

Space for Youth Competition

***Organized by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)
in collaboration with the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC)***

Description

This joint project is a collaboration between the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), proposed in the context of supporting the first priority of the UN Youth Strategy (launched in September 2018), namely “Engagement, Participation and Advocacy to Amplify youth voices for the promotion of a peaceful, just and sustainable world”.

What is the UN Youth Strategy?

At the United Nations level, youth development and youth engagement are cross-cutting issues in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The role of Youth has also been acknowledged at the UN level through Security Council Resolutions 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018), acknowledging that young people play an important and positive role in the realization of sustainable development, in the prevention of crises and in the advancement of peace.

The Strategy aims to facilitate increased impact and expanded global, regional and country-level action to address the needs, build the agency and advance the rights of young people in all their diversity around the world. The Strategy works to ensure their engagement and participation in the implementation, review and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as other relevant global agendas and frameworks.

The Strategy also recognizes that young people’s empowerment, development and engagement is an end in itself, as well as a means to build a better world. The UN cannot achieve its mission without partnering with young people and ensuring they are not only heard but understood, not only engaged but empowered, and not only supporting but leading global efforts and processes. Young people need to be full-fledged partners in the United Nations work to build a better world for all, as they are both beneficiaries and partners.

Find out more about UN Youth Strategy:

<https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/youth-un/>

What is the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs?

The United Nations have a long legacy in space. Established by the UN General Assembly in 1958, one year after Sputnik, the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) has been working with the space community in the peaceful use of the outer space environment for over 60 years.

UNOOSA conducts a wide range of activities along with serving as the secretariat for the General Assembly's only committee dealing exclusively with international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space: the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (see webpage for further information <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/index.html>).

UNOOSA is also responsible for implementing the Secretary-General's responsibilities under international space law and maintaining the United Nations Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space.

To build capacity, UNOOSA conducts international workshops, training courses and pilot projects on topics that include remote sensing, satellite navigation, satellite meteorology, tele-education and basic space sciences for the benefit of developing nations. Moreover, UNOOSA provides a range of opportunities for non-space faring nations to access the space environment together with global partners.

For more information: <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/index.html>

What is the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC)?

The Space Generation Advisory Council is a global non-governmental, non-profit (US 501(c)3) organisation and network which aims to represent university students and young space professionals ages 18-35 to the United Nations, space agencies, industry, and academia. Headquartered in Vienna, Austria, the SGAC network of members, volunteers and alumni has grown to more than 15 000 members representing more than 150 countries.

SGAC was conceived at UNISPACE III in 1999, whereby states resolved, as part of the Vienna Declaration, "To create a council to support the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, through raising awareness and exchange of fresh ideas by youth. The vision is to employ the creativity and vigour of youth in advancing humanity through the peaceful uses space". SGAC holds Permanent Observer status at the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and regularly takes part in the annual meeting, as well as its Legal and Scientific and Technical Subcommittees. SGAC holds consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council, contributing to discussions on the role of space in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Learn more about SGAC: <https://spacegeneration.org>

What are the objectives of this project:

- To run a competition aimed at engaging youth in the global discussion by gathering examples of space supporting Sustainable Development Goals.
- To amplify the voices of youth in space to the members of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

- To bring the perspectives of youth on how space is supporting Sustainable Development Goals.

This is your chance to have your voice heard at the international space community level at large and to show how the next generation of students and young professionals can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through space applications.

What are the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 SDGs, which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

Find out more about all 17 SDGs:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

Find out more about space and sustainable development:

<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/benefits-of-space/sustainable-development.html>

Find out more about SGAC and the SDGs:

<https://spacegeneration.org/united-nations/sdgs>

How to Apply?

To apply, please register through the [Space for Youth Competition Form](#)

For details you should follow the competition guidelines below.

The competition is organised in 2 rounds:

First, you will have to select one of the [17 SDGs](#) on which you would like to focus your submission (for 1st Round and 2nd Round). For the first round, you will have to submit a 3-minute video explaining how space can contribute to the SDGs in general and SDG of your choice. Your video will be evaluated by a Selection Committee, who will select the participants to the second round. For the second round, the selected participants will have to submit a paper expanding on the first's round questions.

Guidelines

Eligibility

1. The competition is open to all students and young professionals from any Member States of the United Nations.
2. All participants shall be of the age between 18 to 35 inclusive (up to the day of your 36th birthday) **on 1 February 2018**.
3. The competition is open to individuals - no team submission is allowed.
4. Competition organizers and judges are not eligible for this award.

1st Round: Video submission

Submit the link to a 3-minute video uploaded on YouTube in which you reply to the following questions:

- 1) In your opinion, how can space contribute to the SDGs in general?
- 2) In particular, how has space contributed to one SDG of your choice? Provide example(s) from activities you are familiar with.
- 3) How could these examples be built upon and expanded in the future?

Rules:

- Your video should not exceed 3 minutes.
- The language of all submissions shall be English.
- Film yourself clearly visible.
- Your video should be uploaded on YouTube and you should submit the link of the video via the [Space for Youth Competition Form](#).
- All submissions shall be made by 22 March, 23:59 GMT for the 1st Round. Any submissions after the deadline will not be considered. In case of lack of quality of submissions, the Selection Committee has the right to extend and/or cancel the competition.
- (In exceptional circumstances a script of the video can be submitted.)
- The title of your video should be **“First Name_Last Name_SDGs Number_Space for Youth”**

After the 1st Round, a Selection Committee will review and announce the selected participants for the 2nd Round in the dedicated webpage (<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/topics/spaceforyouth/index.html>).

