



# **SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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

**SGAC Statement at the  
66th Annual Session of the  
United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**Agenda Item 14**

**June 8th, 2023**

**Presented by: Valentina Luchetti, SGAC Acting Executive Director**



Thank you, Honourable Chair.

The Space Generation Advisory Council, SGAC, sincerely appreciates the opportunity to provide the views of the space youth on space exploration and innovation.

Policy choices for the exploration and use of celestial bodies are naturally driven by a variety of different interests, scientific and commercial, public and private. Pursuant to the principle of adaptive governance, SGAC believes that the implementation of the principles of international space law must be adapted in accordance with technological and economic realities, and in a manner to facilitate the growth of all the stakeholders involved in space exploration endeavours.

As representatives of the young generation, and as consistent with the UN treaties, we believe that no actor should be allowed to exercise permanent and exclusive control over any part of a celestial body. Therefore, all territorial-based uses should always be limited in time and size, depending on the nature of the activity, and taking into account the legitimate interests of operators. We also urge the space community to conduct their activities on celestial bodies with due regard to the corresponding interests of others, and especially those of developing countries, as specified in Article XI of the Outer Space Treaty of 1967. This is particularly significant for the preservation of special locations and scarce resources, to prevent present actors from using them at the expense of future generations.

Honourable Chair, based upon the ideas and values of the young generation, we respectfully present the following suggestions for consideration by the Committee.

First, we suggest paying special attention to the case of lunar exploration, as effective regulation of space exploration is inextricably related to the environment in which it is performed. The different features of these environments, and the different timelines associated with their exploration, underline the usefulness of a more tailored approach.

Second, to ensure the sustainable uses of the Moon in harmony with the needs of future generations, we invite the Committee to develop, through the Working Group on the Legal Aspects of Space Resource Activities, an evolving list of special locations and resources that are internationally recognised as scarce, including appropriate preservation measures, as soon as scientific and technological means will allow for such assessments. Following the principle of adaptive governance, we suggest updating this list on a regular basis to ensure its continued relevance.



SPACE GENERATION  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

In conclusion, we are grateful for the opportunity to provide the views of the young generation on space exploration and innovation and stand ready to support the work of the Committee in any manner considered appropriate by its Member States.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.