



Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Employment of Finland

Finland's Statement in the 64th session of the Legal Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (5–16 May 2025)

Agenda Item 3 – General exchange of views

Thank you, Mister Chair, Good morning

Finland aligns itself with the statement made by the European Union and would like to make the following remarks in its national capacity.

The rules-based international system is important in maintaining the peaceful nature of outer space and in assuring space activities are carried out in a safe and sustainable manner. We recognize the Committee's indispensable role for fostering international cooperation in this respect. In this spirit, we thank you, Mr. Chair, for your leadership in this meeting as well as UNOOSA for their excellent work in facilitating the COPUOS meetings.

International cooperation is central to the work of this Committee. The Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine continues to severely hurt our common efforts in this regard. We reiterate our full solidarity with Ukraine as well as our firm support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

Mister Chair,

In Finland, the start of 2025 has already included many interesting steps in our space administration.

We published our updated space strategy in January. The underlying values guiding the implementation of the strategy include sustainable use of outer space, rules-based international order and cooperation as well as the right of everyone to utilize outer space in accordance with international treaties.

The space strategy aims at further developing the Finnish space sector, for instance, by means of up-to-date legislation, agile public administration and well-targeted financing. Legislation and licensing processes should meet the requirements of the rapidly developing domain to provide an encouraging environment for space business as well as to signal that Finland is a safe and responsible partner.

Mister Chair,

To strengthen our participation in international cooperation in the space arena, Finland signed the Artemis Accords in January. By utilizing also the experience to be gained under the Artemis Accords, Finland will continue to support the work of COPUOS and its subcommittees with the aim of enhancing multilateral cooperation and governance of space activities on celestial bodies.

Furthermore, as the responsible ministry for Finland's space policy, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment signed the Zero Debris Charter – a non-legally binding charter initiated by the European Space Agency (ESA). Also, through this initiative we are part of the community that is

committed to finding ways to stop generating space debris and making sure the orbital environment remains usable.

Mister Chair,

Finland reiterates the importance of development of a global Space Traffic Management regime with the aim of creating common international rules that take into consideration rapid changes in the space sector. On this note, we welcomed the Proposal for a Study Group on Legal and Policy Aspects of Space Traffic, and wish to thank Germany on its efforts on the matter. We would also welcome UNISPACE IV in 2027 as a possibility to push forward the intentions on having frameworks to guide space traffic on the global level.

Space situational awareness capacity is vital in supporting Space Traffic Management, and we are happy to inform that Finland's Space Situational Awareness Center has started some functions and is expected to be fully operational in 2027. The Center is the national contact point of the EU SST Consortium, and works in close cooperation with other international partners as well.

Finally Mister Chair,

We acknowledge the Legal Subcommittee as the primary forum for ensuring that space activities and related regulatory developments are carried out in accordance with international law. Finland reiterates the role of the United Nations treaties on outer space, together with the related UN General Assembly resolutions and sets of principles as the cornerstones of international space law. Accordingly, we encourage the widest possible adherence to the relevant international treaties and guidelines and their implementation in support of the rules-based international order.

I wish everyone a fruitful session. Thank you, Mister Chair.