

## HMDC Presents... CRISIS - FUTURISTIC SC: Part 3 (International Efforts)

# HMDC Presents... Futuristic Security Council: Security Council of 2100: Use of Space (Research Report, December 2026)

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Prepared for HMDC Forensics delegates attending Harvard Model United Nations Online, December 5-6, 2026. Every fact below comes from a page or official document that was opened and read in October 2026. Each evidence entry repeats its publication and date so the source is always visible.

This committee is set in the year 2100, but the year 2100 does not exist yet. Everything in the evidence entries is about the real world of 2026 and earlier. Anything about 2100 is clearly marked **FICTION (2100 ASSUMPTION)** so that no delegate mistakes an invented scenario for a fact.

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## WHAT OUR CHAIRS WILL FOCUS ON

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Harvard tells us that our committee is a meeting of the Security Council in the year 2100, at a time when space technology has grown very fast and many more nations are active in space. Our chairs will ask us to deal with three main questions: weapons and military power in space, whether a nation may claim part of space as its own territory, and what a nation can do when another nation damages its satellites, bases or other equipment in space. We will mix real policy and technology from today with an imagined future, and we will respond to new problems as the crisis changes. In the end, the Council must decide rules and make sure they are followed, so that we "enforce rulings for fair behavior in the next frontier" (Harvard Model United Nations, HMUN Online Committee Page, Last Accessed: October 2026).

<https://www.harvardmun.org/security-council-online>

The parts of this report that match that focus most closely are Sections 1B, 1C and 1D (weapons, behaviour rules and anti-satellite tests), Section 1F with Sections 3A, 3B and 3F (claims on the Moon and on space resources), Sections 2B, 2C, 2E and 2H (the treaties, the Security Council votes and where each bloc stands), Section 2I (redress after damage) and Section 2J (claims to regions of space).

**How we use this report:** Our first priority is weapons, territorial claims and repair or payment after damage, because those are the three areas Harvard names. Space debris takes up a large share of this report (much of Section 1A, plus Sections 1E, 2D, 3C and 3H), so we use debris mostly as background, or as one kind of damage that one nation causes to another, not as the main topic of our speeches. Sections 2F (disasters and development) and 3I (radio frequencies) are background only. Redress is the question of how a nation that was harmed gets its loss repaired or paid back. Section 2I collects the real tools that exist today (the Liability Convention, the Cosmos 954 settlement, reports to the UN and ITU interference complaints), and Section 2J collects the real disputes over claims to space, so we read both closely and then prepare our own ideas for how the Council could judge a complaint and enforce its decision.

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## PART 3, INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS

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Beyond the UN's own bodies, several international groups, agreements and organisations shape how space is used. Some are led by one country but include many members, and some are run by international non-governmental organisations that track what governments do.

### 3A. ARTEMIS ACCORDS (MULTILATERAL, LED FROM THE UNITED STATES)

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration, September 25, 2026: San Marino became the 76th nation to sign**

Tagline: Signing on seventy-six nations

Source: According to... National Aeronautics and Space Administration, September 25, 2026

Link: <https://www.nasa.gov/organizations/oiir/NASA-welcomes-san-marino-signing-the-artemis-accords/>

Fact: It states... San Marino became the 76th nation to sign the Artemis Accords, at a ceremony in Rimini, Italy. The Accords were set up in 2020 by NASA, the US State Department and seven other founding nations. They set out principles for peaceful and transparent exploration of the Moon, Mars and beyond, including helping those in need, sharing scientific data, avoiding interference with others' activities and preserving historic sites.

This means... A large group of countries has accepted one set of rules for the Moon outside the UN. Delegates must decide whether the 2100 Council should build on the Accords, replace them, or combine them with the rival China-Russia lunar research station plan (see 3F).

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration, September 28, 2026: Nearly 40% of the world's nations now work with NASA under the Accords**

Tagline: Growing the Artemis coalition

Source: According to... National Aeronautics and Space Administration, September 28, 2026

Link: <https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/nasa-celebrates-as-artemis-accords-surpasses-75-signatories/>

Fact: It states... Albania, Croatia, Côte d'Ivoire and San Marino joined the Accords, bringing the total to 76 countries. Nearly one-third of all signatories joined after the start of President Trump's second term. NASA says nearly 40% of the world's nations now cooperate under the Accords, and nearly two-thirds of the countries that signed the 1967 Outer Space Treaty have also signed the Accords. Since 2024 the signatories have met twice a year under an agreed method of operations, with a principals' meeting held at the International Astronautical Congress in Antalya, Türkiye, beginning October 5, 2026.

