



THE FUTURE OF COPUOS

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Disclaimer:

The views expressed are personal and do not necessarily reflect those of Canada, of WEOG, nor of COPUOS.



New actors

New interests

New tensions

SWOT Analysis of COPUOS



STRENGTHS

- **COPUOS is UNIQUE**
- **COPUOS Works!** (e.g., 5 treaties, UNISPACE I, II & III, SPIDER, ICG, space debris mitigation guidelines, guidelines on nuclear power sources, IAWN, SMPAG, LTS, UNISPACE+50)
- **Formidable Secretariat**
- **Decisions made by Consensus**
- **84 Member States and increasing**
- **Includes Scientific, Technical, Legal and Policy**



WEAKNESSES

- **Decision making is SLOW**
- **Geopolitical (non-space) tensions**
- **Decisions made by Consensus**
- **Weak synergy between Subcommittees**
- **Commercial sector indirectly involved**
- **OST@50 – under stress**
- **Governance of space has low priority for global leaders**



OPPORTUNITIES

- **Increasing membership and interest by States**
- **Preservation of space for future generations is recognized as being in need of action**
- **General recognition that space access is ESSENTIAL for delivery of services and the governance of space needs updating**
- **Support by Member States and UNGA for developing new agenda (UNISPACE+50)**
- **LTS WG developing non-binding guidelines**



THREATS

- **Failure of CD to address militarization/ security space issues**
- **Access to space threatened by space junk and massive number of new planned satellites**
- **Increase in number of new non-State actors**
- **Need for new treaty-based governance regime**
- **Cybersecurity**
- **Pace of New Space activities**
- **Unilateral action by a State or non-State actor**

UNISPACE
+50 

THANK YOU



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