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WIMUN NY 2025

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

Simulation: First Committee of the General Assembly

Welcome to WIMUN New York 2025,

We are very pleased to introduce you to the most authentic simulation of the United Nations in the world; and hope to contribute to your understanding of the Organisation, its mandate, and its critical role in global affairs.

Through a series of pre-conference webinars that will be offered and documents – like this resource guide – we aim to educate you not only about the global issues on the UN agenda, but also about the ways and means through which those topics are discussed, debated and negotiated by real UN diplomats.

This resource guide will provide you with a head start in doing research to gain a deeper understanding of the global issue that you will be discussing and the actions that the government you have been assigned recommends that the international community should take to address this issue. To make the research process a bit easier, the resource guide has been divided into sections and sub-sections to assist you in researching these two components. We strongly recommend you to give a careful look through the sources listed below so that the interaction with your peers is as exciting as possible.

We wish you all the very best in this journey of learning!

Prevention of an arms race in outer space

Outer space, once a realm of wonder and hope for humanity, is now at risk of becoming the next arena for arms race. In light of the development of new space military technologies and the rising tensions between the East and the West, the 1st committee of the GA held its seventy-eight session discussing the prevention of an arms race.

The roots of the militarisation of outer space could be traced back to the cold war era, where the United States and the Soviet Union fought for supremacy and dominance in outer space. The 20th-century space race led to the drafting of important international agreements, such as the Treaty Principles Governing the Activities of States in Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (the Outer Space Treaty) and the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (the Liability Convention) with the aim to ensure that the outer space is used for peaceful purposes. However, with great changes in the geopolitical landscape and technological development of the world, these agreements agreed decades ago are no longer fit for tackling modern-day security challenges.

Furthermore, the recent development of anti-satellite weaponry is particularly concerning not only because of its security implications, but the fact that the testing of such weaponry is the space activity that generates the most space debris. For example, according to Theodore Kruczek, a radar analyst at the United States Space Force, the top three space events that created the most space debris are all satellite collisions; with events in 1st and 3rd place being anti-satellite tests. In recent years, a number of scientists have warned governments of the Kessler Syndrome, which is a chain effect caused by the collision of space objects. The worsening space debris situation coupled by a congested Lower Earth Orbit (LEO) may lead to such a cascade effect, destruct key satellites or even destroy the Earth as debris falls into our atmosphere. Since the mandate of the 1st committee of the GA is to achieve global disarmament and maintain international peace and security as enshrined in article 1 of the UN Charter, it is crucial for this committee to generate innovative solutions to de-militarise outer space, as well as mitigate the impacts of previous military testing to ensure safe space exploration and a sustainable future.

UN Press: 'Outer space should never be an arena for militarisation', Delegate tells General Assembly Debate on Moscow's Veto of Resolution aimed at curbing arms race

2024

Summary: After the veto by the Russian Federation in the Security Council for a aiming to prevent an arms race, member states discussed their views on the situation and commented on ways ahead for disarmament. This UN Press document enclosed a summary of the 78th and 79th meetings of the General Assembly regarding this issue. Delegates should make use of this document to understand the implications of the veto and examine the stances of different member states.

UN Press: For second time since late April Security Council fails to adopt first-ever resolution on preventing arms race in outer space

2024

Summary: This UN Press release records and summarises member states' reactions to the failure of the Security Council to pass the draft resolution on preventing arms race in outer space on the 20th of May 2024.

Outer Space Becoming Contested Domain for Supremacy with Space-Based Communications, Intelligence Assets, Anti-Satellite Weapons, First Committee Hears | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases

2023

Summary: This summary of the seventy-eighth session, the 16th meeting of the General Assembly in October 2023 details the different views held by member states on the way forward to prevent an arms race. Delegates should pay attention to the stance and proposals suggested by member states, to observe how these discussions paved the way for six resolutions on this topic to be passed later in December 2023.

UN Press: Debate on Disarmament Aspect of Outer Space Exposes First Committee Rift over ways to sustain space security, prevent domain's weaponisation

2023

Summary: Member states resumed their debate on preventing an arms race in outer space at the seventy-eighth session, the 17th meeting of the General Assembly on the next day. Member states mostly debated about whether to work towards making a legally binding instrument or undertake other non-binding measures.

(Note: Delegates may pause reading when they reach the section "Conventional Weapons")

United Nations Institute For Disarmament Research: Norms for Outer Space

2022

Summary: This document evaluates the effectiveness of norms in achieving the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS). The UNIDIR suggests that more attention should also be paid to capacity-building and establishing mechanisms to ensure compliance and facilitate dialogue.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

2017

Summary: The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was concluded on the 7th of July 2017 and entered into force on the 22nd of January 2021. It is important for setting up a legally binding obligation for state parties to ban the use, production, testing, stockpiling and transfer of nuclear weapons. Despite being criticized for not being comprehensive enough, this treaty is a step towards the common goal of eliminating nuclear weapons.

UNOOSA: Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

2010

Summary: There is a common understanding between states and the COPUOS that space debris poses a significant risk to mankind as they continue to orbit around the globe. This document includes guidelines for states in all of the development and operation stages to limit the generation of space debris in outer space. Delegates may also read the "preface" chapter of this document to understand the process in which these guidelines were developed.

**Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space:
Safety Framework for Nuclear Power Source
Applications in Outer Space**

2009

Summary: Since nuclear power sources (NPS) are occasionally the only available option for powering space activities, this safety framework reflects best state practices on using NPS. According to UNOOSA, this framework has a particular focus on the safety of relevant launch and end-of-service phases of space NPS applications. It aims to provide guidance to states and international intergovernmental organisations in developing their safety frameworks.

**RES62/101 Recommendations on enhancing the practice
of States and international intergovernmental
organisations in registering space objects**

2008

Summary: This document was drafted based on reports submitted by member states to COPUOS regarding their general practice in registering space objects. Additionally, the resolution mandates UNOOSA to create a model registration form for states to register properly. Note: the preamble of this resolution stated that the content of this document does not provide an authoritative interpretation of the Registration Convention nor amends it.

**GA RES34/68 Agreement governing the activities of
states on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies**

1979

Summary: The Moon Agreement was adopted in December 1979 and entered into force in July 1984. The agreement was drafted in the context of an increasing interest of states to explore outer space. It acts as a supplement to the Outer Space Treaty and requires states to use the moon and other celestial bodies for peaceful purposes only. The agreement specifies that state parties must “take all measures” to prevent the disruption of the environment in outer space.

Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification technique **1976**

Summary: The Convention was adopted in New York on the 10th of December 1976 and entered into force on the 5th of October 1978. 78 states are currently parties to the convention and 48 of them are signatories. Since state parties are prohibited from engaging in “military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques having widespread, long-lasting or severe effects as the means of destruction, damage or injury to another state party” according to article 1, this serves as a layer of protection against serious damage to the outer space. Delegates should consider whether or to what extent would activities increasing the risk of the Kessler effect fall under the scope of this convention.

GA RES3235 (XXIX) Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space **1974**

Summary: The Registration Convention was adopted by the General Assembly in 1974 and entered into force on the 15th of September 1976. Its applicability was less widespread, with only 44 states being parties to the convention. Despite the effort of concluding this agreement to supplement the previous three treaties, the registration convention is generally considered to be unfit for its purpose. Delegates should explore issues concerning the Registration Convention and suggest means to improve transparency to help prevent an arms race in outer space.

