GCIMUN

STUDY GUIDE

DISARMAMENT, & INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE (DISEC)

UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL

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CONTENTS

I. Welcome Note (Under Secretary General)

II. Introduction to DISEC

III. Introduction to the Agenda Item

IV. Major Parties Involved

V. Previous attempts to Solve the Issue

VI. Timeline of Events

VII. Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMAs)

VIII. References

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WELCOME NOTE

From the delegates of UNGA 1 (DISEC), we expect a great level of professionalism and respect amongst the members of the committee. We look forward to witnessing great results and fantastic debate with lots of intensity and passion. And most importantly remember that Model United Nations isn't about winning, but it is about learning, speaking for what's right, and having a new experience towards becoming a better person. The global work of this conference is not without reason compared to that of a family, striving for a common goal in concert with all members for a better future.

After all the spirit of a MUNer comes from the satisfaction of destroying your fellow delegates in committee through POIs, delivering a conclusive speech, and seeing the committee vote and pass your resolution. It's the little things which as a sum total significantly adds to your enjoyment and learning experience, which is why one advice we can give you is: Try everything, no matter how stupid it sounds (as long as it is appropriate) because who knows when you get that golden stroke of luck you needed to absolutely dominate in committee.

Reiterating for the last time, MUN is about learning and having fun, and as long as you do that, you did MUN right.

We look forward to having you in the committee! Happy Researching!

Kind Regards,

Abel Abraham

Under Secretary General of DISEC

DISEC

INTRODUCTION TO DISEC

- The General Assembly First committee, also referred to as GA 1, is a committee that addresses issues regarding disarmament and international security. The UN General Assembly first committee deals with issues and international challenges that threaten peace and can disrupt the global community. The UN committee therefore tends to work closely with the disarmament committee in evaluating all methods to bring peace to pressing issues.
- The committee was the first to create a resolution of the general assemblies concerning: "Establishment of a Commission to Deal with the Problems Raised by the Discovery of Atomic Energy" passed in 1946 in order to maintain the usage of Atomic Energy, that had recently been discovered and monitor any problems that could be created through it. They continuously work on resolving issues to work towards the greater goal of establishing peace.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA ITEM

- An arms race is defined as "a competition between nations for superiority in the development and accumulation of weapons". A space arms race would then apply this definition in terms of space. Making it a competition for superiority in the militarization of outer space. This idea of militarizing outer space is something that has come in many shapes. The most common idea of this being the placement of weapons on satellites. A more extensive and drastic approach to militarizing space is the placement of weapons on celestial bodies, such as our moon.
- The next step would then become using other planets and so on. This has been strictly forbidden however by the 1967 outer space treaty as well as by the 1991 UN PAROS resolution among countless others. This has not been violated, however, has the possibility of being done so with expanded locations. Currently the only other place humans have stood on other than Earth has been out the moon, but development is quickly beginning to open towards making travelling to Mars a possibility. Leaving the question as to whether nations will be desperate to make use of this up to time.
- The closest thing there has been to a space arms race was during the Cold War. During the Cold War, both a space and an arms race occurred around the same time period between mainly the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Depending on how it is viewed, the Cold War did not necessarily contain a space arms race, however others argue that there was one due to the rapid development that both sides had to have their probes and satellites in space first. The Cold War space arms race began in the 1950s. There had already been development during the second world war, however rapid advancements began with the Cold War as the element of competition and beating the opposition. In 1948 the first monkey was launched into space by the US in a V2 rocket. However, the monkey died upon impact when returning to Earth.

- Towards the end of the 1950s, the development of satellites caused many States to worry, specifically due to the simplicity of being able to attach a missile to it and launch it whenever needed. The idea of storing missiles on satellites or having them as a backup to fire if needed was what made people afraid after the success of Sputnik 1 by the USSR. Sputnik 1 was the first artificial Earth satellite.
- The satellite was launched into a low Earth orbit in October 1957 where it circled for 3 weeks before its battery died. It then returned to Earth after about two months. This success for the USSR was the specific trigger that began what is referred to as the space race.
- After the success with Sputnik 1, the US worked to replicate the success of the USSR and were quickly able to successfully launch Explorer 1 three months after the launch of Sputnik 1. Soon thereafter, the key focus became launching living organisms into space. The US had already launched a monkey in 1948 however were unsuccessful in returning him safely. The USSR again was successful over the USA in this with their launch of Sputnik 2 where Laika the dog was launched and then safely returned. Again, the US soon followed with their launch of a chimpanzee in 1958.
- Then, the idea of putting a man in space became the next big goal. This goal was reached by the USSR first again in 1961. Yuri Gagarin became the first man to have orbited the earth. As development continued it began to focus in on the moon, the closest space object to us. By the end of 1969, a man had walked on the surface of the moon.

