



# **SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS**

**SGAC Statement at the  
63rd Annual Session of the Legal Subcommittee  
of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**Agenda Item 12  
General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management.**

**Recorded by:  
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Thank you, Honourable Chair.

The Space Generation Advisory Council, SGAC, remains committed to its mission of representing the voice of the young generation within the global space community, advocating for the sustainable and peaceful use of outer space. In this spirit, we are delighted to submit our inputs on the legal aspects of space traffic management for consideration by this Honourable Committee.

The rapid proliferation of large constellations of satellites in Low Earth Orbit, among other critical issues, underscores the urgency of decisive action. While offering unparalleled benefits in global connectivity, these constellations worsen the risks of collisions and space debris, strain the finite radio frequency spectrum, and might also endanger astronomical observations through light pollution and radio frequency interference. These challenges spotlight the pressing need for an inclusive and comprehensive approach to space traffic management and the preservation of Dark and Quiet Skies.

Recognising the paramount importance of space sustainability for our collective future, at the 61st session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee SGAC presented a groundbreaking report promoting an "Intergenerational Pact for Space Sustainability" (IPASS). This Report provides the united vision of the space youth for a sustainable and resilient space environment, advocating for global unity in addressing space sustainability challenges. It identifies crucial topics for policymakers to consider on the long-term viability of space activities and explores various strategies to achieve it through our proposed Pact. While the complete IPASS Report is accessible on the SGAC website, we have distilled a concise summary of its recommendations in a conference room paper available for consideration by Delegations.

One of the critical areas our team has emphasised is Space Traffic Management, including the preservation of Dark & Quiet Skies. In this regard we underscore the importance of two key goals:

- 1) Regular exchange and utilisation of lessons learned from national, regional, and international endeavours towards adopting and enforcing shared standards and best practices for space traffic management. This is essential for maintaining safe and sustainable orbital pathways.
- 2) Developing and implementing measures to mitigate light pollution and radio frequency interference, in cooperation with the International Telecommunication

Union (ITU), to safeguard our night skies and ensure the integrity of astronomical observations.

We acknowledge that achieving these objectives requires a multifaceted approach. The international community currently leverages a mix of national and international instruments, binding and non-binding, to tackle space sustainability challenges. Our proposed Pact is designed to be flexible, advocating for three pillars:

1. **Creating Binding Agreements** to formalise commitments to space sustainability,
2. **Promoting Technological Advancements** to enhance the safety and efficiency of space operations, and
3. **Global Educational and Advocacy Programs** to raise awareness and foster a culture of responsibility among all space actors.

The Summit of the Future organised by the Secretary General of the United Nations offers us a unique opportunity to solidify global consensus on key urgent actions for space sustainability. Following the release of the IPASS Report, in connection with the ongoing negotiations for the Pact for the Future SGAC is promoting an Intergenerational Dialogue for Space Sustainability. At the last session of the STSC, we had the pleasure of beginning this Dialogue during a side event on Space, Youth, and Future Generations, which we co-hosted with the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Government of Austria. This event underscored the importance of making binding commitments for the sustainability of space in collaboration with youth-led organisations and bearing in mind the interests of future generations. We continued this Dialogue at the Policy Symposium organised by UNOOSA and the Government of Portugal, which hosted a dedicated youth session on intergenerational sustainability.

Looking ahead to the next events in preparation for the Summit of the Future, we invite all Member States and Observers to work together with us to define and implement the Intergenerational Pact for Space Sustainability, paving the way for a prosperous and sustainable space environment that future generations will inherit and further enrich.

Thank you for your attention. We look forward to your support in defining and implementing this critical pact, and to working with you in our common endeavour to ensure space sustainability.