

Republic of Türkiye
Agenda Item 4 (General Exchange of Views)
Statement of the Republic of Türkiye at the 68th Session of the
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)
(25 June-2 July 2025)

Chair,

Let me join other delegations in congratulating you on your chairmanship. As always you can count upon the support of our delegation. We are also grateful to the Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini for her insightful opening remarks, which shed light on the important and challenging task of the Office, which we all need to support.

Chair,

Türkiye, as one of the few countries that have ratified all five UN treaties on outer space, believes in and is a firm supporter of the peaceful use of outer space. This is in line with our commitment to maintaining a safe, secure, and sustainable outer space environment for the benefit of all. In this regard, we value the Space2030 Agenda within the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and remain dedicated to supporting its implementation.

Chair,

COPUOS and its Subcommittees, as the main platforms for the discussions on peaceful use of outer space and development of international law in this field play a pivotal role in regulating and managing outer space activities.

Regarding discussions on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources, we are of the view that the authorized body is the COPUOS that takes its decisions by consensus. As such, the technical mandate of these platforms need to be strictly preserved, also with respect to the discussions on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.

Chair,

Türkiye has embraced the ten core goals in our National Space Program (NSP), which reflects our commitment to advancing space exploration, science, and technology. Additionally, work is ongoing to establish a comprehensive National Space Legislation (MUM), which will further strengthen our regulatory framework in space activities.

In recent years, Türkiye has made strong progress in space exploration, with important achievements such as sending our first astronaut on a scientific mission to the International Space Station (ISS), and successfully launching TURKSAT 6A — our first fully national communication satellite. This success highlights Türkiye's growing abilities and ambition in space, supported also by special-purpose satellites developed by three private Turkish

companies. Together, these efforts show the strength and motivation of our national space program.

Chair,

Türkiye remains strongly committed to international cooperation in the field of space. We actively engage with a wide range of global and regional organizations, including the United Nations, EURISY, the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), APSCO, APRSAF, the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), and the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG).

Moreover, Türkiye will have the honor of hosting the 2026 International Astronautical Congress (IAC) in Antalya, which will serve as a platform to foster global collaboration in space exploration. We also continue to organize the TEKNOFEST Aerospace Festival, which inspires the next generation of aerospace professionals and encourages international participation.

Chair,

Türkiye is committed to advancing the peaceful, secure, and sustainable use of outer space, in line with the objectives of the Space2030 Agenda, and will continue to work together with the international community to ensure that outer space remains accessible and beneficial for future generations.

I thank you.