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Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting on "Risks and challenges emanating from uncontrolled use of Low Earth Orbit satellites"
Monday 29 December 2025

Greece's Statement delivered
by Mr. Konstantinos Christoglou

Mr. Chair,

I welcome Mr. Borodin, Mr. Sánchez, Mrs. Bencomo and Mr. Strelets and I thank them for their briefings.

Greece is committed to promoting the preservation of a safe, stable, secure and sustainable space environment and the peaceful use of outer space on an equitable and mutually acceptable basis in accordance with international law. We believe that the five UN treaties on outer space, in particular the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, as well as the relevant UN General Assembly sets of principles, constitute the cornerstone of international space law and we attach great importance to their implementation.

Outer space exploration is witnessing unprecedented technological advances, including Low Earth Orbit satellite communication systems. LEO satellites have proven to offer tangible benefits in various fields, from upholding peace and security to promoting sustainable development. We commend the critical support that LEO satellites have provided to enhance Ukraine's defense capabilities against Russia's war of aggression. This is crucial in order to defend Ukraine and its civilian population from the unrelenting and systematic Russian attacks, which target critical civilian and energy infrastructure with the aim to paralyze Ukraine's war effort and the morale of its population.

Nevertheless, LEO satellites pose threats that can compromise space sustainability and the level of trust among space actors. In this context, we recall that the Pact for the Future recognised the need for urgent action to ensure the safe and sustainable use of space for the benefit of all humankind.

Mr. Chair, at this stage allow me to highlight the following points:

First, Greece supports the functional approach concerning the definition of outer space. According to this approach, an area is considered outer space at any distance from the surface of the Earth as long as it may be used by space objects. Therefore,

Greece firmly believes that LEO operations are governed by international law, including international space law.

Second, we support the establishment of a unified regulatory framework, in accordance with international space law, in order to address situations where LEO operators do not follow the national legislations. We are looking ahead towards the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2027, in hope that it will offer a forum for determining global satellite spectrum policies.

Third, we recognize the need to uphold the legitimate interest of States to be protected from illegal interference facilitated by LEO systems. Cybersecurity measures, such as encryption, secure authentication, and comprehensive supply-chain risk management can be useful tools to this end. The EU had been active on this field, with its Directives on cybersecurity (NIS2) and physical resilience of critical entities (CER).

Fourth, we are ready to examine proposals that can clarify the legal responsibility and accountability of LEO operators. We recently updated our relevant national legislation on the responsibility of satellite operators and we stand ready to engage in this direction in the upcoming World Radiocommunication Conference.

Lastly, we are convinced that international space law offers the legal framework to address States' responsibility for the activities of LEO operators working within their jurisdiction. In particular, it holds States responsible for private space activities under their jurisdiction, meaning that a nation must authorize and supervise its private actors, and it remains liable for any damage caused.

In concluding, Greece stands ready to continue discussing ways and means to reinforce space governance, including the specific issue of LEO satellites, in the interest of maintaining a sustainable outer space for the benefit of present and future generations.

I thank you