

Slovak Republic - Contributions on elements for an initial draft set of recommended principles for space resource activities

On behalf of the Slovak Republic, we would like to provide contributions on elements for an initial draft set of recommended principles for space resource activities as requested on 22 July 2024.

Firstly, it would be necessary to define space resources (or to make a global agreement on a universal definition acceptable to most States) and to agree on the form and principles for the exploitation of space resources. We also believe that it is necessary to take into account the need to protect the environment not only on Earth, but also to preserve the natural and intact environment in space (in the handling and use of space resources, or in their extraction and exploitation). At the same time, it is necessary to ensure the principle of equal access and the benefits of their exploitation for all States.

Moreover, in accordance with the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies – the Outer Space Treaty:

- the exploration and use of outer space shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries and shall be the province of all mankind;
- outer space shall be free for exploration and use by all States;
- outer space is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means;
- the Moon and other celestial bodies shall be used exclusively for peaceful purposes;
- States shall avoid harmful contamination of space and celestial bodies.