



# **SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS**

**SGAC Statement at the  
62nd Session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee  
of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**Agenda Item 15  
Dark and Quiet Skies, Astronomy and Large Constellations:  
Addressing Emerging Issues and Challenges**

**Presented by:  
Antonino Salmeri, SGAC Chair**



Thank you, Madame Chair.

On behalf of the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), it is a great honor to address this Subcommittee on “dark and quiet skies, astronomy and large constellations: addressing emerging issues and challenges”.

As the global organization representing the united space youth, we are pleased to see the Subcommittee considering the preservation of dark and quiet skies, an issue of growing significance for preserving space for future generations.

Distinguished delegates, with the rapid expansion of satellite constellations and increasing anthropogenic optical and radio interference, it has become clear that we must work collectively to preserve the integrity of our observational capabilities. Dark and quiet skies are not only essential for astronomical discovery but also serve as an invaluable resource for humanity’s understanding of the universe and our place within it.

In this context, I am pleased to announce that SGAC has recently joined the Group of Friends of the Dark and Quiet Sky for Science and Society, a platform dedicated to supporting research, fostering technical dialogue, and facilitating cooperation on this matter. This decision reflects SGAC’s enduring commitment to space sustainability and to providing the united views of the space youth for consideration in global discussions. We are grateful to the delegations of Chile and Spain for leading this important initiative with the support of IAU and SKAO.

Madame Chair, SGAC is a long-standing supporter of global efforts to mitigate the impact of space activities on astronomical observations. Our members have constructively engaged in this issue, including for example by contributing to the working group for the UNOOSA/IAU Dark and Quiet Skies for Science and Society Conferences in 2021 and 2022. These conferences provided a critical forum to assess the challenges posed by satellite constellations, propose mitigation strategies, and foster dialogue between the space and astronomy communities.

Building upon this work, SGAC members have further contributed to the efforts of



the IAU Centre for the Protection of the Dark and Quiet Sky from Satellite Constellation Interference (IAU CPS). We also look forward to participating in the next workshop on Dark and Quiet Skies jointly organised by UNOOSA and SKAO during the last week of October 2025 at the SKAO Global Headquarters in the UK.

Distinguished Delegates, at SGAC we firmly believe that the preservation of dark and quiet skies is a critical aspect of broader space sustainability efforts. As outlined in our technical presentation last week, and further discussed in our Intergenerational Pact for Space Sustainability (IPASS), ensuring the responsible use of space requires a collaborative and holistic approach balancing scientific, economic, and environmental considerations. It is for this reason that SGAC continues to foster multidisciplinary and intergenerational dialogues between young professionals, scientists, and policymakers, promoting a pragmatic and forward-looking approach to addressing these complex issues.

Madame Chair, we are encouraged by the growing recognition of the importance of dark and quiet skies within this Subcommittee and grateful to the several Member States which have been advocating for concrete solutions. SGAC remains committed to supporting these efforts by fostering an intergenerational approach to space governance, recognizing that addressing these challenges requires a balanced approach that is both technical-driven and policy-informed.

As we look ahead, we are convinced that by working together, we can develop innovative solutions ensuring that space remains a shared domain of peaceful exploration, scientific discovery, and international cooperation providing benefits to all humanity, present and future.

Thank you for your kind attention.