

**64<sup>th</sup> Session of the Scientific and of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations  
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS),  
Vienna, 5 – 16 May 2025  
Agenda item 3: General exchange of views  
Statement by the Republic of Bulgaria**

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Bulgaria fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU under this agenda item.

I would like to begin by expressing our deep condolences on the passing of Amb. Andrej Misztal, under whose competent and skillful leadership as a chair, the work of the WG on Legal Aspects of Space Resources Activities was led.

Mr. Chair,

The Bulgarian delegation would like to congratulate you on your second year of successful chairmanship of the LSC and assure you on our full support and cooperation. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Director Aarti Holla-Maini and the Secretariat for their dedicated work, including for the excellent preparation of this session.

As space technology and space activities are becoming increasingly important and indispensable to our daily lives and well-being, including for achieving economic growth and supporting the environmental and digital transition, we consider that the work of COPUOS, its Subcommittees and working groups is essential for finding solutions to ensure that space is used peacefully and in a sustainable manner.

My delegation is of the view, that it is imperative for the States to respect and to comply with the existing global Space legal frameworks and principles, including the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, together with the other core UN Treaties on outer space, and the principles enshrined therein. The growing number of space actors, space objects and space activities also lead to an urgent need to elaborate and effectively implement new rules and principles to ensure the safety and sustainability of outer space for the future generations, including on space traffic, space debris and space resources, as set out in the Pact for the Future.

Bulgaria recognizes the unique nature of the LSC as the primary forum for exchanging views on the legal aspects of space activities and for promoting international cooperation. We are convinced that closer collaboration between the two Subcommittees is essential for better understanding and achieving their tasks.

Bulgaria continues to support and welcomes the work of the 3 Working Groups of the LSC and their workplans.

We also expect the upcoming informal consultations of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultations (ATLAC) during this session to be productive in order to

achieve consensus on the work plan to be approved by COPUOS in June allowing for the start of substantive discussions.

Bulgaria is also hopeful that the informal consultations on UNISPACE IV will bring us closer to an agreement on this important issue. Bulgaria appreciates and supports the efforts led by Italy and Morocco and thanks the Secretariat for the non-paper prepared for these consultations. For my country UNISPACE IV in 2027 is a timely opportunity to foster the work of COPUOS and the implementation of its mandate in this crucial moment for the global development and the implementation of the SDGs and a chance for promoting the Bulgarian Space Sector.

Mr. Chair,

Bulgaria has long been an active contributor to global space efforts. With over 50 years of experience in space research and technology, we continue to build on our efforts in areas such as satellite communications, space food production, nanosatellite development, and Earth observation systems.

We also attach utmost importance to space policy and international cooperation and collaboration in the field of space activities as instruments for innovation and progress.

Bulgaria actively participates in the activities of the EU Agency for the Space Programme, monitoring the progress of the Union's leading space programmes Galileo, EGNOS, Copernicus, GovaSatcom, etc. In the process of implementation of Bulgaria's European Cooperating State Agreement, we aim to accelerate moving to the next stage of our country's cooperation with ESA - Associate Membership. Bulgaria is also engaged in the activities within the Artemis Accords framework.

At the national level, Bulgaria continues its efforts in developing its domestic space legislation and an internal process is underway to prepare a strategic space policy document and to establish a Bulgarian Space Agency.

Mr. Chair,

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that Bulgaria is a strong supporter of the multilateralism, with the UN at its core. Multilateralism plays a vital role in maintaining peace and security, as it fosters cooperation among nations. This collaborative approach is closely linked to development, including the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda. Therefore, it has no alternative and makes unacceptable illegal actions violating UN Charter which we continue to strongly condemn.

I thank you for your kind attention.