2nd Round: Paper submission

Submit a full paper (expanding on the first round's questions) via email. The Selection Committee will share the submission link only with selected applicants from 1st round.

Rules:

- The paper and the abstract are due as an unlocked PDF document under 5 MB and should be submitted through the link provided.

- All submissions shall be made by 12 April 2019, 17:00 GMT for the 2nd Round. Any submissions after the deadline will not be considered. In case of lack of quality of submissions, the Selection Committee has the right to extend and or cancel the competition.
- Together with the paper, please submit an abstract of 200 words.
- The paper shouldn't exceed 1000 words, bibliography excluded.
- The font used should be Times New Roman with a 12pts size.
- For references please use the Harvard referencing style. Failure to properly acknowledge sources may constitute *plagiarism*.
- If you use images or graphics, please give credit and add a title and a caption. These images and graphics should be added to the relevant section(s) of the paper.
- The language of all submissions shall be English.
- The submission shall include original content and research.

What is my impact?

A document containing the abstract(*) of your paper will be published and distributed to all the delegations in the Committee, meaning 92 Member States and 37 permanent observers. The delegations are composed by policy-makers and decision makers involved in space activities.

In addition, this document will be uploaded on the webpage of the Sixty-second session of the Committee.

*Your full paper will be uploaded on the "Space for Youth" webpage of OOSA (<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/topics/spaceforyouth/index.html>). This link will be introduced in the published document.

United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space:

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was set up by the General Assembly in 1959 to govern the exploration and use of space for the benefit of all humanity: for peace, security and development. The Committee was tasked with reviewing international cooperation in peaceful uses of outer space, studying space-related activities that could be undertaken by the United Nations, encouraging space research programmes, and studying legal problems arising from the exploration of outer space.

The Committee was instrumental in the creation of the five treaties and five principles of outer space. International cooperation in space exploration and the use of space technology applications to meet global development goals are discussed in the Committee every year. Owing to rapid advances in space technology, the space agenda is constantly evolving. The Committee therefore provides a unique platform at the global level to monitor and discuss these developments.

The Committee has two subsidiary bodies: The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and the

Legal Subcommittee, both established in 1961. The Committee reports to the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly, which adopts an annual resolution on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

Learn more about Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Subcommittees:
<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/index.html>

Competition and Award

There will be a total of 17 winners to this competition (1 for each SDG). As a winner you will:

- Have your paper presented at the side event on Space for Youth during the Sixty-second session of the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (12 - 21 June 2019) in the form of a video or in person (no guaranteed funding for travel/accommodation to attend the side event on Space for Youth and the Sixty-second session of the Committee).
- Have the abstract of your paper submitted in the form of a Conference Room Paper at the Sixty-second session of the Committee (12 - 21 June 2019) - along with the outcomes of the 16 other selected winners.
- Have your video featured on social-media, UNOOSA and SGAC website, and showed at the Sixty-second session of the Committee (12 - 21 June 2019) during the side event on Space for Youth.
- Receive a certificate of achievement.

Timeline

Early February	Call for 3-minute videos opens
22 March	<i>Deadline to submit the link of the uploaded video via the Space for Youth Competition Form</i>
22 March– 29 March	1 st Round Review Period
29 March	Announcement of the selected participants eligible for the 2 nd Round/ Paper submission opens
12 April	Deadline to submit your paper via the link provided to selected participants.
12 April- 13 May	2 nd Round Review Period

Copyright and Intellectual Property

1. By submitting an entry, applicants agree to permit all affiliated organisers to mention your names, affiliations and headshot picture in connection with the competition and the overall Space for Youth.
2. Copyright of the submitted entry shall remain with the contestants. However, by submitting an entry all contestants agree that all affiliated organisers are granted non-exclusive reproduction rights regarding all submitted papers. The outcomes of this competition will be turned into a Conference Room Paper which will be submitted to the Office for Outer Space Affairs and presented at the Sixty-second session of the United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in June 2019. All affiliated organisers may also present ideas and findings generated by this competition at relevant conferences (such as the International Astronautical Congress).

Liability

1. Organisers shall not be responsible in the event that the side event on Space for Youth or the Sixty-second session of the United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is cancelled.
2. Organisers shall not be responsible if the award winner fails to attend side event on Space for Youth and the Sixty-second session of the Committee.
3. Organisers shall not be responsible if the award winner cannot obtain any necessary travel documents to attend side event on Space for Youth and the Sixty-second session of the Committee.

Evaluation of Video and Paper

The competition will be evaluated by representatives of UNOOSA and SGAC, and members of the Selection Committee.

The evaluation will be made based on a point system taking the following criteria and their weights into consideration:

- Scientific Content and Detail (20%)
- Originality (30%)
- Description of Concept and its Positive Impact (30%)
- Presentation/paper quality (20%)

Contact

For any questions, please contact:

UNOOSA ooosa@un.org

SGAC info@spacegeneration.org