



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 68th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

25 June - 02 July 2025

Agenda Item 4 “General exchange of views”

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Ukraine aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union under this agenda item. In my national capacity, I wish to add the following remarks.

Ukraine remains firmly committed to multilateral cooperation within COPUOS and its Subcommittees. These platforms are essential for promoting the peaceful uses of outer space for the benefit of all humankind. Ensuring that outer space is preserved exclusively for peaceful purposes requires transparency, international cooperation, and robust legal frameworks, together with mechanisms to ensure compliance. By fostering trust, encouraging responsible behavior — including strengthened international legal accountability — and preventing the weaponization of outer space, the international community can safeguard space as a domain of peace and opportunity.

Mr Chair,

Russia’s illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine continues to severely hinder our nation’s ability to advance in space science, technology, and education. The adoption of Ukraine’s Space Program remains delayed due to the war, jeopardizing the implementation of our national space policy and stalling vital projects. In addition, the constant threat of missile strikes against our educational institutions, research centers, and industrial facilities deprives Ukraine of the opportunity to fully realize its long-standing space potential. This situation has led to reduced investments, the loss of international contracts — as seen in the case of Ukraine’s participation in the Antares program — and the physical destruction of our space infrastructure.

Another grave consequence of the Russian aggression is the compelled involvement of our highly qualified engineers and scientists in tasks unrelated to their expertise. Many have been mobilized to defend our country, serve in security sectors, or contribute to defense industries — and, regrettably, some have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Distinguished Delegates,

Since 24 February 2022, the Russian Federation has launched hundreds of ballistic and cruise missiles, thousands of attack drones, and tens of thousands of guided bombs against Ukrainian cities. These deliberate attacks have resulted in the deaths of civilians, including children, and widespread destruction. These are not incidental losses or unfortunate side effects. These are deliberate, repeated violations of international humanitarian law and the Geneva Conventions. They are war crimes.

Russia continues to irresponsibly employ space technologies for military purposes, in clear violation of the principles that should govern outer space activities. Russia has embraced a strategy that not only prioritizes mass destruction over military precision, but also involves outsourcing its war crimes through illicit partnerships with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). These states, already in violation of multiple UN Security Council resolutions, are now actively fuelling Russia's missile and drone capabilities — arming an aggressor state in the midst of a full-scale war of aggression against a sovereign nation.

Mr Chair,

In view of the above, Ukraine reiterates its strong opposition to the Russian draft resolution entitled "Space Science and Technology for Promoting Peace", which we — along with many other member states — find entirely inappropriate. We also firmly oppose granting UN affiliation to the so-called "Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education" hosted in Russia. We request that these concerns be duly reflected in the Committee's Report.

Distinguished delegates,

Despite almost three and a half years of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, international solidarity remains crucial. Russia must not be allowed to violate the sovereignty and independence of other states with impunity.

In conclusion, Ukraine expresses its sincere gratitude to all states that continue to stand with us in our struggle for freedom, independence, and human dignity in the face of Russia's ongoing war of aggression.

I thank you Mr Chair.