



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

SGAC Statement at the  
60th Annual Session of the Legal Subcommittee  
of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

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Thank you, Honourable Chair.

The Space Generation Advisory Council, SGAC, would like to thank you for your leadership and the work of the Secretariat in the preparation of the 60th Session of the Legal Subcommittee during this challenging time. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to report on the recent activities of SGAC.

SGAC is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation and network which aims to represent university students and young space professionals to the United Nations, its Member States, national space agencies, industry, and academia. The focus of SGAC is to provide pragmatic space policy advice to policy makers based on the views of students and young professionals aged 18 to 35, from all over the world.

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, 2020 was a great challenge for us all. Yet, in SGAC members we saw strong glimpses of confidence in the future and persistence in front of adversity that have inspired us to go above and beyond. The message is clear - we must continue connecting our passionate members from all corners of the globe, and provide them a platform for growth to become the future beacons of the space community.

This past year has also helped SGAC secure its position as one of the largest international networks of students and young professionals in the space sector, with more than 15,000 members and alumni in 168 countries. We look forward to maintaining these positive trends and invite all Member States and their next generation of space leaders to join us in the process.

Honourable Chairs and Distinguished Delegates, SGAC is proactively building space law capacities worldwide by drafting, reporting and teaching space law with our National Points of Contact. We are proud to announce the SGAC Taskforce on United States Space Policy, established January 2021, to educate members of US congress and staffers on key contemporary policy items. SGAC is moreover committed to supporting the development of space law and policy infrastructure on the African continent, where we have begun by drafting the first space policy for the Republic of Uganda that is now under governmental review. We are also organizing seminars in Singapore to educate its national space industry and legal professionals on practical aspects of licensing, authorization and supervision in the absence of domestic space legislation. SGAC is ready and open to support any further countries in similar ways.



SGAC strongly believes all capacity-holding nations must enable use of remote sensing to monitor and evidence fundamental human rights cases. To this end, the SGAC Space Law and Policy Project Group is surveying stakeholders globally to understand and advance the justiciable use of remote sensing data in the interests and for the benefit of all humankind. Interest from honorable and distinguished persons in giving input on this effort is warmly welcomed.

Honorable Chairs and Distinguished Delegates, SGAC launched a new collaboration this year between our Space Safety and Sustainability Project Group, and the Space Law and Policy Project Group, to investigate the impact of satellite constellations on ground and space activities. The desired outcome is to highlight the benefits satellite constellations could bring humanity, and identify recommendations mitigating their potential risks, to contribute to ongoing discussions on protecting dark and quiet skies.

Honorable Chairs and Distinguished Delegates, we would like to finally invite you to the technical presentation on Monday 7th June at 10 am CEST, where we will share preliminary results of our ongoing research on LTS Guideline implementation. The Space Law and Policy Project Group is working to produce a detailed survey of measures implemented by a broad geographic and economic range of countries, to encourage best practices and identify gaps, which we hope will provide valuable insight to the newly defined Working Group on this topic.

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, I am also pleased to inform you that this year SGAC has joined the global debate on lunar governance. On the 10th of May 2021, we adopted a Lunar Governance Report outlining the ideas and proposals of the young generations for the regulation of lunar activities. This Report has been drafted by a dedicated Team called E.A.G.L.E. (Effective and Adaptive Governance for a Lunar Ecosystem): a globally diverse, interdisciplinary group of 14 young space professionals established by SGAC in June 2020. Over the course of a year, the EAGLE Team interviewed 29 experts from the global space community and studied the legal and policy landscape for lunar activities, to develop a thorough understanding of the status quo and make an informed proposal for the way forward. In this respect, SGAC notes with appreciation complementary efforts from like-minded entities such as the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities and is coordinating with all of them.

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, international guidance is needed in order



to preserve the peaceful uses of the Moon and ensure its sustainable development. During the past sixty-two years, this honourable Committee has successfully provided it through various types of instruments developed under a regular 20 years mark. In the beginning there were the Treaties; then Declarations and Principles; more recently, Resolutions and Guidelines. As this Honourable Committee enters a new cycle, SGAC would like to draw your attention on the idea of a Lunar Governance Charter. By framing a solemn commitment for the regulation of lunar activities, this instrument could enable the harmonious implementation of the fundamental principles of space law and guide the incremental development of new ones.

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, SGAC has officially submitted the Lunar Governance Report as Conference Room Paper for your kind consideration. We hope that you will take into account the voice of the young generations and look forward to hearing your comments on our ideas during the upcoming sessions. Should you be interested in exploring the idea of a Lunar Governance Charter, you are warmly invited to join the dedicated technical presentation that will be delivered today at 5 pm CEST. We would be delighted to answer any questions you may have and look forward to supporting the work of this Honourable Committee for the regulation of lunar activities.

In summary, Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, SGAC has shown positive growth over the past year, which would not have been possible without the tireless effort of our volunteers, as well as the support of our international partners and sponsors, including Lockheed Martin, NASA, Space Foundation, Secure World Foundation, the European Space Agency, the German Aerospace Center (DLR), the Italian Space Agency (ASI), ArianeGroup, Airbus, and many others.

As we plan our activities for 2021, we want to reflect on the hard work and outstanding efforts from SGAC members, as well as our mission as the leading international space youth organisation. At this juncture, as the COVID-19 storm abates, we would like to transmit a strong message of hope for 2021 opening a new era for SGAC.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that being an Observer Organization at the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is invaluable to SGAC; the organization is honoured to be able to report to you, distinguished delegates.

I thank you for your attention. Thank you, Madam Chair.