This dissertation is primarily concerned with the issue of planetary defence against Near Earth Objects (NEOs). Using securitisation theory as its theoretical framework and employing a qualitative content analysis as its research methodology, the work investigates the attempt by President Ronald Reagan to securitise his Strategic Defence Initiative. This analysis is then used to inform an argument in favour of the securitisation of NEOs as a method of procuring planetary defences.