This means... The Accords are becoming a club with its own regular meetings, outside the UN system. Delegates must decide whether a parallel club of this size strengthens space law or splits the world into rival rule systems.

### 3B. COPUOS WORKING GROUP ON SPACE RESOURCES

**United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, Last Accessed: October 2026: Draft principles on space resources due for finalisation in 2027**

Tagline: Drafting principles for space mining

Source: According to... United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, Last Accessed: October 2026

Link: <https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/lsc/space-resources/index.html>

Fact: It states... The Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resource Activities, under the COPUOS Legal Subcommittee, has a five-year workplan from 2022 to 2027. Its tasks are to study existing law, assess whether new rules are needed and develop initial recommended principles for consensus. A first draft of principles was issued on March 27, 2025, with updated drafts in July, October and December 2025. The final principles are planned for 2027.

This means... For the first time, all COPUOS members are negotiating shared principles for space mining. In 2100 (a fiction assumption), those principles may be the starting point for any dispute the Council faces.

### 3C. THE ZERO DEBRIS CHARTER

**European Space Agency, Last Accessed: October 2026: Over 200 organisations and 20+ countries committed**

Tagline: Gathering two hundred signatories

Source: According to... European Space Agency, Last Accessed: October 2026

Link: [https://www.esa.int/Space\\_Safety/Clean\\_Space/The\\_Zero\\_Debris\\_Charter](https://www.esa.int/Space_Safety/Clean_Space/The_Zero_Debris_Charter)

Fact: It states... The Zero Debris Charter was written by 40 space actors with support from ESA and announced at the Paris Air Show in June 2023, with a kick-off on July 10, 2023. More than 200 companies, research centres and international organisations, and more than 20 countries, have committed to it.

This means... ESA is an intergovernmental organisation of European states, and the Charter shows how international bodies can bring companies into rule-making. Delegates can propose that the Council endorse such charters to give them more weight.

### 3D. UNIDIR SPACE SECURITY WORK

**United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, Last Accessed: October 2026: Running a yearly Outer Space Security Conference and a space security lexicon**

Tagline: Building trust through transparency

Source: According to... United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, Last Accessed: October 2026

Link: <https://unidir.org/focus-area/space-security/>

Fact: It states... UNIDIR's Space Security programme aims to build shared understanding of space security problems and develop solutions for a more secure, sustainable and predictable space environment. It runs the yearly Outer Space Security Conference (the 2026 conference was held on September 8-9, 2026), a Space Security Portal for transparency and confidence-building, and a Lexicon for Outer Space Security so that countries use the same words in the same way.

This means... Countries cannot agree on rules if they do not agree on what words mean. Delegates can use UNIDIR's work to define terms such as "space weapon" in a resolution.

### **3E. INDEPENDENT MONITORING BY INTERNATIONAL NGOS AND THINK TANKS**

#### **Secure World Foundation, April 8, 2026: 6,904 catalogued debris pieces from weapons testing, 2,773 still in orbit**

Tagline: Counting debris from weapons tests

Source: According to... Secure World Foundation, April 8, 2026

Link: <https://swfound.org/counterspace/>

Fact: It states... Counterspace testing by the United States, Russia, China and India has produced 6,904 catalogued debris pieces, of which 2,773 are still in orbit. The report also notes cyber attacks, including major breaches of ESA computer systems, and geostationary communications satellites that do not encrypt their data.

This means... Independent organisations provide the public evidence that governments may not share. A 2100 Council could create its own monitoring body or rely on independent groups, and delegates must decide which is more trustworthy.

#### **Center for Strategic and International Studies, May 22, 2026: Satellites refuelling, swarming and spoofing in 2025-2026**

Tagline: Watching new moves in orbit

Source: According to... Center for Strategic and International Studies, May 22, 2026

Link: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/what-are-biggest-space-threats-2026>

Fact: It states... At a public briefing with the Secure World Foundation, CSIS experts reported that two Chinese satellites (SJ-21 and SJ-25) appear to have refuelled one another in geostationary orbit, which would be a first, and that five Chinese satellites in low orbit operated within less than a kilometre of each other. Russian satellites made close approaches to other satellites, and jamming and spoofing of navigation and satellite communications are now used by Ukraine, Russia and Iran. In January, Iran reportedly spoofed Starlink terminals and took the service offline for Iranian users until a fix was released. The experts also said the UN working group on space arms runs through 2028 and that progress has at times been blocked.

