



SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS

**SGAC Statement at the 67th Annual Session of the
United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**Agenda Item 5
General Exchange of Views**

**Presented by:
Nikol Koleva, SGAC Executive Director**



Thank you, Honourable Chair,

Distinguished delegates as the Executive Director of SGAC, I am privileged to present an overview of our recent activities. SGAC has long served as a vibrant platform for students and young space professionals aged 18 to 35, enabling them to engage with the United Nations, space agencies, industry partners, and academia. This year SGAC celebrates its 25th anniversary since its establishment at UNISPACE III in 1999, which is why we are particularly proud to report our steadfast growth, now encompassing over 30,000 members from more than 165 countries. SGAC's influence is expanding rapidly, and our mission and goals remain strong.

We are proud to report that in 2023, SGAC successfully hosted three global events, 17 regional and local events, and numerous online activities, including webinars, workshops, and research projects. Additionally, SGAC provided over 160 scholarships for students and young professionals to attend space events worldwide and continued its Global Rising Star Awards program.

Considering the growing reach of SGAC, in 2024 we plan to increase the number of regional and local events, creating more opportunities for global engagement in the space sector as well as increase the number of scholarships provided worldwide. We have already completed two global events: SGx, in conjunction with Satellite, and SGFF, in conjunction with Space Symposium and are happy to report that both events saw significant growth in delegate applications and participation, featuring innovative programming, including a shark-tank style pitch competition as well as a heads of agencies panel.

Looking ahead, we are immersed in planning the Space Generation Congress (SGC) in conjunction with the International Astronautical Congress (IAC). For the first time, SGC will be held at the same venue as IAC. We extend our gratitude to the IAF, AIDAA, Leonardo, and the Italian Space Agency for their invaluable support and look forward to a successful SGC in Milan. In preparation for SGC, we are dedicated to securing as much funding as possible for students and young professionals to attend both the congress and IAC. So far, we have secured over 73 scholarships and are actively working to obtain additional funding for participants from developing countries.



Distinguished delegates, in pursuit of our strategic objectives, SGAC is proud to announce the establishment of two new permanent staff positions within our team: a Business Development Officer, and a Continuous Improvement officer. Through these new positions we will increase our engagement with developing space communities, enhance our internal processes, and forge new partnerships and collaborations.

Consistent with our mission we are also proud to report the realisation of a new pillar of SGAC, namely our Education and Professional Development Platform, which will aim to aid the youth in their career development as well as provide useful educational materials. Our Project Groups continue to produce outstanding research on diverse topics, and we are proud that our members have reached a record number of accepted abstracts for IAC. SGAC remains dedicated to presenting the unified policy positions of the young generation. With the support of our Policy and Advocacy platform, we are pleased to introduce our Intergenerational Pact for Space Sustainability and we invite all delegations to read our Conference Room Paper on this topic.

In conclusion, Honourable Chair and distinguished Delegates, SGAC has experienced notable growth in the past year, a testament to the dedicated efforts of our volunteers and the unwavering support from our esteemed international partners and sponsors, which include Northrop Grumman, AIDAA, the International Astronautical Federation, Space Foundation, Lockheed Martin, NASA, Blue Origin and Club for the Future, Leonardo, Stoke, Planet, Euroconsult, Airbus as well as the European, UK, Canadian, Australian, French and Italian Space Agencies.

We are grateful for the opportunity to address this Honourable Subcommittee and stand ready to work together with all Member States and Observers to foster the peaceful, sustainable and cooperative uses of space for the benefit of all humanity, present and future.

I thank you for your kind attention!