

HMDC Presents... FUTURISTIC SC: Review Quiz

HMDC Presents... Review Quiz: Futuristic Security Council: Security Council of 2100, Use of Space

We take this quiz after we have read the full research report, without looking back at it while we answer. Then we check our answers in the Answer Key at the end. For every question we missed, we go back and reread the part of the report that the Answer Key names, so the idea is clear before committee.

PART 1 THE TOPIC

These questions check what we understood about the harms of today's space environment and the five major solutions. Each question has one best answer.

1. According to the European Space Agency (April 1, 2025), why would the amount of space debris keep growing even if every launch stopped?
 - A. Old satellites slowly break into smaller pieces when the Sun heats them.
 - B. Collisions and break-ups create new debris faster than old debris falls back to Earth.
 - C. Private companies are still allowed to leave their rockets in orbit.
 - D. Debris near 550 km never falls back to Earth at all.
2. The Nature Astronomy study (July 11, 2022) looked at rocket bodies falling back to Earth without control. Who carries most of this risk?
 - A. The countries that launch the most rockets, such as the United States and China.
 - B. Ships and airlines over the open ocean.
 - C. Astronauts living on space stations.
 - D. Cities in the Global South, such as Jakarta, Dhaka and Lagos.
3. Russia and China have proposed a treaty that would ban placing weapons in space. What is one disadvantage that critics point out?
 - A. It does not cover missiles fired from the ground, and there is no agreed way to check whether countries obey it.
 - B. It would ban satellites used for weather forecasts and phone calls.
 - C. It would cancel the 1967 Outer Space Treaty.
 - D. It only covers weapons on the Moon, not weapons in orbit.
4. Many countries support "norms of responsible behaviour" in space. What is the main disadvantage of this solution?
 - A. Norms take much longer to agree than a full treaty.
 - B. Norms only cover the Moon and not satellites in orbit.
 - C. Norms are usually voluntary, so a country that breaks them may face no penalty.
 - D. Norms focus on actions that nobody can see or measure.

5. The RAND Corporation (June 9, 2026) says most space systems are "dual use." What does RAND recommend because of this?
 - A. Sort every satellite into a "civilian" list and a "military" list.
 - B. Build rules around behaviour and effects that can be observed, not around the type of satellite.
 - C. Ban every satellite that could be used by an army.
 - D. Let each country decide for itself which satellites are weapons.
6. Which statement correctly describes the Artemis Accords, as the report explains them?
 - A. They call the Moon's resources the "common heritage of mankind" and require all mining profits to be shared.
 - B. They are a binding Security Council resolution adopted in 2020.
 - C. They ban all mining on the Moon, Mars and asteroids.
 - D. They allow resource extraction under the Outer Space Treaty and use temporary "safety zones" to avoid interference.

PART 2 THE UNITED NATIONS

These questions check what we understood about the UN resolutions and the UN bodies that work on space. We focus on what each one did and why it matters, not on memorising symbols.

1. In April 2024 the Security Council voted on draft resolution S/2024/302, which would have affirmed the ban on nuclear weapons in orbit. What happened?
 - A. It passed with all 15 votes and became binding on every UN member.
 - B. It failed because it received only seven votes in favour.
 - C. Thirteen members voted in favour, but Russia voted against, which was a veto, and China abstained.
 - D. The United States vetoed it because it did not ban all weapons in space.
2. In 2007 the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/62/217. What did it do about space debris?
 - A. It endorsed the voluntary Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines written by COPUOS.
 - B. It created a binding international agency to remove debris.
 - C. It fined countries that left debris in orbit.
 - D. It banned all satellites above 800 km.
3. In 2022 the General Assembly adopted A/RES/77/41, which calls on all states to commit not to conduct destructive anti-satellite missile tests. Why does the report say this is not enough on its own?
 - A. Only three countries voted for it.
 - B. General Assembly resolutions are recommendations; only the Security Council can make such a ban binding.
 - C. It only applies to tests on the Moon.
 - D. It was cancelled by the Security Council in 2024.
4. COPUOS, the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, grew from 18 members in 1958 to 110 in 2025. Why does the report say this growth can make its work harder?
 - A. COPUOS can only meet once every ten years.
 - B. New members are not allowed to vote.
 - C. COPUOS moved its meetings from Vienna to New York.
 - D. COPUOS works by consensus, so every new member makes agreement harder.