This means... The same skills that let one satellite repair or refuel another could let it disable a rival satellite. This is real-world evidence for the RAND point in 1C that the Council should judge behaviour, not hardware.

## **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), June 2026: UN space security talks stalled in 2025 as states built military space power**

Tagline: Stalling the multilateral space talks

Source: According to... Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, SIPRI Yearbook 2026 Summary, June 2026

Link: [https://www.sipri.org/sites/default/files/2026-06/yb26\\_summary\\_en\\_1.pdf](https://www.sipri.org/sites/default/files/2026-06/yb26_summary_en_1.pdf)

Fact: It states... In 2025 several states sped up their pursuit of military space capabilities. The United States announced the Golden Dome missile defence system, which includes space-based interceptors; cost estimates published in 2025 ranged from 175 billion US dollars (White House) to more than 500 billion dollars (independent estimates). France, Germany and the United Kingdom adopted new strategies that include counterspace investment, and the European Union proposed a draft EU Space Act. At the UN, progress stalled: the first session of the new working group in April 2025 was taken up by arguments about procedure, though the July session moved to real discussion. The United States and Israel voted against basic UN space resolutions. SIPRI says China signalled in a 2025 white paper that it is willing to engage, and that shared definitions of key terms could reduce the risk of misunderstanding.

This means... An independent research institute finds that countries are arming in space faster than they are agreeing on rules. Delegates can argue that 2100 began with this gap, and that shared definitions are a realistic first step toward closing it.

### **3F. CHINA-RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL LUNAR RESEARCH STATION**

#### **Reuters, April 24, 2025: Seventeen countries and organisations in the China-led lunar station, with a basic model due by 2035**

Tagline: Building a rival Moon base

Source: According to... Reuters (as published by Citizen Digital), April 24, 2025

Link: <https://citizen.digital/article/china-russia-may-build-nuclear-plant-on-moon-to-power-lunar-station-official-says-n361553>

Fact: It states... China is considering a nuclear power plant on the Moon to power the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS), which it leads with Russia; Russia's space agency Roscosmos had said it planned a lunar reactor with China by 2035. The ILRS is made up of 17 countries and international organisations. A "basic model" of the station, centred on the lunar south pole, is due by 2035. China's "555 Project" aims to invite 50 countries, 500 international research institutions and 5,000 overseas researchers. China plans the Chang'e-8 mission for 2028 and aims to land astronauts on the Moon by 2030.

This means... Two groups, one led by the United States and one led by China and Russia, are both aiming for the lunar south pole, where water ice is thought to exist. In 2100 (a fiction assumption), the Council may face a dispute between bases that were built under two different rule systems.

### **3G. COPUOS IN 2026 AND THE PROPOSED UNISPACE IV**

#### **Secure World Foundation, July 16, 2026: COPUOS could not agree its 2026 report, and UNISPACE IV has no consensus**

Tagline: Straining the consensus rule

Source: According to... Secure World Foundation, July 16, 2026

Link: <https://www.swfound.org/publications-and-reports/insight-jul2026-copuos-at-a-turning-point-balancing-a-vital-mandate-with-membership-growth-and-global-realities>

Fact: It states... The 69th session of COPUOS met in Vienna in June 2026. Because of the UN's shortage of cash, the session was cut from eight days to seven. COPUOS has 110 member states and 62 permanent observers; six new members joined in 2026 (Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Honduras, Maldives, Malta and Zimbabwe). The Committee did not adopt its report by consensus, so it has no agreed agenda or schedule for 2027; one dispute was over the term "developing countries". Many states supported holding UNISPACE IV in Vienna in 2027, on the 60th anniversary of the Outer Space Treaty, but there was no consensus. Working groups on long-term sustainability and space situational awareness also failed to agree key texts.

This means... The UN's main space committee is growing but finding it harder to agree on anything, even its own report. Delegates can use this as evidence that consensus bodies alone may not be able to manage space, which strengthens the case for Security Council action.

