

Malta Statement, Item 4 – General Exchange of Views, Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

26 June 2025

Chair,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Representatives of Civil Society,

I would like to thank UNOOSA for convening this session, and for Director Holla-Maini for all her support, and stewardship. Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU. Please allow me to intervene in my national capacity. At this critical juncture a sustainable approach to outer space is required; one which is consistent with international law and embedded in multilateralism.

Over the past years, Malta has given due attention to outer space driven by our ambitions to structure a national eco-system for Space, increase knowhow and capabilities, promote research and innovation and exploring space-related economic activities. This has resulted in our first National Space Strategy (2022-2027), which is anchored in exploring the societal applications for Space-based data use-cases and downstream applications. This has encouraged enhanced further efforts in international collaboration and modernising our legal and regulatory systems.

Malta's determination to engage in and strengthen our role in international space collaboration is manifested with the ratification of the ESA Convention, enabling us to empower local Space researchers and businesses and expand educational opportunities. Moreover, vested in our steadfast commitment, Malta is drafting its first Space Activities Act, aimed at establishing a clear legal framework for space operations, encourage research and development (R&D), utilisation of satellite-data, and establish a favourable environment to attract international investment to the space sector in Malta.

These initiatives affirm our aspiration to become an active, forward-looking space actor and a trusted partner in international cooperation in the peaceful and responsible uses of outer space.

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

As enshrined in the Outer Space Treaty, space shall be the province of all mankind, and we need to ensure that the potential from this domain, including advancing science and innovation, is unleashed, for a better future for all.

The visionary founders of this Committee recognised the importance of the common interest of mankind in outer space and its uses for peaceful purposes only, creating a platform for the



international community to promote the exploration of outer space for the benefit of humanity, and future generations.

It is in this spirit, that COPUOS must be preserved and elevated, particularly in view of the ever-growing indispensable role of outer space in our societies. Cognizant of these realities, and as ardent supporters of multilateralism and international cooperation, we have decided to formalise our interest by submitting our application to become a full member of COPUOS, which will be brought to the Committee's attention for its consideration under agenda item 16.

We sincerely thank you in advance for your support in our bid, and we look forward to engaging actively and collaboratively in this critical dossier.

I thank you.