GA RES2777 (XXVI) Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects **1971**

Summary: After resolution 2777 was adopted by the General Assembly in 1971, the Liability Convention entered into force in 1972. The Liability Convention is known for its wide applicability, with 96 states and 4 international organizations having ratified the Convention in 2022. The main goal of the convention is to set up a liability regime for damage caused by space objects as well as expand on the Outer Space Treaty. It is also significant for defining the term “space objects” as “component parts of a space object as well as its launch vehicle and parts thereof”, which is essential for the discussion regarding state liability for any military or weapons tests in outer space.

GA RES2345 (XXII) Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space

1967

Summary: The Rescue Agreement was concluded in 1967 and entered into force in 1968. The conclusion of the agreement reflected two interests of the US and USSR at the time, which were protections for astronauts and securing their property rights to space objects as they were sending more men and objects to outer space. The Rescue Agreement is highly relevant to the arms race debate since weapons tests and military activities threaten the lives of astronauts and risk causing other space objects to fall back into the Earth.

GA RES2222(XXI) Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

1966

Summary: The Outer Space Treaty was adopted by the General Assembly on the 19th of December 1966 and entered into force on the 10th of October 1967. The three depository governments for this treaty are the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the Soviet Union. This treaty established a foundational framework for international space law and enshrined paramount principles that regulate everyday space activities. It was mainly based on the Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space adopted in 1967. Moreover, the preambles of this treaty are particularly important as the principles laid down are often cited by the UN bodies and member states, and they also help interpret subsequent space treaties.

Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water

1963

Summary: This treaty was concluded in Moscow on the 5th of August 1963 and entered into force on the 10th of October 1963. It is also known as the Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT). The submitters and depository governments of the treaty are also the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union. The PTBT was significant as it banned nuclear weapons tests or any other nuclear explosions from being carried out in areas of global commons. It is notable that this treaty was signed in light of the space race and the development of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM) that can carry an atomic warhead by the United States and the Soviet Union.

[People's Republic of China- Meetings Coverage of 78th and 79th meetings of GA Plenary during 78th Session \(2024\), Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session \(2022\), Meetings Coverage of 22nd meeting of GA First Committee during 77th Session \(2022\), Meetings Coverage of 11th meeting of GA First Committee during 72nd Session \(2017\)](#)

**2017
-2024**

Summary: Summary of statements made by China on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First Committee, Fourth Committee and Plenary during the period from 2017-2024.

[People's Republic of China - Remarks by Ambassador Fu Cong at the UN Security Council on the Draft Resolution on Outer Space Treaty](#)

2024

Summary: Chinese Ambassador Fu Cong explained China's overall vote and vote on the amendment proposed to the draft resolution on Outer Space Security. The amendment that China proposed was to include calling upon all states to take measures to prevent the placement of weapons in outer space and early elaboration of legally binding multilateral agreements. China emphasised that this amendment was based on elements of a GA resolution that was supported by over two-thirds of member states and called for support. However, since this amendment was not adopted, China have decided to abstain from voting on the draft resolution.

The People's Republic of China's views on UNGA Resolution 75/36

2020

Summary: China's position on outer space security, outlined in the document, emphasizes the peaceful use of outer space and opposes the weaponization and arms race in space. Key points include:

1. Commitment to Peaceful Use: China advocates for outer space to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes to benefit humanity.
2. Prevention of Arms Race: China opposes the deployment of weapons in space or the use of space for military conflicts. It supports international negotiations to prevent the weaponization of outer space.
3. Support for International Cooperation: China encourages the international community to strengthen cooperation in space exploration and utilization, particularly through multilateral agreements and initiatives.
4. Proposals for Legally Binding Treaties: China calls for the establishment of legally binding treaties to prevent an arms race in outer space (PAROS), including prohibitions on the placement of weapons in space and the use of force against space objects.
5. Opposition to Unilateral Actions: The document criticizes certain countries for pursuing dominance in space through the development of space weapons, which China views as a threat to global security.
6. Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures: China supports measures that enhance trust and transparency among space-faring nations, such as sharing information about space activities and refraining from provocative actions.

China's position underscores the importance of collective efforts to ensure the peaceful use of space and to address emerging security challenges in this domain.

China's Views on Transparency and Confidence- Building Measures in Space Activities

2017

Summary: China's position on outer space security emphasizes peaceful use, opposing weaponization and arms races. Key points include advocating for exclusive peaceful purposes, preventing space weaponization, promoting international cooperation, proposing legally binding treaties against arms in space, criticizing unilateral actions that threaten security, and supporting transparency and trust-building among nations. China stresses collective efforts to maintain outer space as a domain for the benefit of humanity.

[Australia - Meetings Coverage of the 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session \(2023\), Meetings Coverage of the 11th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during the 72nd Session\) \(2017\)](#)

**2017
-2023**

Summary: Summary of statements made by Australia on preventing arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period of 2017-2023

[Australian Submission to the report of the Secretary-General on Resolution 75/36](#)

2021

Summary: Australia's submission to the UN emphasizes the importance of responsible behaviors in space to reduce threats, enhance security, and promote sustainable use of the space environment. It advocates for transparency, risk reduction measures, adherence to international law, and the development of norms to prevent debris and foster cooperation. Australia highlights space's critical role in economic, societal, and security domains, calling for global collaboration to address emerging challenges and threats.

[Australia Statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission](#)

2018

Summary: Australia, as the chair of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC), emphasizes the unique opportunities in this new three-year cycle to advance focused discussions on disarmament and non-proliferation, aligned with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review cycle. It advocates for targeted outcomes, such as nuclear risk reduction and space transparency measures, highlighting the importance of revisiting and improving the UNDC's methods to deliver meaningful contributions to global disarmament efforts. Australia's priorities include the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), and enhancing transparency and verification.

[Australian Mission to Working Group II - United Nations Disarmament Commission.](#)

2018

Summary: Australia has taken proactive steps to implement measures outlined in the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) report on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures (TCBMs) in outer space. These include publishing an annual State of Space Report to enhance transparency, collaborating with New Zealand on satellite-based systems for positioning, and supporting international cooperation through capacity-building initiatives like geospatial training. Additionally, Australia adheres to international norms such as the Registration Convention for space objects and promotes the peaceful use of space through its Satellite Utilisation Policy. These efforts demonstrate Australia's commitment to advancing space safety, sustainability, and responsible use.

[Egypt \(Arab Group 2020\)- Meetings Coverage of 16th meeting of GA First Committee 78th Session](#)

2023

Summary: This statement highlights Egypt's advocacy for a legally binding international instrument to prevent an arms race in outer space. Egypt stresses the need for a comprehensive framework prohibiting the placement of weapons in space, harmful interference with satellites, and the development or use of space-targeting weaponry. Egypt, alongside Sri Lanka, has submitted a draft proposal on this issue and looks forward to the November meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts, chaired by an Egyptian expert, to advance discussions on creating such an instrument.

[Egypt's views on General Assembly Resolution 75/36\) \(Arabic\)](#)

2021

Summary: Egypt's contribution to the Secretary-General's report highlights key threats to outer space systems, including the militarization of space, orbital debris, cyberattacks, and interference with communication channels. It emphasizes the distinction between responsible and irresponsible behavior, advocating for compliance with international law to maintain space as a secure and sustainable domain. Recommendations include greater transparency, new treaties to prevent weaponization, and international collaboration to mitigate risks and build trust.

[Egypt \(on behalf of the Arab Group\) - United Nations GA 2nd meeting of the First Committee Seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly](#)

2020

Summary: It outlines the Arab Group's priorities and positions on disarmament and international security. The statement emphasizes the need for nuclear disarmament, the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the prevention of an arms race in outer space, cybersecurity, and the illicit trade of conventional weapons. The Arab Group also supports multilateral frameworks under the UN to address these issues and calls for renewed political will to achieve progress.