5. In the Pact for the Future (A/RES/79/1, 2024), Action 56, what did world leaders agree to do?
 - A. Replace the Outer Space Treaty with a new treaty by 2027.
 - B. Give the Security Council control over all private satellites.
 - C. Discuss new frameworks for space traffic, space debris and space resources through COPUOS, and consider holding UNISPACE IV in 2027.
 - D. Ban all new satellite networks until debris is cleaned up.

PART 3 INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS

These questions check what we understood about the efforts that happen outside the UN or beside it, and the gaps those efforts leave open.

1. By September 2026, 76 nations had signed the Artemis Accords. What does the report say about how this group now works?
 - A. It has become a formal UN committee based in Vienna.
 - B. Its signatories meet twice a year under their own method of operations, outside the UN system.
 - C. It only includes the seven founding nations.
 - D. It has merged with the China-Russia International Lunar Research Station.
2. The Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) has 13 space agencies as members. Why does the report say this matters for the Security Council?
 - A. The IADC can already punish countries that create debris.
 - B. The IADC includes only European agencies, so it shows Europe leads on debris.
 - C. The IADC replaced COPUOS in 2026.
 - D. Rivals such as the United States, China, Russia and Ukraine already cooperate there, so debris may be the most realistic place to start binding rules.
3. According to the Secure World Foundation (July 16, 2026), what happened at the COPUOS session in June 2026?
 - A. The Committee did not adopt its report by consensus, so it had no agreed agenda for 2027, and there was no consensus on holding UNISPACE IV.
 - B. The Committee adopted binding debris rules for all 110 members.
 - C. The Committee voted to remove six members.
 - D. The Committee agreed to hold UNISPACE IV in New York in 2027.
4. The European Commission proposed the EU Space Act in June 2025. Which statement describes both what it would do and the gap or objection the report mentions?
 - A. It would ban all non-European satellites; other regions say it is too weak.
 - B. It would only cover European space agencies; companies say it ignores them.
 - C. It would set binding rules on debris, tracking and cybersecurity, including for non-EU operators serving Europe; other regions may argue one bloc should not set rules for operators from the whole world.
 - D. It would make the Artemis Accords binding in Europe; Russia says it breaks the Moon Agreement.

THINK LIKE A DELEGATE

These questions have no single correct answer. We write a few sentences for each one, using evidence from the report, and then compare our answer with the list of what a strong answer includes.

1. We represent a developing country with no satellites of its own. What would we argue the Security Council of 2100 should do about the risks and benefits of space, and why?
 2. In April and May 2024 the Security Council blocked two space drafts less than a month apart, one from each camp. How would we write a space resolution that all five permanent members might accept, and why would our approach work where the 2024 drafts did not?
 3. Most working satellites today belong to private companies, but Security Council resolutions bind states, not companies. How would we argue the Council should control what companies do in space, and why?
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ANSWER KEY

We check each answer, read the reason, and then reread the part of the report named in brackets for any question we missed.

