

Czech Republic, Item 4

Dear Chair, distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the delegation of the Czech Republic, allow me first to congratulate you on your efficient chairmanship and to assure you of the Czech Republic's support and cooperation. I would also like to cordially welcome the new UNOOSA Director, Ms Aarti Holla-Maini and extend our best wishes for success in all her endeavours.

At the outset, I would like to reiterate and highlight the importance of international cooperation and collaboration to minimize the risks of harmful impacts of increased activity in outer space and maximise the benefits of space for all.

The Czech Republic align itself with the statement of the EU on behalf of its Member States and we would like to reiterate our strong support for the rules-based international order, with the United Nations at its core, and a multilateral approach to international affairs, including cooperation on the outer space issues.

Dear Chair,

The Czech Republic doesn't support the current version of the draft resolution on Space Science and Technology for Promoting Peace, submitted by the Russian Federation. We believe that peaceful uses of outer space should start with peaceful and responsible behaviour on Earth and not by serious violations of the UN Charter.

Chair, distinguished delegates,

The main interests of the Czech Republic's space activities lie in the fields of Earth Observation, Navigation, Telecommunications, Launchers, Space Science and Exploration and Space Safety. Our memberships in the European Space Agency and the European Union remain the main pillars of the development of our space activities and participation in space projects.

In the field of space activities, the Czech Republic has a lot to build on whether we look at the Magion series of satellites, participation in many scientific experiments or the flight of Vladimir Remek. In the last 30 years, space activities have become increasingly commercialised, and this trend continues until today. The Czech Republic's entry into the ESA, more than 15 years ago, has opened up new possibilities and opportunities for us, which, I dare say, we have tackled with the utmost commitment and a desire to show the republic's potential.

Space missions are always a unique opportunity for each State to participate in something unique with high added value. Thus, the Czech footprint is not missing even on the most important missions, such as the Solar Orbiter, Hera, EUCLID, and Meteosat of the 3rd generation. JUICE, FLEX satellite and many other missions with various objectives.

Speaking of missions, it is also necessary to mention the new initiative of the Czech ambitious missions, which represent a breakthrough in Czech space activities, especially in their uniqueness and contribution. These are the AMBIC and the QUVIK missions.

The AMBIC mission will be satellites primarily focused on Earth observation with the capability to provide data for commercial and government use. The system will be usable, for example, for emergency and disaster monitoring or infrastructure monitoring.

In contrast, QUVIK is a space telescope for observing high-energy phenomena in space in the ultraviolet region. The primary objective of these missions, however, is to demonstrate the technology and to prove the capability of the Czech industry and research community in preparing its own Czech satellite in the 100 kgs category. The technologies developed for these missions will also find usage in the commercial sector.

Chair, distinguished delegates,

Finally, I would like to highlight the socio-economic benefits of space activities in our everyday lives. Since we already take many things for granted, such as long-distance calls and data transmissions and satellite navigation. So is precise time, satellite imagery for monitoring the territory and the atmosphere, on which many applications are based.

Chair,

In conclusion, let me assure you that the Czech Republic remains committed to international cooperation in outer space at all levels and would like to reiterate its strong support for the work and the mission of the UN COPUOS and its Subcommittees.

Chair, distinguished delegates, I thank you for your kind attention.