[Egypt remarks Open-ended Consultations on the GGE on PAROS pursuant to A/72/250](#)

2019

Summary: Egypt's statement underscores the urgency of creating a legally binding treaty to prevent an arms race in outer space (PAROS). It highlights the insufficiency of the existing legal framework in addressing emerging threats due to technological advances and international tensions. The delegation calls for comprehensive prohibitions on weaponizing outer space, interference with satellites, and anti-satellite weapons, emphasizing a behavior-based approach over exhaustive technical listings. Egypt also advocates for robust verification measures, treaty-based transparency, and confidence-building mechanisms, all overseen by an independent multilateral body, to ensure compliance and mitigate risks to peace and security in outer space.

[Brazil - Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session](#)

2022

Summary: The representative of Brazil said that space activities which could be perceived as threats could lead to escalation and militarization. With outer space becoming increasingly congested, the removal of space assets is ever more important to ensure accessibility and safety. Voluntary norms and standards based in the existing legal framework could be the basis for treaty negotiations, he continued. It is vital to ban the use of anti-satellite tests, which create significant debris, contaminate the orbital environment and increase the risk of collisions. Space must remain open, safe and sustainable in the long term, he said, adding that a comprehensive approach aimed at building confidence between States would pave the way for negotiating a legally binding instrument to prevent an arms race in space.

Brazil paper submitted on "Existing and potential threats in Outer Space and behaviors that should be considered responsible, irresponsible and threatening in this environment"

2021

Summary: Brazil emphasizes the importance of maintaining a peaceful, stable, and secure outer space environment, supporting international cooperation and adherence to the Outer Space Treaty. The country advocates for the prevention of an arms race in space, transparency in space activities, and the development of norms and rules to ensure responsible behavior, including the non-placement of weapons in space. Brazil also calls for the establishment of mechanisms to foster dialogue and create a foundation for future legally binding agreements on space security.

Brazil statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Brazil's Position on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space and Space Security

2017

Summary: Brazil emphasizes the importance of adhering to the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, which mandates the peaceful exploration of space in accordance with international law. Recognizing the global reliance on space-based resources, Brazil opposes the weaponization of outer space and advocates for the "no first placement" policy as a confidence-building measure toward a legally binding framework to ensure space remains a peaceful domain. Brazil also highlights the role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in fostering transparency and stresses the importance of international cooperation to expand space access for developing nations through joint projects and resource-sharing.

India- Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session (2022), Meetings Coverage of the 11th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during the 72nd Session) (2017)

2017

-2022

Summary: Summary of statements made by India on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA Fourth Committee during the period from 2017-2022.

**India's views on General Assembly Resolution
A/RES/75/36**

2021

Summary: India advocates for the peaceful use of outer space, focusing on space activities that promote welfare rather than warfare. The country opposes the weaponization of space and supports international cooperation, transparency, and adherence to international law in space activities. India is committed to negotiating a legally binding instrument on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS) and enhancing space debris mitigation efforts to ensure the sustainability and safety of outer space for all nations.

**India statement - United Nations Disarmament
Commission**

2018

Canada views on UN GA A/RES/75/36 Resolution

2021

Summary: Outer space plays a crucial role in global connectivity and security, impacting everything from navigation and communication to environmental monitoring and defense. Canada emphasizes the need for responsible space behavior to prevent threats such as space debris, interference, and damage to space systems. As space becomes more contested and congested, international cooperation and the development of norms for responsible conduct are vital to ensure the safety, sustainability, and peaceful use of space for all nations.

**Canada to the Office of Outer Space Affairs and the
Office of Disarmament Affairs**

2017

Summary: Implementation of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence Building in Outer Space Activities

[Viet Nam \(on behalf of ASEAN\) - United Nations GA 2nd meeting of the First Committee Seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly](#)

2020

Summary: ASEAN, highlights the group's commitment to achieving global nuclear disarmament and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. ASEAN reaffirms its support for key international treaties such as the NPT, CTBT, and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, while also emphasizing the importance of regional security, including a nuclear-weapon-free Southeast Asia. Additionally, ASEAN stresses the need for continued dialogue on the Korean peninsula, addressing the illicit trade of conventional weapons, and advancing cybersecurity, all within the framework of international law and cooperation with the United Nations.

[Chile - Meetings Coverage of 16th meeting of GA First Committee during 78th Session \(2023\), Meetings Coverage of 11th meeting of GA First Committee 72nd Session \(2017\)](#)

2017
-2023

Summary: Summary of statements made by Chile on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First Committee during the period from 2017-2023.

[Chile's views on General Assembly Resolution A/RES/75/36](#)

2020

Summary: Chile underscores the importance of maintaining outer space as a peaceful, secure, and sustainable environment, in line with international agreements, including the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. It highlights the increasing risks posed by space activities, such as space debris and potential collisions, stressing the need for international cooperation and legal frameworks to address these challenges. Chile actively contributes to space security, with initiatives like the National Satellite System (SNSat) and participation in international efforts to prevent an arms race in space and promote the peaceful use of space.

Chile statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: Chile reaffirms its commitment to promoting general and complete disarmament, focusing on nuclear disarmament as the most urgent task due to its catastrophic potential. The country supports transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, advocating for the prevention of an arms race in space. Chile calls for pragmatic and flexible approaches to achieve concrete results in the Disarmament Commission, building on past successes.

Indonesia (NAM) - Meetings Coverage of the 16th meeting of GA First Committee during the 78th Session (2023), Meetings Coverage of 11th meeting of GA First Committee during 72nd Session (2017)

**2017-
2023**

Summary: Summary of statements made by Indonesia on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First Committee during the period from 2017-2023.

Indonesia (NAM) views on UNGA Resolution 75/36

2021

Summary: Indonesia emphasizes that the exploration and use of outer space should be for peaceful purposes, benefiting all nations regardless of development levels, and ensuring space assets remain free from threats. The country highlights the importance of outer space in advancing global development goals, including communication, economic activities, and disaster management, and opposes its militarization or weaponization. Indonesia supports the full implementation of international outer space treaties, the development of responsible behavior norms, and constructive engagement in initiatives like Resolution 75/36 to maintain space as a peaceful, secure, and sustainable environment while allowing for legitimate defense advancements and fostering international cooperation.

**Indonesia (NAM) statement - United Nations
Disarmament Commission**

2018

Summary: The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) emphasizes its commitment to multilateral diplomacy in disarmament and non-proliferation, reaffirming the central role of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) in addressing these issues. NAM calls for Nuclear Weapon States to demonstrate political will and eliminate their arsenals in compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). It highlights the urgent need for progress in nuclear disarmament, the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, and the prevention of an arms race in outer space, advocating for cooperative and transparent efforts to strengthen international peace and security.

**Indonesia statement (on behalf of NAM) during the
2nd Meeting GA First Committee 75th session of the
General Assembly**

2020

Summary: In the statement of Indonesia statement on behalf of the Non-aligned Movement, Indonesia expresses NAM's serious concern "about the negative security consequences related to strategic missile defence systems, which could trigger arms races and promote the development of advanced missile systems and an increase in the number of nuclear weapons. NAM rejects the notion that space is a war-fighting domain and emphasizes the need to urgently commence substantive work in the Conference on Disarmament (CD) on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, among other things."

**Switzerland - Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of
GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session (2022),
Meetings Coverage of the 11th meeting of GA First
Committee during the 72nd Session) (2017)**

**2017
-2022**

Summary: Summary of statements made by Switzerland on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA Fourth and First Committee during the period from 2017-2022.

