

UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Scientific and technical Subcommittee

Sixty-Second Session

Vienna, 3 February - 14 February 2025

Statement of the Delegation of Romania

**Agenda item 3: General exchange of views and introduction of reports
submitted on national activities**

Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

Let me start by congratulating you Dr. Ulpia Botezatu for chairing this session. We are proud that a Romanian delegate has been entrusted with such an important role. Romania is committed to supporting you and to constructively contribute to our debates and efforts.

We also congratulate the UNOOSA Director, Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini for her commitment and activities. We are confident that her guidance will significantly advance the mission of UNOOSA in promoting international cooperation in outer space.

It is with great regret that we have learned of the passing of our distinguished colleague, Ambassador Andrzej Misztal. We convey our condolences to the delegation of Poland and through them to his family,

Chair,

Romania fully aligns itself with the EU statement and in addition would like to make the following remarks in a national capacity.

Romania reaffirms its strong support for COPUOS and its Subcommittees, as essential platforms for fostering international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. We acknowledge the significant role of UNOOSA in supporting these efforts.

As an active member of both the European Union and the European Space Agency, Romania participates in all major space programs and initiatives on Science and Exploration, Human Spaceflight, Safety and Security, Earth Observation, Telecommunications and Integrated Applications, Navigation, Space transportation.

Recent advancements in Romania's space sector demonstrate our commitment to global space collaboration. We are proud to highlight our ongoing commitment to the Artemis Accords and our active involvement in discussing lunar sustainable exploration.

In the realm of Lunar activities, Romania maintains the view that the long-term sustainability of outer space activities should be a joint endeavour of member states, encompassing both governmental and non-governmental entities engaged in space-related fields. Also, the Romanian delegation asserts that the notion of Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities should encompass endeavours linked to other celestial bodies, with particular emphasis on the Moon.

Romania reaffirms its strong commitment to promoting international cooperation in the peaceful and sustainable use of the Moon and other celestial bodies. As the initiator of the consultation mechanism for the Action Team on Lunar Activities (ATLAC), Romania believes it is time to move forward and take the next step to advancing this initiative. Romania is grateful that our candidate, Ms. Ulpia-Elena Botezatu, has been endorsed to co-chair ATLAC consultations and advance its substantive work, together with the distinguished delegate of Pakistan, Mr. Hasan Abbas.

Romania acknowledges that the coordination of space traffic represents one of the most pressing challenges facing the space sector today. We commend the discussions under the UN Space Bridge initiative during the UNGA 4th Committee meeting in November last year. This meeting provided valuable insights into the global operational dynamics of space traffic coordination and has the potential to foster a shared understanding of the threats and risks in outer space. Such a common perspective is essential for achieving effective and cooperative global governance of space activities.

As part of our national efforts, the Operational Center for Space Surveillance and Tracking is being hosted within the premises of the Romanian Space Agency. The Operational Centre collects information from our network of telescopes and radars,

analyses it, and then feeds it in the European database for Space Surveillance and Tracking, as part of our national contribution to the EUSST Partnership.

Since 2014, Romania has been a member of the European Union Space Surveillance and Tracking (EU SST) Support Framework, thus contributing with sensor capabilities, data-processing and service functions to support decision making at national and regional levels. As member of the EUSST Partnership, Romania is currently developing and extending the above-mentioned optical and radar surveillance and tracking infrastructure, with a view to accommodating additional new technological upgrades for optical communication and quantum capabilities.

Madam Chair,

Romania warmly welcomes the organization of the UN Space Sustainability Days on 30 and 31 January 2025, an event that provided a unique platform for dialogue and cooperation on critical aspects of space sustainability. We particularly commend the inclusion of the workshop and simulation exercise, which will offer valuable opportunities for stakeholders to engage in practical discussions and collaborative problem-solving. Romania was encouraged by the active participation of member states and other stakeholders in this initiative and reaffirms its commitment to supporting global efforts to enhance the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

Furthermore, Romania is steadfast in its alignment with the Space2030 Agenda, recognizing its strategic role as a framework for leveraging space as a driver of sustainable development. By committing to the four pillars of space economy, society, accessibility, and diplomacy, Romania actively fosters capacity-building, international collaboration, and the integration of space solutions to address global challenges. This commitment is reflected also in our national strategies and our engagement in multilateral initiatives which aim to enhance equitable access to space technologies and data for all Member States.

Additionally, we welcome and support the ongoing consultations towards UNISPACE IV in 2027, which presents a timely opportunity to consolidate global governance mechanisms, enhance space sustainability, and advance space-based solutions tailored to the needs of developing nations, ensuring that space activities continue to serve the peaceful benefit of all humankind.

We look forward to a fruitful collaboration and remain dedicated to contributing meaningfully to the discussions and initiatives of COPUOS and its subsidiary bodies.

Thank you.