



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA

Statement

By

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Before

The sixty-fifth session of the COPUOS

**Agenda Item 6: Ways and Means of Maintaining Outer Space
for Peaceful Purposes**

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Vienna

“In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful”

Mr. Chairperson,

Any assurance of sustainability, safety and security in space is in dire need of peaceful Uses of Outer Space by all space players. The Committee on the peaceful Uses of Outer Space plays a key role in firming up space cooperation to ensure our common goal of a sustainable, safe and secure environment in space. The universal commitment to five principal treaties on outer space set the basic stage for peaceful use of outer space. The outer space treaty and other 4 core treaties have outlined the boundaries for preserving real and practical peace in outer space.

In my delegation’s point of view, strengthening peaceful uses of space is doable, solely through thorough theoretical and practical commitment to basic aforementioned principles not through norms making for space which is a vague procedure. A full theoretical and practical commitment to outer space principles is a successfully tested and verified way and would enhance trust in space activities.

One of the main tasks of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) is to examine ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes, so, any attempt to distinguish weaponization from peaceful use of space is a fundamental deviation. Considering the fact that the exploration and exploitation of space is in the common interests of all humanity, any issue which is directly related to five principal space treaties, including the OST 1967, must be raised in COPUOS sessions.

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation draws the attention of Member States to the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space Treaty (PAROS) as well as the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Space Treaty (PPWT) as key preconditions for peace, safety and the sustainable use of outer space and is of the view that any action to make peaceful use of outer space and prevent the weaponization in space will merely be achieved within the framework of a legally binding document. Pursuing a strategy of “space dominance”, declaring outer space as a war fighting domain

and establishing Space Force and Space Command, all put security and sustainability of space in danger.

The Islamic Republic of Iran calls upon all member States of COPUOS to take a sensible and united approach to prevent the weaponization of space through cooperation and collective measures. The lack of a serious will to counter the weaponization of space, violates the peaceful and non-discriminatory use of space, and will lead to an arms race in space.

My delegation is of the firm view that in order to preserve the space for peaceful purpose, COPUOS must prevent the weaponization of space by establishing an appropriate mechanism for full cooperation of leading countries along with developing countries and by ensuring free and sustainable access of all States to outer space, to pave the ground for increasing trust and ultimately creating a collective security.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.