**South Africa statement - Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space: 63rd Session**

2024

Summary: South Africa highlighted its commitment to the peaceful use of outer space, urging states to join the five UN treaties on outer space and comply with international space law. The country emphasized capacity building through initiatives like the African Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court and academic programs in space studies. It also called for inclusivity and gender equality in space activities while reaffirming its dedication to raising awareness about the legal and political aspects of space law.

**South Africa statement - Open-Ended Working Group
on reducing space threats through norms, rules and
principles of responsible behaviours**

2022

Summary: South Africa emphasized the importance of preserving outer space for peaceful purposes, highlighting its vital role in achieving sustainable development and supporting the African Union's space strategy. The delegation expressed concern over the weaponization of space and the risks posed by space debris, advocating for preventative measures, transparency, and international cooperation. South Africa supports negotiating a legally binding treaty on preventing an arms race in outer space (PAROS) and promoting norms, rules, and responsible behaviors as interim measures to safeguard the peaceful use of space systems.

**South Africa statement - United Nations Disarmament
Commission**

2018

Summary: South Africa reaffirmed its commitment to multilateralism and the UN Disarmament Commission as vital platforms for addressing disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control. It emphasized the need for progress on nuclear disarmament, welcomed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), and criticized the modernization of nuclear arsenals by some states. Additionally, South Africa highlighted the importance of preventing an arms race in outer space through inclusive international cooperation and transparent multilateral processes.

[Mexico remarks in the Open-ended intersessional informal consultative meeting on further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space](#)

2019

Summary: Mexico emphasizes the importance of preserving outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes, citing the 1967 Outer Space Treaty and other international agreements. It expresses concern over the increasing militarization of space, including the development and potential deployment of weapons systems that threaten global security and essential technologies. Mexico advocates for a legally binding prohibition on the weaponization of outer space and supports transparency, confidence-building measures, and international cooperation to ensure space technology is used for the benefit of humanity.

[Iran - Meetings Coverage of the 78th & 79th meetings of GA Plenary of the 78th Session \(2024\), Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session \(2022\)](#)

2022
-2024

Summary: Summary of statements made by Iran on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA Fourth Committee and Plenary during the period from 2022-2024.

[Iran statement - Open-Ended Intersessional - Group of Governmental Experts](#)

2019

[Iran statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission](#)

2018

Summary: The statement underscores the urgency of nuclear disarmament, criticizing nuclear-armed states for their lack of commitment to eliminating nuclear weapons and condemning policies that prioritize national security at the expense of global safety. It advocates for measures to prevent an arms race in outer space and emphasizes the importance of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, specifically urging Israel to join the NPT. The speaker also highlights Iran's compliance with the JCPOA and calls out the U.S. for actions undermining the agreement, stressing the importance of multilateralism and collective responsibility in upholding international commitments.

[France statement - Outer Space: Explanation of Vote to United Nations Security Council](#)

2024

Summary: France voted against the draft resolution due to Russia's obstructionist approach, which undermined the consensus needed for progress. While we support reaffirming the 1967 Treaty, we reject Russia's attempt to impose provisions, such as a space weapons treaty, which lack consensus and complicate negotiations. France remains committed to preventing an arms race in space and advancing dialogue in relevant disarmament forums.

[France - Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session \(2022\), Meetings Coverage of the 11th meeting of GA First Committee during the 72nd Session\) \(2017\)](#)

**2017
-2022**

Summary: Summary of statements made by France on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA Fourth and First Committee during the period from 2017-2022.

[France's views on UNGA Resolution 75/36 \(French\)](#)

2021

Summary: France fully supports the development of international norms for responsible behavior in space to ensure peaceful use and prevent conflicts. Emphasizing the importance of reducing space debris, minimizing misunderstandings during satellite proximity operations, and safeguarding security, France advocates for pragmatic, non-legally binding norms that foster transparency and trust among states. These measures aim to improve space security while maintaining the free and sustainable use of space for all nations.

France statement - Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities **2017**

Summary: France is committed to implementing transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space, emphasizing their importance in maintaining the security and sustainability of space activities. As a member of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures, France supports initiatives like the EU's International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities. The country actively shares space policy information, maintains a national registry of objects in orbit, and contributes to space monitoring and debris management efforts. France also advocates for responsible space behavior and international cooperation to ensure equitable access to space and the long-term sustainability of space activities.

Nigeria (African Group and Non-Aligned Movement) - Meetings Coverage of 16th meeting of GA First Committee during 78th Session (2023), Meetings Coverage of 22nd meeting of GA First Committee during 77th Session (2022) **2022
-2023**

Summary: Summary of statements made by Nigeria on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First Committee during the period from 2022-2023.

Nigeria statement (on behalf of the African Group) - Open-Ended Intersessional on further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space **2018**

Summary: The African Group emphasizes the importance of safeguarding outer space as the common heritage of all mankind, urging that it be free from nuclear weapons and other forms of armament to maintain global peace and security. The Group calls for the establishment of a legally binding treaty to prevent an arms race in outer space (PAROS), which would prohibit the placement of weapons, armed attacks on space objects, and harmful interference with space activities. Additionally, the Group advocates for equal access to outer space for all nations, the promotion of international cooperation, and the development of space technology for peaceful purposes, in line with the African Space Policy and Strategy and the broader objectives of the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Nigeria statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: Nigeria emphasizes the importance of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) as the key forum for addressing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, urging improvements in its working methods. The country advocates for the universalization of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the total elimination of nuclear weapons, expressing support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the establishment of Nuclear Weapon-Free Zones. Additionally, Nigeria highlights the peaceful use of outer space and remains committed to development projects utilizing space technology for the benefit of all nations.

Nigeria statement (on behalf of the African Group) - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: The African Group emphasizes the importance of multilateral diplomacy for addressing disarmament and non-proliferation issues, particularly through the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC). The Group supports the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and advocates for the universalization of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), highlighting the urgent need for nuclear disarmament and the establishment of nuclear weapon-free zones, including in the Middle East. Additionally, the Group stresses the peaceful use of outer space, calls for the mitigation of space debris, and urges the promotion of equal access to space technology for all nations.

Argentina - Meetings coverage of 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session (2023), Meetings coverage of 22nd meeting GA First Committee during the 77th Session (2022), Meetings coverage of 15th meeting GA Fourth Committee during the 77th Session (2022), Meetings coverage of 11th meeting GA First Committee during the 72nd Session (2017)

**2017
-2023**

Summary: Summary of statements made by Argentina on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2017-2023.

Japan statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: Japan reaffirms its commitment to global disarmament, emphasizing the importance of nuclear disarmament, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. It calls for the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, progress on the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty, and increased transparency of nuclear arsenals, while highlighting the need for confidence-building measures and responsible behavior in outer space to ensure its security and sustainability. Japan also stresses the urgent need for global cooperation to address North Korea's nuclear threat and advance disarmament goals.

Japan - Meetings Coverage of 78th and 79th meetings of GA Plenary of the 78th Session

2024

Summary: The statement emphasizes the catastrophic and irreversible consequences of a nuclear detonation in outer space, which would severely hinder sustainable development across all regions on Earth. The resolution proposed by Tokyo and Washington aimed to prevent such a disaster, but Moscow's veto raised concerns about its commitment to the peaceful use and exploration of outer space. The speaker stresses the importance of prioritizing the prevention of placing nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction in space, urging all Member States, including the one that blocked the draft resolution, to support this goal.

Germany - Meetings Coverage of the 78th & 79th meetings of GA Plenary of the 78th Session (2024), Meetings Coverage of 16th meeting of GA First Committee during 78th Session (2023)

**2023
-2024**

Summary: Summary of statements made by Germany on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA Plenary and First Committee during the period from 2023-2024.

