



**Permanent Mission of Italy  
International Organisations - Vienna**

**64<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE  
LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE (LSC)**

**Statement by  
Ambassador Debora Lepre**

Item 3: general exchange of views

**Vienna, 5 May 2025**

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*Mister Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,*

Italy fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union, and I would like to add a few remarks in my national capacity.

First, allow me to congratulate you, Mr. Chair, to preside over the 64th Session of the Legal Subcommittee. My delegation expresses its full support for a successful and productive session. We also wish to express our appreciation to UNOOSA for the preparatory work undertaken in the organisation of this session.

*Mr. Chair,*

Italy considers the Legal Sub-Committee to be **a major forum for promoting the international legal framework** governing outer space activities and fostering international cooperation in this field.

We recognise the key role played by the United Nations Treaties on outer space, which have provided a solid legal foundation for the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space to flourish.

The core legal framework established by the 1967 Outer Space Treaty (OST) remains robust and its enduring principles continue to guide the conduct of both States and private entities **as we navigate through a rapidly evolving space environment.**

As humanity's presence in space becomes more complex, consensual legal approaches will be essential to ensure that the **exploration and use of outer space remains sustainable, equitable and peaceful.**

*Mr. Chair,*

Allow me to highlight an important **national development** in the light of our discussions during this session.

**A draft law entitled "Measures relevant to the space economy"** has been submitted to Parliament and is currently under discussion. This legislative proposal aims to complete the national legal framework governing the space sector, building on the principles of safety, resilience and environmental sustainability. Among other aspects, the draft law establishes a mechanism for the authorisation and supervision of space activities, as well as a shared liability system with private operators.

The proposed measures to strengthen **innovation and economic growth** in the space sector include the development of a **multi-annual National Space Economy Plan** and the creation of a **Space Economy Fund**.

*Mr. Chair,*

Italy attaches great importance to **capacity-building in the field of space law and policy** and is particularly committed to supporting initiatives with emerging spacefaring nations.

In this context, the Italian Government, through the Sapienza University of Rome and in cooperation with the Italian Space Agency, has supported UNOOSA's **"Space Law for New Space Actors" project**. As part of this effort, a technical assistance mission was held in Morocco in September 2024, where several experts successfully shared their knowledge and experience in the field of space law, national regulation and policy.

*Mr. Chair,*

we appreciate the ongoing discussions on **possible legal models for the exploration and use of space resources**, including in the framework of the relevant Working Group. We take this opportunity to reiterate our deepest condolences on the sudden and untimely passing of Ambassador Andrzej Misztal, whose leadership as Chair of the Working Group was invaluable.

In the same vein, we value the work of the Vice-Chair of the Working Group, Professor Steven Freeland, in preparing the **first draft of the Recommended Principles for Space Resource Activities**. It is an excellent basis for promoting a common understanding of a possible legal framework for space resource activities.

In this framework, let me recall that **Italy is among the first signatories of the Artemis Accords** which provide non-legally binding guidance for space exploration and establish a set of common principles grounded in the Outer Space Treaty. We are committed to sharing our experience in their implementation in order to increase the safety of operations, reduce uncertainty and promote the sustainable exploration and use of space.

*Mr. Chair*

Italy supports the work of the **Legal Subcommittee on Space Traffic (ST)**. Considering the rapid growth of space activities and related challenges, we welcome the **German proposal for a Study Group on Space Traffic**. We believe that the compilation and review of national and regional policies, best practices and legal frameworks could provide valuable input for managing the increasing volume of space traffic. These efforts could also support any future initiatives to address the technical aspects of space traffic coordination.

*To conclude, Mister Chair,*

Allow me to reiterate that **Italy is strongly committed to advancing global governance in the space sector** and, in this regard, we are pleased to work with the COPUOS Chair (Morocco) and UNOOSA to facilitate discussions on the **organisation of the 4th UNISPACE Conference in 2027**. We thank all delegations that have supported this endeavour and provided inputs, and we look forward to continuing deliberations in the informal sessions of this Sub-Committee starting tomorrow.

Thank you!