

Space Renaissance International

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SRI, Item 3, A UN Flag On The Moon, as of 30 April 2025

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Honorable Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

As humanity prepares to return to the Moon, we face the defining moment, meeting the pertinent themes of sustainable space governance which represent our shared values and aims. In 1969 the first Moon landing marked a “giant leap for mankind”, Today, with the Artemis Accords and the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) leading the way, these journeys will represent inspiration and opportunity for all the peoples of Planet Earth. Forthcoming and collective missions may transcend both technological limitations and national boundaries, and embody insight, interchange, unity, peace, and equality in a divided world. The lunar ventures will clearly illustrate the critical interface between responsible outer space development and Earth's collective resilience.

Space Renaissance International (SRI), together with the Space 18th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Coalition, proposes a powerful and symbolic act, leading out the views from the moon and affirming the mutual commitment of all humankind to the guiding principles of human betterment. The planting of a United Nations flag on the Moon, alongside any national flag, demonstrates harmonious interchange and mutual collaboration as we explore the unknown.

From outer space, astronauts will experience the power and awe of the Overview Effect—described by Frank White as a “profound realization of Earth’s interconnectedness without borders or divisions.” The display of the U.N. lunar flag would establish a global precedent for extraterrestrial activities. It represents a bold statement, in a critical era of geopolitical tensions and retrograde wars, serving as a bridge between cultures and across national divides, and marking the transition into a far newer age beyond the shadows of human history.

The unfolding of our future worldview rests upon equitable partnership and mutual respect, echoing previous collaborations in space such as the experimental programs of Apollo-Soyuz, Mir, and the International Space Station (ISS). As diverse nations embark on the significant usage of space based assets, it is essential that a guiding framework is adequately formulated under the auspices of the Outer Space Treaty. Such an endeavor will naturally include incremental progress towards the placement of a “space weapons ban” along with mutually agreed international verification mechanisms. This essential process will greatly mitigate the ever-growing threats of satellite and cyberwarfare resulting in the destruction of national grid capacities and vulnerable infrastructures such as the international banking system.

This proposal calls for the placement of an 18th SDG, addressing sustainable civilian space development and acting as a clearing house for the technological means which rapidly inform and address many pressing issues of poverty, inequality, and environmental sustainability. Even so, the return to the Moon exposes far more than mere science or technological innovation; this notable venture may properly represent our restored faith in a shared future. The lunar U.N. flag will inspire future generations to envision a world where sustainable collaboration and enduring progress uplift all of humanity.

The Moon is the venue where humanity's highest ideals will continually shine. Planting a UN flag "by humanity, for humanity" would demonstrate our capacity for unity in diversity, opening the way to a better world. SRI has formally proposed this historic gesture to the leaders of the Artemis Accords and the ILRS platform, and advocates for the inclusion of NGOs as observers in the transformative global lunar endeavor.

At this critical juncture we affirm that all societies in all places seek a stable, peaceful and secure continuum . The exponential information age has given us the ability to endow our future world and the generations to come with unprecedented opportunity. The U.N. lunar flag would state that the transformative realm of space development belongs to all of humanity, ensuring that its vast benefits remain accessible to everyone.