

Project Ploughshares
www.ploughshares.ca

Outer Space Institute
www.outerspaceinstitute.ca

Focal Point **Dr. Jessica West**
Senior Researcher, Project Ploughshares
jwest@ploughshares.ca

Chapeau

Urgent governance initiatives are needed to ensure that the benefits of outer space are available and accessible to all, both today and by future generations. At the heart of this approach must be a renewed commitment to cooperation, not just among states, but also across thematic and institutional divides that have hindered effective governance of space by siloing discussions related to safety, sustainability, science and security respectively. Also crucial is recognition of the linkages between sustainable, inclusive, and peaceful governance of outer space and our future here on Earth. In support of a holistic approach to the governance of outer space activities we suggest the following practical measures be considered by the Summit:

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

Recognize connections between sustain1. Integrate space data into the global digital compact.

The ability to access and use outer space is essential to sustainable development on Earth. The [Space2030 Agenda](#)

makes clear that almost half of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals are enabled

- a) Encouraging early conclusion of work within COPUOS.
- b) Articulating core cooperative principles for a multilateral framework for space resource governance rooted in the Outer Space Treaty such as equal and sustainable access and use, environmental protection, and global benefit, and:
- c) Ensuring the protection and availability of pristine samples from early exploration activities for open scientific analysis, especially from sensitive areas such as the Permanently Shadowed Regions at the lunar north and south poles.

Chapter II. International peace and security

Reinvigorate commitments to peace and the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS).

A renewed commitment to peace in outer space is reflected in practical initiatives to implement the UN mandate on PAROS. 4.3 (o15t)-4.8 ((m)-5ia(t)-3 a(t)-3 a(t)-3 a(t)-3 a1 2.7 w03 Tw 0.2212 72 A.

[report](#) of the 2013 UN Group of Governmental Experts on transparency and confidence building

Inclusive space governance requires resources for institutional support. The Outer Space Treaty lacks measures such as meetings of states parties, which are common in many multilateral contexts. We propose that the Summit begin by calling for a meeting of the states parties of the Outer Space Treaty to consider the current situation relevant to the treaty's aims and implementation.

Contributors

Jessica West, PhD
Senior Researcher, Project Ploughshares