### **3H. INTER-AGENCY SPACE DEBRIS COORDINATION COMMITTEE (IADC)**

**Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee, Last Accessed: October 2026:  
Thirteen space agencies, including rivals, coordinate on debris**

Tagline: Coordinating debris research across rivals

Source: According to... Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee, Last Accessed: October 2026

Link: <https://www.iadc-home.org/>

Fact: It states... The IADC is an international governmental forum that coordinates work on human-made and natural debris in space. Its 13 members are the space agencies of Italy (ASI), France (CNES), China (CNSA), Canada (CSA), Germany (DLR), Europe (ESA), India (ISRO), Japan (JAXA), South Korea (KARI), the United States (NASA), Russia (Roscosmos), Ukraine (SSAU) and the United Kingdom (UK Space Agency). Members share research, review joint work and identify ways to reduce debris through four working groups on measurements, environment and database, protection and mitigation.

This means... The United States, China, Russia and Ukraine all sit in the same technical forum on debris. Delegates can argue that debris is the area where rivals already cooperate, so it is the most realistic place for the Council to start binding rules.

### **3I. INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)**

**International Telecommunication Union, February 16, 2026: Nearly two-thirds of  
countries now operate their own satellites**

Tagline: Keeping satellite signals apart

Source: According to... International Telecommunication Union, February 16, 2026

Link: <https://www.itu.int/hub/2026/02/next-steps-to-keep-crowded-satellite-lanes-open/>

Fact: It states... Nearly two-thirds of countries now operate their own satellites, and many others want to. The ITU, the UN agency for information and communication technology, has a long-standing mandate to manage radio frequencies; its space sustainability work focuses on preventing harmful interference between satellite signals. Its second Space Sustainability Forum, held in Geneva in late 2025, drew more than 6,000 participants and viewers worldwide, and it runs a monthly "Space Connect" series on topics such as licensing satellites in low Earth orbit.

This means... Space is no longer used by only a few powers. Every new satellite country needs frequencies, so delegates can argue that the ITU's system of sharing radio frequencies is a working model for sharing orbits too.

### **3J. THE PROPOSED EU SPACE ACT (REGIONAL LAW)**

**European Commission, June 25, 2025: Binding EU rules on debris, tracking and cybersecurity that would also cover non-EU operators**

Tagline: Writing binding regional space rules

Source: According to... European Commission, June 25, 2025

Link: [https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-space-act\\_en](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-space-act_en)

Fact: It states... The European Commission proposed the EU Space Act on June 25, 2025, to create one set of rules for space activities across the European Union. It rests on three pillars: safety, with rules for tracking space objects and reducing debris; resilience, with cybersecurity requirements for space infrastructure; and sustainability, with operators required to measure and reduce the environmental impact of their activities. The rules would apply to both EU and non-EU operators that provide space services in Europe, with lighter requirements for start-ups and small firms. A public consultation ran from July 15 to November 7, 2025, and the proposal is now being negotiated by the European Parliament and the Council of the EU.

This means... When global talks stall, a large market can set binding rules on its own: any company that wants European customers would have to follow them. Delegates can point to this as a model for debris rules (see 1E), while delegates from other regions may argue that one bloc should not set rules for operators from the whole world.

### **3K. THE UNITED STATES SPACE SUPERIORITY ORDER (NATIONAL POLICY WITH GLOBAL EFFECTS)**

**Center for Strategic and International Studies, October 5, 2026: A US order sets the goal of astronauts on the Moon by 2028 and a lasting lunar presence by 2030**

Tagline: Racing back to the Moon

Source: According to... Center for Strategic and International Studies, October 5, 2026

Link: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/trumps-space-superiority-executive-order-stressors-will-shape-deep-space-development>

Fact: It states... The US executive order "Ensuring American Space Superiority," released quietly on December 18, 2025, sets a target to "return U.S. astronauts to the Moon by 2028" and to "establish the early elements of a sustained lunar presence by 2030." It also calls for greater use of commercial companies, reform of regulations, and closer alignment of civil, economic and national security goals in space.

This means... The United States now links its Moon programme directly to national security, while China aims to land astronauts by 2030 and build its own station with Russia (see 3F). Two rival powers with deadlines in the same decade, aiming for the same region near the lunar south pole, is the real-world root of the kind of crisis the 2100 Council (a fiction assumption) may face.

