

Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna

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Intervention by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 61st session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

29 January - 9 February 2024

Item 5 "Space for sustainable development: technology and applications, including the UN Programme on Space Applications"

(on the draft UNGA resolution "Space Science and Technology for Promoting Peace", presented by the Russian Federation)

Madam Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

I took the floor to make clear Ukraine's position on the draft resolution of the UN General Assembly under the title "Space Science and Technology for Promoting Peace", which was submitted by the Russian Delegation for the consideration of the COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its 61st session.

As stated in our national statement during the general exchange of views, Ukraine finds it especially hypocritical and cynical that the resolution, that supposedly should contribute to "promoting peace", was drafted and submitted by

the state, which at this very same time is waging aggressive full-scale war against another COPUOS member.

Literally every paragraph of this draft resolution is saturated with cynicism and hypocrisy.

Let us take for example **OP1**. With one hand, the Russian side recommends to "promote free and equitable access for all States to space science and technology on a non-discriminatory basis".

With the other hand, the Russian Federation is destroying Ukraine's space infrastructure, scientific-research and educational institutions, as well as shelling civilians among which there are space activists, scientists and engineers. Such a state of things has nothing in common with promoting free and equitable access to space science and technology.

In OP 2, the Russian side recommends to "seek mutual exchange and effective coordination".

But at the same time, the Russian armed forces destroy our railroads and shipping, conduct cyber-attacks on telecommunications infrastructure. With the beginning of the Russian invasion, air traffic in Ukraine was cancelled.

All this results in unstable telephone and internet connection, and extremely limited opportunities for our experts to make trips, thus precluding possibility of uninterrupted engagement in meetings, consultations and conferences. It really looks nothing like the facilitation of mutual exchange and effective coordination.

Considering the content of **OP5**, which states that "space science and technology should be used for the peaceful exploration and use of outer space in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and understanding", one cannot but recall that in 2023, the then head of "Roscosmos", Dmitry Rogozin, proposed striking Ukraine with the use of a space launch vehicle.

Therefore, in view of the above, the submitted draft resolution does not inspire confidence and trust and is not acceptable to Ukraine.

Thank you, Madam Chair.