[Germany's views on General Assembly Resolution 75/36](#)

2021

Summary: States should prioritize safety in missile and space launch operations, ensuring that satellite and space station operations are not jeopardized, and provide pre-launch notifications to other nations. They should also take measures to avoid space debris creation, seek consent for rendez-vous operations, maintain transparency in proximity operations, and avoid interfering with space systems. Additionally, establishing a national point of contact for space coordination, sharing information on space security policies, and regulating private-sector space actors are important steps to ensure responsible space activities.

[Ecuador - Meetings Coverage of 78th and 79th meetings of GA Plenary of the 78th Session](#)

2024

Summary: Ecuador's representative emphasized the urgency of advancing negotiations for a legally binding agreement aimed at preserving the peaceful nature of outer space and preventing an arms race. They warned that the deployment of nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction in space would have catastrophic and unpredictable consequences, jeopardizing life on Earth and threatening vital space-based infrastructure.

[Ecuador statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission](#)

2018

Summary: Ecuador expressed strong support for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, rejecting any attempts to shift focus away from the total elimination of nuclear weapons. They endorsed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and called for the signing of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty by all Annex 2 countries. Additionally, Ecuador stressed the importance of preventing the militarization of outer space and reaffirming its peaceful use for the benefit of all humanity.

Kazakhstan - Meetings coverage 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session (2023) **2023**

Summary: Kazakhstan emphasized the importance of concluding a legally binding instrument to prevent an arms race in outer space and integrating transparency and confidence-building measures. Highlighting concerns over the militarization of space and anti-satellite weaponry, Kazakhstan endorsed the draft treaty by China and Russia to prevent weapon placement in space. Additionally, it called for adopting UN guidelines on the long-term sustainability of space activities, particularly regarding space debris mitigation.

Kazakhstan statement during discussion on the Report by the Chair of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (morning session) **2019**

Summary: Kazakhstan emphasized the importance of ensuring outer space is used exclusively for peaceful purposes and called for proactive measures to prevent its militarization. The country highlighted the need for a legally binding international treaty, such as the PPWT, to address arms control and restrict military activities in space. Stressing the urgency of cooperation, Kazakhstan committed to active participation in discussions at all levels to safeguard space as a secure and peaceful domain for all nations.

Kazakhstan - Group of Governmental Experts on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (afternoon session) **2019**

Summary: This speech highlights the importance of an effective international legal framework to prevent the militarization of outer space. Key treaties, including the Outer Space Treaty (1967), the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (1963), and others, outline "permitted," "prohibited," and "unregulated" military activities in space. Kazakhstan emphasizes the need to address unregulated activities, such as anti-satellite weapons and military experiments, to prevent space from becoming a domain of armed conflict. The speaker calls for collaborative efforts to finalize and adopt the PPWT to ensure outer space remains peaceful.

Explanation of Vote by United Kingdom Political Coordinator Fergus Eckersley at the UN Security Council meeting on non-proliferation

2024

Summary: The United Kingdom stated its dedication to preventing an arms race through introducing a GA resolution aiming to establish norms, rules and principles of responsible behavior in 2023, as well as supporting the draft resolution introduced by the US and Japan in 2024. The UK showed its disappointment and frustration that the resolution was not passed and highlighted how Russia was uncooperative and recently withdrawn and violated various treaties. The UK believes that space security is a matter of urgency and calls for more serious discussions on the issue.

United Kingdom - Meetings coverage of 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session (2023), Meetings coverage of 15th meeting GA Fourth Committee during the 77th Session (2022)

**2022
-2023**

Summary: Summary of statements made by the United Kingdom on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2022-2023.

United Kingdom contribution to the implementation of Resolution 70/53 concerning transparency and confidence building measures in outer space activities.

2017

Summary: The United Kingdom strongly supports transparency and confidence-building measures (TCBMs) to ensure the safety, security, and sustainability of outer space activities. Since contributing to the 2013 Group of Governmental Experts report, the UK has implemented various initiatives, including revising national space policies, fostering international collaboration, and promoting responsible space behavior. Recognizing the growing importance of space capabilities, the UK continues to advocate for adherence to international treaties, development of technical standards, and constructive dialogue to address the evolving challenges of space activity.

**Morocco - Meetings coverage 78th and 79th meeting
GA Plenary during the 78th Session**

2024

Summary: Morocco's representative emphasized the urgency of regulating State behavior in outer space to prevent anarchy that could lead to large-scale conflict. He advocated for regulations prioritizing peaceful dispute resolution and deterring aggressive actions. Highlighting national achievements, he noted Morocco's launch of two satellites (2017 and 2018) as part of a strategic development plan leveraging space technology for socioeconomic and sustainable growth. Regionally, Morocco collaborates with African nations to enhance space capabilities, notably through the UN-affiliated African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology in Rabat.

**Costa Rica - Meetings coverage 16th meeting GA First
Committee during the 78th Session (2023), Meetings
coverage 17th meeting GA Fourth Committee during
the 77th Session (2022)**

2022

-2023

Summary: Summary of statements made by the Costa Rica on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2022-2023.

**Republic of Korea - Meetings coverage 15th GA Fourth
Committee during the 77th Session**

2022

Summary: The Republic of Korea's representative affirmed the nation's commitment to the Open-ended Working Group process and alignment with the joint statement by the United Kingdom. She highlighted the country's advancements in space capacity and its dedication to strengthening international cooperation for the peaceful and sustainable use of outer space. The Republic of Korea's space activities, she emphasized, adhere fully to these principles.

[Republic of Korea's National Report on the UNGA Resolution A/RES/75/36](#)

2021

Summary: The Republic of Korea emphasizes the importance of maintaining safety, security, and sustainability in space as human activities expand into this domain, with space-based services being vital for both daily life and national defense. While acknowledging the challenges posed by space hazards and threats, the country advocates for transparent, responsible behavior and international cooperation to prevent an arms race in outer space. The ROK supports efforts to define threats and responsible actions as a step toward establishing legally binding space security norms.

[Italy - Meetings coverage 22nd meeting GA First Committee during the 77th Session](#)

2022

Summary: Italy's representative highlighted that the growth of dual-use technologies, which serve both military and civilian purposes, complicates the protection of space assets and the identification of threats. As space becomes more congested, contested, and competitive, space security has evolved into a global issue tied not only to military concerns but also to economic and social stability on Earth.

[Algeria statement - Open-ended inter-sessional informal consultative meeting on further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in Outer Space](#)

2019

Summary: Algeria expressed support for the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) and its efforts to develop a legally binding instrument to prevent an arms race in outer space, particularly regarding the placement of weapons in space. Highlighting space as a global heritage, Algeria called for its peaceful use in line with international laws, especially the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. The country stressed the need for stronger legal frameworks to prevent an arms race and welcomed UN initiatives promoting transparency, confidence-building measures, and the prevention of militarization in space.

[Algeria - Meetings coverage 11th meeting GA First Committee during the 72nd Session](#)

2017

Summary: Algeria's representative, aligning with the Arab Group and the Non-Aligned Movement, emphasized the significant economic and scientific role of outer space, noting that Algeria uses its space program to support sustainable development across various sectors. He stressed that space should remain a peaceful domain for all and called for international cooperation under the Outer Space Treaty. He expressed concern about the militarization of space, warning of the risks of an arms race and its potential negative impact on international peace, security, and socioeconomic development, while advocating for UN regulation of all space activities.

