



INDIA भारत

STATEMENT BY INDIA DURING THE THEMATIC DEBATE ON 'OUTER SPACE' AT THE FIRST COMMITTEE OF THE 80th UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 27 OCTOBER 2025

Chair,

India is a major space-faring nation. Our space programme has developmental and security dimensions.

India landed a spacecraft on the moon in 2023. We are preparing for our human space flight program (Gaganyaan) ; and further plan to build a space station (the Bharatiya Antariksha Station)

India believes that Outer Space belongs to all of us. We are one earth, one family, and have one future.

Chair,

A difference of opinion has existed and continues to exist on approaches to Preventing Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS); and on the question of whether a particular approach, or the other, should have priority.

Indian experts participated actively in the GGE on further practical measures on PAROS held in 2018-2019 and the recent one in 2023-2024, which successfully adopted a report. India also participated constructively in the work of the OEWG on "reducing space threats on Responsible Behaviour".

India has supported the establishment of OEWG on PAROS in all its aspects under a combined mandate, and acknowledges the progress achieved on its program of work.

Chair,

India would like to reiterate our preference for an LBI on PAROS, which is universally acceptable, verifiable, and multilaterally negotiated in the Conference on Disarmament.

We take note of the draft Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, which can be a basis for further discussions.

India is open to the development of universal and non-discriminatory non-binding norms and TCBMs, as they can be complementary to a legally binding instrument.

India recognizes the OEWG on reducing space threats has done important work, and that it presents a viable and practical approach that could be developed further.

India however believes that threats to safety, security and sustainability of outer space; considerations relating to misunderstanding, miscalculation and misperceptions; as well as thresholds for what may constitute a use of force in Outer Space; must be considered comprehensively

A selective focus on certain space threats over others will be counter-productive.

We have highlighted challenges about the subjectivity involved in the determination of what constitutes a behaviour, and its further classification into responsible and irresponsible. We are concerned about who makes these assessments; about how these assessments are made; and about the manner of application of such determinations.

India recognizes that verification of space behavior, including access to relevant information and data, poses challenges.

Chair,

India, as a developing country, believes that the outcome of any outer space security related process should not discourage the exchange of scientific and technological research and development for peaceful and legitimate purposes.

India stands ready to contribute to global efforts to strengthen the international legal framework, and to ensure peaceful uses of Outer Space while enhancing safety, security and sustainability.
