



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of  
Poland  
to the United Nations Office and  
the International Organizations in Vienna**

**63<sup>rd</sup> session of the Legal Subcommittee  
of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space  
Agenda item 4 General Exchange of Views  
Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Poland**

**Mr. Artur Harazim  
Vienna, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, on behalf of my delegation, let me congratulate you on your election to the post of the Chair of this distinguished body. I wish you all success in your responsible mission.

I would also like to express our gratitude to Madame Nomfuneko Majaja, the former Chair of the Legal Subcommittee for her outstanding work during her chairpersonship.

I wish to extend our sincere appreciation to Madame Aarti Holla-Maini, the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, the Secretariat and the entire Office for their exceptional work.

In addition, my Delegation welcomes the progress made within the Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resource Activities and encourages further constructive and result – oriented work towards achieving consensus on debated issues.

We thank the Chair of the Working Group Mr. Andrzej Misztal and the Vice – Chair Mr. Steven Freeland for their able leadership and we congratulate on organising the successful International Conference on Space Resources.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

My Delegation aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union. The Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine manifestly violates international law and has multiple negative consequences for international cooperation especially in the space sector.

In this context, I would like to highlight that the role of COPUOS, its Subcommittees and all of us gathered here in Vienna at the 63 Session of the Legal Subcommittee, is to be proactive to help outer space to remain safe and secure for present and future generation.

Poland underscores the importance of international cooperation in the field of establishing norms, rules as well non – legally binding instruments to ensure the peaceful, rational and equitable use of outer space, environmental protection of outer space, space debris reduction, safe and managed space traffic as well as the exploitation and utilisation of space resources in accordance with guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

We follow with great interest the process of implementation of article XI of the Outer Space Treaty and we appreciate efforts of the Working Group on Status and Application of the five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space to assure the open and transparent information sharing between all States and interested partners.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Our Delegation would like to inform you about recently undertaken efforts to adopt the national legislation on the activity in outer space

The law being proposed will also be a foundation of a reform for national system of monitoring applications, products, analytical tools, services and infrastructure using satellite data in order to improve functioning of public administration.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

We believe that in terms of contemporary space policy and diplomacy, the Artemis Accords is one of the essential tools for implementing the provisions of four out of the five United Nations Space treaties. The preamble of the Artemis Accords and provisions therein reaffirm the importance of compliance with the United Nations Treaties on Outer Space.

The Polish Space Agency joined the Artemis Accords in October 2021 and since then, Poland, as one of the most committed members of the Artemis community, has been developing its national competences in space exploration.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

We attach great importance to a contribution of the academic community on dissemination of the knowledge on international space law.

During last year several conferences and seminars on space law were organized by Manfred Lachs Center for Space Law, a platform for academic community, in cooperation with the Department of International Aviation and Space Law of the Faculty of Law and

Administration of the University of Warsaw, the Polish Space Agency and the University of Szczecin.

Furthermore, the University of Rzeszow organized the International Conference on Aviation and Space Law and Technology in April last year. As we deliberate here, this University is continuing this exercise with another edition of this event.

The ongoing activities of the academic community are supported by non-governmental organizations related to space sector including the Polish Space Sector Professionals, the Association of Space Sector Employers and the Polish Space Industry Foundation.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

I am deeply sorry to inform you about the death of our distinguished renowned colleague – Professor Piotr Wolański, an eminent scientist and a world-class specialist in astrophysics.

Professor Wolański was the former vice chair of the COPUOS and long-serving chairman of the Polish delegation to the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

Professor Wolański, in the Pantheon of lawyers, scientists and researchers renowned for the development of space law and space sector, joined the Polish Professor Manfred Lachs, the mastermind of the UN Treaties on outer space and the initiator of the Legal Subcommittee and its first Chair.

Mr. Chair,

I would like to conclude my statement by underlining that Poland is deeply attached to the work of the COPUOS and its Subcommittees from the very beginning and our Delegation is a firm supporter of the multilateralism and believes that there is no other way to ensure the proper functioning of international activities in the outer space than within the internationally agreed legal and institutional framework.

Thank you for your kind attention.