PART 1 THE TOPIC

1. **B:** ESA says collisions and break-ups create debris faster than it falls back, so the debris population grows on its own. (Part 1, 1A, European Space Agency, April 1, 2025)
2. **D:** Cities in the Global South are at least three times as likely as cities such as Washington or Beijing to have a rocket body fall over them. (Part 1, 1A, Nature Astronomy, July 11, 2022)
3. **A:** Critics argue a ban on placing weapons in orbit misses ground-fired missiles, which caused the destructive tests, and has no agreed way to check. (Part 1, 1B introduction)
4. **C:** Norms can be agreed faster and focus on visible actions, but they are usually voluntary, so breaking them may carry no penalty. (Part 1, 1C introduction)
5. **B:** RAND recommends assuming all space systems are dual use and judging behaviour and effects, rather than sorting satellites into types. (Part 1, 1C, RAND Corporation, June 9, 2026)
6. **D:** The Accords allow resource extraction under the Outer Space Treaty and use temporary safety zones, while the "common heritage" idea comes from the Moon Agreement. (Part 1, 1F, NASA, October 7, 2026)

PART 2 THE UNITED NATIONS

1. **C:** The vote was 13 in favour, Russia against and China abstaining, and Russia's vote counted as a veto because it is a permanent member. (Part 2, 2C, United Nations Press SC/15678, April 24, 2024)
2. **A:** A/RES/62/217 endorsed the COPUOS Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines, which are voluntary. (Part 2, 2A, Table of Resolutions, and 2D)
3. **B:** General Assembly resolutions are recommendations, and only the Security Council can make a test ban binding. (Part 2, 2A, Table of Resolutions, and Part 1, 1D)
4. **D:** COPUOS works by consensus, so each new member makes it harder for everyone to agree. (Part 2, 2B, UNOOSA, COPUOS membership)
5. **C:** Action 56 calls for discussing new frameworks for traffic, debris and resources through COPUOS and encourages consultation on UNISPACE IV in 2027. (Part 2, 2E, A/RES/79/1, September 22, 2024)

PART 3 INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS

1. **B:** Since 2024 the signatories have met twice a year under an agreed method of operations, outside the UN system. (Part 3, 3A, NASA, September 28, 2026)
2. **D:** The IADC brings rival space agencies together on debris, which suggests debris is the most realistic area for binding rules. (Part 3, 3H)
3. **A:** COPUOS failed to adopt its report by consensus, leaving no agreed agenda for 2027, and UNISPACE IV had support but no consensus. (Part 3, 3G, Secure World Foundation, July 16, 2026)
4. **C:** The Act would set binding safety, resilience and sustainability rules that also cover non-EU operators serving Europe, and other regions may object to one bloc setting rules for everyone. (Part 3, 3J, European Commission, June 25, 2025)

THINK LIKE A DELEGATE: WHAT A STRONG ANSWER INCLUDES

1. **Developing country position:** A strong answer uses the Nature Astronomy evidence that falling-rocket risk lands mostly on the Global South, and asks for controlled reentry rules and fair compensation under the Liability Convention. It also points to UN-SPIDER and capacity-building to show that developing countries need a fair share of space benefits, and it may cite the ITU finding that nearly two-thirds of countries now operate satellites, so space is no longer for a few powers only. (Part 1, 1A and 1G; Part 2, 2F; Part 3, 3I)
2. **Writing around the veto:** A strong answer explains that the 2024 drafts failed because the two camps disagreed over which weapons to ban and how to define a "space weapon." It proposes a definition both camps could accept, such as UNIDIR's three-part test (intent, behaviour, harmful impact) or RAND's idea of judging behaviour rather than hardware. It may also suggest starting with debris, where rivals already cooperate through the IADC, before moving to weapons. (Part 2, 2C and 2E; Part 1, 1C; Part 3, 3H)
3. **Controlling private companies:** A strong answer uses the Outer Space Treaty rule that states are responsible for what their companies do in space, so the Council can bind companies through the states that license them. It cites evidence that one company runs about 65% of active satellites and has asked one national regulator to approve one million satellites, and it may propose international review before any state licenses a giant constellation. It may also address the risk that company satellites become military targets, as Russia has warned. (Part 1, 1A, Jonathan's Space Report, October 12, 2026, and Brookings Institution, June 25, 2026; Part 2, 2B; Part 1, 1A, CSIS, October 5, 2026)