Legal and Ethical Aspects

There are not that many current legal and ethical problems with this solution, as space is mostly unrestricted space. The only regulations currently active for the space station is the restrictions on the rockets flying up to transport fuel, and restrictions on some orbital paths used for different satellites. However, in the future the station will interact with human transporting vehicles which could be in trouble. In these situations, allowing other rockets to refuel instead of drifting aimlessly through space could save lives. However, the creation of a large unsecured tank of highly flammable liquid could create a large target for thieves, terrorists or warring nations. There could also be future restrictions on the stations security if the station is taken into commercial use, which might lead to the station needing extra defences or not being a viable option at all. Finally, the obvious problem of autonomous systems replacing humans also will apply to this, as the future could have been filled with human run fuel stations also in space, but with the stations run autonomously, these jobs aren’t available after all. Right now, fuel stations also often include kiosks or restaurants. If these inclusions are automated as well, by vending machines or similar, there would be absolutely no use for humans there.