



American Model United Nations
General Assembly First Committee

GA First/1/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly First Committee

The General Assembly First Committee,

1 *Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 2222 (XXI), 72/250, 71/31, 71/32, 77/250, and 76/231,

2 *Deeply concerned* with the amount of debris currently in orbit (10,000 tonnes in weight accord-
3 ing to the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs),

4 *Recognizing* the growing threat posed by space debris to global communications, scientific
5 endeavors and research-motivated advancements,

6 *Alarmed* that of the 29,000 pieces of space debris in orbit, 4,300 have been created by destruc-
7 tive anti-satellite missile testing (ASAT), according to the United Nations General Assembly,

8 *Acknowledging* the importance of international cooperation and data sharing in tracking, pre-
9 venting and mitigating orbital debris,

10 *Expressing grave concern* over the threat of an arms race in outer space, which would have
11 catastrophic consequences for both Member States and non-Member States alike,

12 *Reaffirming* the right of all Member States to peacefully explore outer space,

13 *Further reaffirming* the unique abilities of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
14 (COPUOS) in regards to international cooperation encouraging the exploration of outer space while
15 addressing the legal concerns that arise from potential weapon use in space,

16 1. *Proclaims* its responsibility to upholding the principles laid forth in the Outer Space Treaty
17 of 1967 of encouraging research-motivated rather than militaristic advancements, especially placing
18 nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction in outer space;

19 2. *Calls* for limitations on destructive ASAT missile testing in order to prevent further space debris
20 and for Member States to begin working to cease the use of ASAT missile testing, specifically that which
21 destroys both functional and non-functional satellites in orbit;

22 3. *Encourages* Member States to practice the use of alternative non-destructive testing meth-
23 ods, including but not limited to simulated software models, laser tracking and ground-based systems;

24 4. *Recommends* that Member States work to clear up existing orbital debris by:

25 (a) Working together to create and act out Active Debris Removal missions;

26 (b) Utilizing tools such as robotic arms, harpoons and nets to capture and deorbit large
27 debris which could impact satellites, space missions, etc;

28 (c) Calling upon the COPUOS to oversee this effort;

29 5. *Further requests* that the international rules and regulations previously agreed in upon by
30 this body are also enforced in respect to private companies in their spatial endeavors;

31 6. *Calls upon* COPUOS to expand the principles outlined in the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 and
32 further include limitations on the amount of space debris per Member State utilizing ground-based
33 systems to track their objects in orbit;

34 7. Invites COPUOS to facilitate regular exchanges of information among Member States re-
35 garding State efforts to mitigate space debris, with the aim of promoting transparency and building
36 confidence in peaceful space activities.

Passed, Yes: 71 / No: 10 / Abstain: 15