[Venezuela - Meetings coverage 11th meeting GA First Committee during the 72nd Session](#)

2017

Summary: Venezuela highlighted the risks outer space poses to international peace and security, advocating for negotiated agreements to address these concerns. The country criticized space activities, particularly the deployment of spy satellites, which it believes undermine State sovereignty, and supported the China-Russia initiative to prevent an arms race in space, noting Venezuela's collaboration with China to launch satellites for economic development.

[Philippines - Meetings coverage 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session \(2023\), Meetings coverage 22nd meeting GA First Committee during the 77th Session \(2022\)](#)

2022
-2023

Summary: Summary of statements made by the Philippines (ASEAN) on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2022-2023.

Statement by Philippines (on behalf of ASEAN) at the 2023 Substantive session of UN Disarmament Commission (3 April 2023) on Nuclear Weapons and Outer Space

2023

Summary: ASEAN reaffirmed its support for the group of governmental experts and emphasised that many ASEAN member states have contributed to the open-ended working group (OWEG). Apart from highlighting the need for shared understanding and acceptance of norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours, ASEAN also encouraged the strengthening of capacity-building programmes. Note: Delegates may briefly scan through the “Nuclear Weapons” section where ASEAN iterated its support for a world free of nuclear weapons and focus more on the “Outer space” section.

Philippines (on behalf of ASEAN) - Session of the United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: This statement, delivered on behalf of the ASEAN Member States, emphasizes the group's support for the preservation and strengthening of disarmament machinery, including the Conference on Disarmament and the United Nations Disarmament Commission. ASEAN advocates for multilateralism in addressing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, supporting regional nuclear-weapon-free zones and global treaties such as the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. On space security, ASEAN stresses the importance of preventing an arms race in outer space, promoting transparency, confidence-building measures, and international cooperation, as well as addressing the issue of space debris.

Philippines statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: The Philippines expresses its full cooperation for the success of the UN Disarmament Conference and supports the consensus outcome on conventional weapons from the previous year. The country calls for concrete recommendations on nuclear disarmament and outer space, highlighting the need for progress on the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the upcoming 2020 Review Conference. The Philippines reaffirms its commitment to a nuclear-weapon-free world, supports the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and advocates for denuclearization in the Korean Peninsula. On outer space, the Philippines aligns with ASEAN, opposing the arms race in space and supporting resolutions aimed at preventing weaponization.

Remarks Delivered by US Deputy Permanent Representative Alison Strove on the Prevention of an arms race in outer space.

2024

Summary: The United States sought support for the UN Security Council draft resolution that they drafted with Japan. (this was later vetoed by Russia). The US highlighted the importance of compliance with the existing legal framework regulating space activities and called for a universalization of the Outer Space Treaty.

Note: Please see short statements by the US regarding their view on UNSC draft resolution vetoes in the UN Press documents located at the section "Official UN Resources on the topic".

United States - Meetings coverage 78th & 79th meeting GA Plenary during the 78th Session (2024), Meetings coverage 22nd meeting GA First Committee during the 77th Session (2022), Meetings coverage 15th meeting GA Fourth Committee during the 77th Session (2022), Meetings coverage 11th meeting GA First Committee during the 72nd Session (2017)

2017
-2024

Summary: Summary of statements made by the United States on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA Plenary, First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2017-2024.

United States statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: The United States delegation congratulates the Chairperson and the Bureau of the 2018 UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) and offers full support for their work. The U.S. emphasizes the return of great power competition, particularly from Russia and China, and the destabilizing nuclear and missile activities of North Korea and Iran. The U.S. advocates for a new approach to nuclear disarmament (CCND) to foster conditions for progress, while also highlighting the importance of transparency and confidence-building measures (TCBMs) in outer space, especially in the face of rising anti-satellite weapons. The U.S. encourages constructive dialogue, bilateral and multilateral TCBMs, and calls for continued multilateral cooperation to achieve disarmament goals.

[United States views on General Assembly resolutions 70/53 and 71/42](#) **2017**

Summary: The United States responds positively to the request for views on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, as outlined in General Assembly resolutions 70/53 and 71/42. It had previously submitted its views to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the Conference on Disarmament. Additionally, the United States co-sponsored resolutions 70/53 and 71/42, alongside China and the Russian Federation, encouraging regular discussions in relevant UN bodies to explore the implementation of these measures.

[Ghana - Meetings coverage 78th & 79th meeting GA Plenary during the 78th Session](#) **2024**

Summary: Ghana's delegate emphasized the importance of strengthening the existing legal framework and establishing norms to prevent potential conflicts in space. He called for the clarification of dual-use space capabilities, which often blur the line between peaceful and military uses. Rejecting any justification for the weaponization of outer space, he firmly stated that outer space should not become a domain for militarization, including the testing of weapons, conducting military exercises, or the installation of nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction.

[Ghana statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission](#) **2018**

Summary: Ghana's delegate emphasized the importance of nuclear disarmament, urging full exploration of measures for the elimination of nuclear weapons and supporting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Ghana also stressed the need for responsible use of outer space, highlighting the importance of international cooperation, transparency, and confidence-building measures to ensure peaceful space activities and prevent weaponization. The country reaffirmed the UNDC's role in fostering disarmament and multilateral approaches to global security challenges.

Cuba - Meetings coverage 11th meeting GA First Committee during the 72nd Session

2017

Summary: Cuba warned that the militarization of outer space poses a significant threat to humanity and called for international efforts to prevent an arms race in space. Cuba emphasized the need for a legal instrument to address this issue and urged Member States to support the Russian Federation-China proposal, while stressing that outer space should be accessible to all countries, not just a select few.

Cuba statement - United Nations Disarmament Commission

2018

Summary: Cuba fully supports the statement made by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and congratulates the President of the Disarmament Commission. Cuba emphasizes that nuclear disarmament must be a priority, highlighting the importance of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which it supports for universalization. Cuba also advocates for the urgent establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the Middle East and stresses the need for a treaty to prevent the placement of weapons in outer space, supporting the Russian-Chinese proposal in this regard. Cuba underscores the importance of international cooperation and transparency to prevent an arms race in space.

Cuba's views on General Assembly resolution 70/53

2017

Summary: Cuba supports General Assembly resolution 70/53 on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities, emphasizing their importance in strengthening international peace and security. Cuba advocates for further transparency measures, including international conferences to verify compliance with existing agreements, reviewing legal frameworks, and promoting multilateral agreements for the exchange of space-related information. Additionally, Cuba calls for the urgent adoption of a treaty to prevent the placement of weapons in outer space, stressing that the weaponization of space is unacceptable and that confidence-building measures should complement, not replace, a stronger legal regime for space activities.

Malawi statement during the General Debate of the First Committee of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly

2018

Malaysia - Meetings coverage 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session

2023

Summary: Speaking on behalf of ASEAN, it was stressed that there is an urgent need for negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for a legally binding instrument to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the prohibition of weapons placement and the use of force against space objects. Regret was expressed over the failure of the Open-Ended Working Group to adopt a substantive outcome, and caution was raised against parallel processes that may challenge smaller states. Recognizing progress by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the need for a universal, inclusive multilateral approach to space issues was emphasized, with particular focus on addressing space debris, strengthening capacity-building, and ensuring equal access to space for all countries, especially developing ones.

Netherlands - Meetings coverage 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session (2023), Meetings coverage 22nd meeting GA First Committee during the 77th Session (2022), Meetings coverage 15th meeting GA Fourth Committee during the 77th Session (2022)

**2022
-2023**

Summary: Summary of statements made by the Netherlands on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2022-2023.