### 3L. OTHER EFFORTS, PAST, ONGOING AND PROPOSED

1. **Conference on Disarmament (Geneva):** the main forum for negotiating disarmament treaties, where the Russia-China draft treaty on weapons in space has been discussed since 2008 (see UNODA, 1B).
2. **Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC):** 13 national space agencies coordinating debris research (see 3H).
3. **International Telecommunication Union (ITU):** the UN agency that manages radio frequencies and orbital positions for satellites (see 3I). The 1.7 million satellite frequency filings in the Secretary-General's Policy Brief (1A) show the scale of demand it must manage.
4. **UNISPACE IV (proposed for 2027):** a possible fourth UN conference on outer space, encouraged by the Pact for the Future (see 2E); COPUOS did not reach consensus on it in June 2026 (see 3G).
5. **Golden Dome (United States, announced 2025):** a planned missile defence system that includes space-based interceptors (see SIPRI, 3E).
6. **EU Space Act (proposed 2025):** a binding European law on debris, tracking and cybersecurity that would also cover non-European operators serving Europe (see 3J).
7. **UNIDIR Outer Space Security Conference (yearly, Geneva):** a meeting of diplomats, militaries, companies and researchers; the 2026 conference was held on September 8-9, 2026 (see 3D and 2E).

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## KEY VOCABULARY

1. **Outer Space Treaty (1967):** the main international treaty on space; it bans national claims to space and weapons of mass destruction in orbit.
2. **COPUOS:** the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which writes space treaties and guidelines; it has 110 member states.
3. **Space debris:** human-made objects in orbit that no longer work, such as dead satellites, rocket parts and fragments from explosions or collisions.
4. **Kessler syndrome:** a chain reaction in which collisions create debris that causes more collisions, until an orbit becomes too dangerous to use.
5. **Anti-satellite weapon (ASAT):** any weapon designed to damage or disable a satellite; a "direct-ascent" ASAT is a missile fired from the ground.
6. **Counterspace:** all tools used to attack or interfere with space systems, including missiles, jamming, lasers and cyber attacks.
7. **Jamming and spoofing:** jamming blocks a satellite signal with noise; spoofing sends a fake signal so a receiver shows an incorrect location.
8. **Dual use:** a system that can serve both civilian and military purposes, such as a navigation satellite used by both farmers and armies.
9. **Weaponization of space:** placing weapons in orbit or on celestial bodies, as opposed to simply using satellites to support armies on Earth.
10. **Common heritage of mankind:** the idea that some areas, such as the Moon in the Moon Agreement, belong to all humanity and their benefits must be shared.

11. **Low Earth orbit (LEO):** the region of space up to about 2,000 km above Earth, where most satellites and most debris are found.
  12. **Veto:** the power of each of the five permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States) to block a resolution with a single negative vote.
  13. **Due regard:** the duty in Article IX of the Outer Space Treaty to respect the interests of other states in space and to consult them before activities that might interfere with theirs.
  14. **Space superiority:** a military term for being able to use space freely in a given time and place while preventing an opponent from doing the same.
  15. **Redress:** a way for a nation that was harmed to get its loss repaired, paid back or officially recognised.
  16. **Liability Convention (1972):** the treaty that makes a launching state pay for damage its space objects cause, and sets up a claims process that can end in a Claims Commission.
  17. **Claims Commission:** a panel under the Liability Convention that decides a claim when two states cannot agree; its decision binds them only if they agreed to that in advance.
  18. **National appropriation:** a nation taking a place as its own territory; Article II of the Outer Space Treaty forbids this for outer space, the Moon and other celestial bodies.
  19. **Harmful interference:** a radio signal that blocks or damages another country's lawful satellite signals; the ITU's rules forbid it.
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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. The Outer Space Treaty bans weapons of mass destruction in orbit but not other weapons. Should the Security Council of 2100 ban all weapons in space, and how could such a ban be checked?
  2. Voluntary debris guidelines have existed since 2007, yet debris keeps growing. Should debris removal become a binding duty, and who should pay for cleaning up old debris?
  3. Most active satellites belong to private companies. How can a Security Council resolution, which binds states, control the behaviour of companies?
  4. When a commercial satellite network helps one side in a war, does it become a lawful military target? What would that mean for the civilians who use the same network?
  5. Should resources mined from the Moon or asteroids belong to those who mine them, or should they be shared as the "common heritage of mankind"?
  6. Russia vetoed the 2024 draft on nuclear weapons in orbit. How can delegates write a space resolution that all five permanent members can accept?
  7. Developing countries carry much of the risk from falling rockets but have few satellites. What should the Council do to make the benefits and risks of space fairer?
  8. FICTION (2100 ASSUMPTION): If a crisis staff announces that a company has claimed exclusive control of a lunar ice field, which existing rules from this report would the Council use to respond?
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