

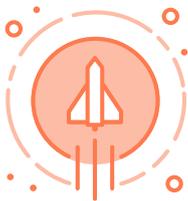
An aerial photograph of a Martian canyon system, likely the Valles Marineris. The image shows a central, elevated ridge with a relatively smooth surface, flanked by deep, dark, and highly eroded valleys. The terrain is characterized by intricate patterns of ridges and grooves, suggesting a complex geological history. The lighting creates strong shadows, emphasizing the three-dimensional structure of the canyon.

MARS NATION

Abstract

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Mars Nation is a global democratic movement to accelerate the colonization of Mars and to give everyone equal access to the planet's resources.



Why are we doing this?

We are on the verge of a new space age, but the vaguely formulated laws of the United Nations can't prevent a few states from dictating the future course of action. Mars Nation wants to tackle this situation by giving everyone a voice and opportunity to participate in the creation of a new society for Mars.

Vision

Mars Nation strives to become a sovereign nation with the purpose of peacefully governing the exploration and colonization of planet Mars and to give everyone equal access to all its resources. To let anyone have a stake and help shape the future of this movement, it is designed as a decentralized bottom-up experiment governed by the community.

Land sale

Mars Nation is selling 8.125 million lots of virtual Mars land. The 4x4km sized land lots are represented by non-fungible tokens on the blockchain. The proceeds are used to fund projects working towards the goal of becoming a sovereign nation and supporting the colonization of the planet. A substantial part of the land is reserved to incentivize corporations and states to establish settlements as soon as possible. The first 10 settlements will receive shares of the total land available on Mars to reward their pioneering.

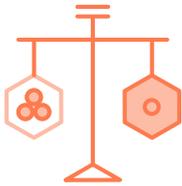


Land claim enforcement

Think of Mars Nation as an incentivized global signature collection for a sovereign nation. It starts as an online community where everyone can buy virtual land that is secured on the blockchain without a centralized authority. Initially, the probability of enforcement is very low while only a few people believe in the shared land registry. As the user base grows and thus the support for the nation, the enforcement probability of the land claims gradually increases until Mars Nation is recognized as a sovereign nation. The nation is then able to enforce the virtual land claims in reality.

Economic incentive

The goal of Mars Nation is to guarantee everyone equal access to its resources, while raising substantial funds for its development. To achieve that, the project has to reconcile short-term profit maximization and long-term allocation efficiency. In the early phase, ownership will be fully privatized incentivizing investors to participate in the project. As soon as the first permanent settlement is established, partial common ownership will be introduced through a Harberger taxation model.

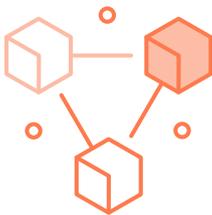


Property ownership

To improve equality within society and increase allocation efficiency, Mars Nation implements an economic policy called Harberger taxation. Owners have to self-assess their land, pay taxes based on the reported value and sell it to anyone for that price. This solves the monopoly or holdout problem of land, maintains a fluid market dynamic, and generates tax income for the nation. Society no longer considers it as important who owns the land, but rather that the land is placed in the hands of those who can use it most efficiently and generate the highest tax return for the nation.

Decentralized and transparent governance

The nation is governed by a direct democracy, with a new approach called Quadratic Voting that better represents voting preferences. A decentralized autonomous organisation (DAO) administers ballots via a proposal and voting system. By open sourcing all code and data, Mars Nation aims to build the most transparent and trusted nation.



Funding of building blocks

Mars Nation applies a decentralized funding mechanism called Liberal Radicalism to finance communities and projects that support its cause. Requesting funds from the nation requires donations from as many supporters as possible signaling their commitment. Higher participation yields higher individual project funding.

Team

The initial team building the first version of the platform consists of a well-coordinated group of Mars data scientists, software engineers, economists and interaction designers. Together, they have successfully built large communities with over 1 million users and highly viral products with more than 25 million users.

Please be aware:

1. This is an experiment.
2. We cannot guarantee anyone actual rights to land ownership on Mars.
3. A lot of testing and many iterations will be needed to find the optimal governance structure for the community. This is the first draft.