Dominican Republic (on behalf of SICA) statement during the General Debate of the First Committee 77th Session of the General Assembly

2022

Summary: The SICA Member States reaffirm their commitment to global peace, disarmament, and nuclear non-proliferation. They emphasize the importance of preventing illicit arms trade, supporting nuclear disarmament, and promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy. They also stress the need for international cooperation on security challenges, including cyber threats, anti-personnel mines, and military spending, while encouraging dialogue and diplomacy to resolve global conflicts.

Nicaragua statement (on behalf of SICA) during the 2nd Meeting GA First Committee 75th session of the General Assembly

2020

Summary: Mr. Hermida Castillo, speaking on behalf of the eight SICA member states, emphasized the importance of multilateralism in addressing global challenges, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. He reaffirmed their commitment to peace, security, disarmament, and non-proliferation, highlighting efforts to combat illicit arms trafficking and promote nuclear disarmament. The statement also stressed the need for international cooperation on disarmament, the reduction of military spending, and support for global stability through the implementation of treaties and disarmament measures, including the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and initiatives to address the humanitarian impact of anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions.

Pakistan - Meetings Coverage of the 78th & 79th meetings of GA Plenary of the 78th Session (2024), Meetings Coverage of 16th meeting of GA First Committee during 78th Session (2023), Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session (2022), Meetings Coverage of 11th meeting of GA First Committee during 72nd Session (2017)

**2017
-2023**

Summary: Summary of statements made by Pakistan on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2017-2023.

Russian Federation - Meetings Coverage of 78th and 79th meetings of GA Plenary during 78th Session (2024), Meetings Coverage of 16th meeting of GA First Committee during 78th Session (2023), Meetings Coverage of 22nd meeting of GA First Committee during 77th Session (2022), Meetings Coverage of 15th meeting of GA Fourth Committee during 77th Session (2022), Meetings Coverage of 11th meeting of GA First Committee during 72nd Session (2017)

**2017
-2024**

Summary: Summary of statements made by the Russian Federation on preventing an arms race in outer space in the GA First and Fourth Committee during the period from 2017-2024.

Russian Federation - Addendum to section IV of document A/72/65

2017

Summary: The Russian Federation fully supports the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, emphasizing the importance of safety and security in space. They have proposed measures for regulating space operations and advocated for international collaboration, including the creation of an information platform for situational awareness in near-Earth space. Russia also stresses the significance of transparency in space activities as a means to prevent an arms race in space and calls for the development of a legally binding treaty on the prevention of space weaponization. Additionally, Russia continues to promote its initiative to prevent the placement of weapons in outer space, which has gained significant international support.

Cameroon statement (on behalf of the Group of African States) the 2nd meeting GA First Committee of the 75th Session of the General Assembly

2020

Summary: The Group of African States highlights the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the erosion of the disarmament and non-proliferation regime. They emphasize the importance of multilateral diplomacy in addressing nuclear disarmament and the need for concrete measures to eliminate nuclear weapons, reinforcing their commitment to nuclear-weapon-free zones, particularly the Treaty of Pelindaba. The Group calls for the implementation of international commitments, including the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, and stresses the urgency of nuclear-weapon states ceasing the modernization of their arsenals.

Paraguay statement - Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities

2017

Summary: The Government of Paraguay acceded to the Outer Space Treaty through the promulgation of Act No. 5740 on 18 November 2016, which entered into force in December 2016. Additionally, the government established the Paraguay Space Agency under Act No. 5151 in 2014, which is tasked with promoting and managing national space activities, fostering technological innovation, and ensuring the peaceful use of outer space. The Agency is responsible for developing national space policies and is currently working on a national satellite infrastructure project, with its National Space Activities Programme still under development.

Jordan (Arab Group) - Meetings Coverage of the 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session

2023

Summary: Speaking on behalf of the Arab Group, Jordan condemned Israeli aggression in Gaza and called for a ceasefire to allow humanitarian aid. The Group emphasized the importance of using outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes, advocating for the prohibition of weapons in space and the development of international agreements to regulate outer space use. The Group called for a legally binding instrument on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS), which would ban attack and defensive weapons in space, and highlighted the need for multilateral verification mechanisms, particularly benefiting developing countries. They also expressed regret over the lack of consensus on the draft resolution to reduce space threats through responsible behavior norms.

Jordan (Arab Group) statement Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities

2018

Summary: Space-borne systems and applications are essential for modern life, supporting scientific knowledge, national security, and global economic interests. However, challenges such as orbital congestion, space debris, and collision risks threaten space safety and sustainability. To address these, many nations are pursuing transparency and confidence-building measures (TCBMs) to promote openness and reduce tensions in space. TCBMs have proven effective in other areas, like nuclear disarmament, and can help in space by increasing trust through information-sharing, dialogue, and multilateral cooperation, particularly in tackling issues like debris, situational awareness, and collision avoidance. Efforts like the Group of Governmental Experts and the proposed international code of conduct aim to create non-binding guidelines to enhance space safety and prevent accidents or conflicts.

Sweden - Meetings Coverage of the 16th meeting GA First Committee during the 78th Session

2017

Summary: Sweden's representative emphasized that progress in both legally binding and non-legally binding measures for responsible behavior in outer space can be achieved in a complementary and sustained way. He suggested that agreeing on norms, rules, and principles of responsible behavior is the best approach, while still leaving room for future legally binding measures. He also expressed support for having a single working group to explore both types of measures, as creating two separate groups might lead to redundant efforts.

[Sweden Submission following UN General Assembly Resolution 75/36](#)

2021

Summary: Sweden's representative emphasized the importance of multilateral efforts to strengthen space security and prevent an arms race in outer space. Sweden supports voluntary norms and principles for responsible state behavior, including measures to prevent space debris, improve transparency, and reduce risks of conflict. The country advocates for continued international discussions to establish guidelines for space operations and improve cooperation on space situational awareness.

[New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade: Statement delivered by Permanent Representative, H.E. Ms. Carolyn Schwalger.](#)

2024

Summary: New Zealand highlighted the advantages of passing Resolution 76/262 i.e. Draft Resolution on the Prevention of an arms race in outer space, which includes ensuring accountability and compliance with international law, as well as preventing an arms race. New Zealand expresses its regret that Russia exercised its veto against this resolution.

[United Arab Emirates - statement at the UN General Assembly Meeting on the Use of the veto in the UN Security Council](#)

2024

Summary: United Arab Emirates expressed its regret that the Security Council Resolution was not passed and gave a few suggestions on the potential consideration of another resolution. UAE proposed adopting the first resolution which was not passed previously, reaffirming the rights of member states in using and exploring outer space, as well as addressing existing efforts by member states.

[Republic of Ethiopia at the General Statement of the First Committee of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly](#)

2021

Summary: Ethiopia raised awareness about the issue of accessibility by states with underdeveloped space science and technologies. Ethiopia established the Space Science and Technology Institute in support of its national development agenda and hopes to see more international collaboration to ensure transparency and accountability on space activities, as well as to prevent weaponization.

(Note: Please only read pp. 2-3)

Statements

[EU Statement on Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space](#) **2024**

Summary: The European Union reaffirmed the applicability of International space law instruments to the region and encouraged more states to ratify these treaties. The main point of the statement is to state the EU's belief that the best measure is to develop norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours to address current challenges. The EU also highlighted the importance of trust and confidence-building measures, as well as sharing information.

[International Committee of the Red Cross: IHL Contributes to the prevention of an arms race in outer space](#) **2024**

Summary: The ICRC provided a humanitarian perspective on the prevention of an arms race in outer space to the group of governmental experts. The humanitarian organization urged the new international legally binding instrument to recall that international law such as the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the UN Charter applies to outer space. The ICRC also highlighted the risk of outer space military operations in causing civilian harm and loss, as well as explaining how the IHL could provide civilians with the necessary protection.

