

Finland's Statement in the 68th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space Vienna, 25 June – 2 July 2025, Agenda Item 4 – General Exchange of Views

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning.

Mr. Chair, Excellencies and distinguished Delegates,

Finland fully aligns itself with the statement made by the European Union (EU), and would like to make a few remarks in its national capacity.

At the beginning of this year, Finland published its updated space strategy that defines our vision and goals for the space sector up to 2030. The objectives of the strategy include increasing international cooperation. Multilateral forums such as this one are key in promoting cooperation and common rules in the space arena.

We recognize COPUOS as an indispensable forum for ensuring that space activities and related regulatory developments are carried out in accordance with international law. Accordingly, we note UNOOSA's success in facilitating COPUOS meetings and in promoting constructive exchange therein.

Mr. Chair,

In line with the Pact for the Future, we encourage the widest possible adherence to the Outer Space Treaty as well as further discussions on developing frameworks for space traffic, space debris and space resources through COPUOS. In this spirit, we express our appreciation on the work done in this year's Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee to push forward the discussions in a concrete and solution-oriented manner.

Finland has joined the Proposal for a Study Group on Legal and Policy Aspects of Space Traffic. We consider that the anticipated work of such a Study Group as well as fostering synergies between the two Subcommittees on the matters relevant to Space Traffic could serve as a valuable basis for continuing the discussions in UNISPACE IV. In this spirit, we wish that a consensus is reached in this Committee to establish the Study Group at the Legal Subcommittee as well as to organize UNISPACE IV in 2027 in a cost-neutral way, and express our appreciation for the efforts already done with the aim of realizing UNISPACE IV.

Thank you Mr. Chair, Excellencies and distinguished Delegates.