[ICRC: A human-centred approach to outer space security: how to boost UN efforts in the near-term](#) **2023**

Summary: The ICRC echoed the Secretary-General's call for 'human-centred disarmament' and advocated for such an approach in outer space security. The article suggested ways human-centered disarmament can be applied to outer space such as implementing measures aimed at preventing the damage and destruction of space objects. The ICRC believes that a human-centred approach would meaningfully advance outer space security as it facilitates quicker agreements on measures with the greatest immediate impact.

**Conference on Disarmament, EU Statement in
Subsidiary Body 3: Prevention of an arms race in outer
space**

2022

Summary: This statement included a detailed explanation of the European Union's stance on various proposed solutions and recent activities, especially ASAT tests in outer space. The European Union condemned Russia for conducting ASAT tests and called on all states including the United States to refrain from conducting them. They showed concern for the space debris issue and the safety of astronauts and encouraged the promotion of the application of IHL and human rights law in outer space. Delegates should also note how the EU highlighted although the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation of 2022 (HCoC) was not designed for outer space, it could provide guidance on creating transparency and confidence-building measures.

**Written statement submitted by ASEAN to the open-
ended working group on reducing space threats through
norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours**

2022

Summary: ASEAN highlighted the group's stance and past actions on the issue of space security. They call for the creation of legally binding instruments and the establishment of capacity-building programmes. ASEAN also included a brief description of the space security workshops organised by the ASEAN Regional Forum.

**ICRC: A human-centred approach to outer space
security: how to boost UN efforts in the near-term**

2023

Summary: The ICRC echoed the Secretary-General's call for 'human-centred disarmament' and advocated for such an approach in outer space security. The article suggested ways human-centered disarmament can be applied to outer space such as implementing measures aimed at preventing the damage and destruction of space objects. The ICRC believes that a human-centred approach would meaningfully advance outer space security as it facilitates quicker agreements on measures with the greatest immediate impact.

Political Groups

[NATO: NATO's approach to space](#)

2024

Summary: NATO provided an overview of how space is critical to the allies of the organization and their past efforts or policies in space. NATO then explained their current approach to space and highlighted that they have no intention to put weapons in space. They also provided some details of ongoing space projects and initiatives.

[NATO Review: Hybrid Warfare - New Threats, Complexity, and 'Trust' as the Antidote](#)

2021

Summary: The Review provided a detailed overview of what hybrid warfare is and the challenges it imposes on regional or international security. In light of the complexity of hybrid warfare, the author explained why building trust is key to overcoming hybrid threats.

Regional Groups

[Federation of American Scientists: How do you clean up 170 million pieces of space junk?](#)

2023

Summary: This article by the Federation of American Scientists included different methods of debris management technologies, as well as 3 key findings on how space debris should be cleaned up or mitigated in outer space. The issue of space debris is key to the discussion on military tests in outer space, as well as the possibility of causing misunderstandings between states in an event of a collision.

[NASA: The Artemis Accords](#)

2020

Summary: The Artemis Accords is a multilateral agreement signed by 43 like-minded states, which included principles for cooperation in the civil exploration and use of the moon, mars, comets and asteroids for peaceful purposes. Signatories are politically committed to the established principles enclosed in the Accords. Also, the Artemis Accords allow for the implementation of important principles from the outer space treaty and other legal instruments.

[Mental Peace Palace Library: Space Law research guidehealth of Adolescents](#)

2024

Summary: The Peace Palace Library is a popular site used by legal scholars, academics and researchers. Their selective bibliography section includes credited resources that may serve as a starting point for your research in space law and policy.

[Roxanne Pope, Space Weapons and the Increasing Militarisation of Outer Space: Whether the Legal Framework is fit-for-purpose \(Auckland University Law Review\)](#)

2021

Summary: This paper provides a detailed account of current problems in both international and domestic space law regimes, and argues that the existing legal framework is unfit for purpose in preventing the weaponization of outer space and overcoming modern-day challenges.

[Harvard International Review: Anti-Satellite Weapons and the Emerging Space Arms Race](#)

2020

Summary: The article provides a detailed history and development of anti-satellite weapons (ASATs), then explains why ASATs pose great danger in various aspects. It concludes by analyzing and giving comments on recent efforts in mitigating or preventing the arms race.

[Rethinking State Responsibility in International Space "Environmental" Law: A Case for Collective Responsibility for Space Debris Prevention](#)

2013

Summary: This paper scrutinizes the current international law framework in preventing space debris. It proposes having collective responsibility of all space actors through a "Protocol on Collective Responsibility in the Prevention of Space Debris' ". As military tests generate countless space debris, delegates may consider imposing deterrence on states through international environmental law or space law.

[Security Council Report: Vote on Draft Resolution on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space](#)

2024

Summary: On the 20th of May 2024, the draft resolution on the prevention of an arms race in outer space prepared by the Russian Federation was put into a vote at the Security Council. The draft resolution was not passed due to a veto by Russia. This report includes the background and negotiations surrounding the draft resolution.

[Security Council Report: Vote on Draft Resolution on Weapons of Mass Destruction in Outer Space.](#)

2024

Summary: On the 24th of April 2024, the draft resolution on weapons of mass destruction prepared by the United States and Japan was put into a vote at the Security Council. The draft resolution was not passed due to a veto by Russia. This report includes the background and negotiations surrounding the draft resolution.

[Centre for Emerging Technology and Security: The Role of the Space Domain in the Russia-Ukraine War](#)

2024

Summary: This article first explains the significance of space objects to national militaries and how space has become an important arena for strategic competition. Then, it elaborates on how space technology played a role in the Russo-Ukrainian War from the perspective of Ukraine, with a particular emphasis on help from commercial ventures. An overview of important events related to space technology was also highlighted. Lastly, the article argued that there is a wider competition for technological advantage between military powers, with a focus on the digital and AI revolution on the battlefield.

[United States National Air and Space Museum: What was the Space Race](#)

2023

Summary: The article provides a detailed description and explanation of the space race during the Cold War. Delegates are encouraged to study the history and origins of the arms race to understand the developments of the issue.

[MEHR News Agency: Iran calls for preventing arms race in outer space](#)

2023

Summary: The news report included Iran’s statement addressing the United Nations Disarmament Commission on the prevention of an arms race in outer space and nuclear weapon program. Iran expressed their concern for the increasing threat of weaponizing outer space and urged for the conclusion of an effective and legally binding instrument. It also highlighted how “US activities and those of other actors” have hindered efforts in disarmament and ensuring international security, and denied allegations of Iran’s development of nuclear program or defensive missile program.

[The Arctic Institute: Space Infrastructure for a Sustainable Arctic](#)

2022

Summary: This article explains the importance of space infrastructures for a sustainable Arctic Region and addressing climate change. It provides an overview of challenges faced by space infrastructures and how they may threaten activities regarding the Arctic Region. Lastly, the article discussed the role of the Arctic Council and emphasised the importance of cooperation between states. Space infrastructures play a vital role in the militarization of outer space, and its further implications should be considered.

[Canadian Global Affairs Institute: Arms Control in Outer Space: Mission Impossible or Unrealized Potential?](#)

2020

Summary: The article gives a broad overview and scrutiny of various international treaties or instruments surrounding outer space. It addresses the Ford Statement with more detail and provides proposals for space arms control. The author then criticises Canada’s engagement with citizens and other nations in tackling the problem.