- Throughout the 1960s, a treaty was developed as space was becoming more and more relevant quickly. And so, in 1967 due to the conflict between the USSR and the US regarding space, the Outer Space Treaty was created. This treaty highlighted the need for space to be something that was not subject to claims of sovereignty and belonged to all.
- It also addressed that any achievement in space could be beneficial to the global community as well as discussing how harm caused in space will have major limitations for those who caused it. Most importantly however, the treaty explained how space was not a location to be militarized. This was then again revised in 1991 with the UN PAROS resolution highlighting the need for space to remain demilitarized among plenty of other treaties and resolutions.
- Currently however, more pressing issues are arising. The issues critically at stake presently are the weaponization of satellites and the development of Anti-Satellite Technology (ASAT). Anti-Satellite technology refers to the creation of a weapon that can be used to destroy or deactivate satellites already in orbit in outer space. Multiple nations such as the US, Russia and China have ASAT systems along with weaponized satellites waiting for instructions.
- Satellite militarization has been an issue developing since the Cold War. The advancements in satellite technology brought this idea into light as militarizing satellites seems an easy way to have the upper hand on your opponent if need be. Anti-Satellite technology additionally, was first evolved during the Cold War when both the US and the USSR developed missiles that could be used to launch if ever need be due to the extent of the crisis.
- Development from both the US and Russia continues to this date. In addition, however, China has played a large role in the development of ASATs having tested one in 2007. Despite ASATs never having been used in warfare, the US have predicted that Russia and China's ASATs will become operational "in the next few years". PAROS Negotiations continuously aim to disarm this issue before it becomes crucially plausible.

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MAJOR PARTIES INVOLVED

1. **The United States of America**

The United States has been a major player in the space arms race and has been developing space technology since the Cold War. It was the first country to send a satellite to space. The US has a United States Space Force (USSF) which is a military service that organizes, trains, and equips space forces to protect U.S. and allied interests in Space and to provide space capabilities to the joint force. USSF responsibilities include developing military space professionals, acquiring military space systems, maturing the military doctrine for space power, and organizing space forces to present to our Combatant Commands.

2. **The Russian Federation**

Like the USA, it has also been a major space faring country and has been developing its space technology and arsenal since the beginning of the Cold War era. The Russian Space Force perform a wide range of missions, including: Monitoring space objects and identification of potential threats to the Russian Federation in Space and from Space, prevention of attacks as needed; carrying out spacecraft launches and placing into orbit, controlling satellite systems, including integrated ones (intended to be used for both military and civilian purposes) in flight, and using separate ones towards providing the Russian Federation Armed Forces with the necessary information; maintaining both military and integrated satellite systems with launching installations and assets of control in the workable order, and several other tasks.

DISEC

3. **People's Republic of China**

Another large nation playing an important role in the space race is PRC. China is rapidly improving its counter space program and making advances in its antisatellite systems. China's first ASAT test was conducted in May 2005, and its capabilities have come a long way since. China destroyed a satellite in 2007, creating the most enormous orbital debris cloud in history, with more than 3,000 objects, according to the Secure World Foundation. The 2013 test by Beijing involved its new missile, the DN-2, or Dong Neng-2, and the test was conducted in "nearly geosynchronous orbit," where most of the United States' ISR satellites are located. On June 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke to astronauts at the launch of the Shenzhou X manned mission and said that China will take bigger steps in space exploration in pursuit of its "space dream." He acknowledged that the space dream is part of the drive to make China stronger. "With the development of space programs, Chinese people will take bigger strides to explore further into space," he said.

4. **The Republic of India**

For a long time, India has maintained a passive approach towards space security and has made its stance clear stating that the country opposes the militarization of outer space. The reasons for such an approach were clear: India did not have such capabilities and advanced space technology. But by the early 2000s, India's position had begun to change as Pakistan started to acquire long-range missiles. India felt the need to build ballistic missile defenses. By the end of the decade, India's capabilities increased and so did it's view of space security. In April 2019, India established the Defense Space Agency (DSA) as an interim measure to command the military's space capabilities. All of this meant that India had to have a much more nuanced position than a blanket approach that opposed any militarization or weaponization of Outer Space.

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PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

1. Most resolutions and treaties created have stressed the need to prevent an arms race in outer space, which is abbreviated to PAROS. These reiterate the principles of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. They advocate the ban on weaponization in space. The treaty which these resolutions was based on, the Outer Space Treaty, was signed in the midst of the space race between the USSR and the USA. The key points brought up in the treaty were how space belongs to all and how the exploration of it can be seen as a benefit to all and is not limited to specific states only. It also discussed how space is not a place to store weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons, including storing them on celestial bodies. Additionally, all States must be liable for damage caused to space, however, they must in all cases avoid harming outer space. The UN resolution from 1991 stresses these points however specifically explains the necessity for space to remain demilitarized as it belongs to all.

2. There have been multiple more attempts, such as the Russia and China: Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force against Outer Space Objects (PPWT) which was created by both to preserve peace and tranquility in space in addition to creating a legal framework through negotiations in order to prevent a space arms race. The European international space code of conduct has been another attempt to work towards a solution and is often described as the European equivalent of the Russian and Chinese PPWT. The code advocates that space use should only be done in a peaceful manner. Lastly, The Moon Treaty which came into effect in 1984 that stated that all celestial bodies belong to the international community. These three actions in addition to the treaties and resolutions that highlight the principles of PAROS prove as evidence for the desire for a peaceful and non-militarized outer space.

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TIMELINE OF EVENTS

DATE/YEAR	EVENT
1945	End of WW2, both the USSR and USA have developed V2 space rockets
June 11, 1948	First Monkey in Space
October 4 1957	Sputnik 1 is launched
November 3 1957	Laika the dog sent to space
January 31 1958	Explorer 1 is launched (USA equivalent of Sputnik 1)
1959	The first man-made object to circle the sun - Luna 1 is launched by the USSR
January 31 1961	Chimpanzee is sent to space and successfully returns
April 12 1961	Yuri Gagarin becomes the first person in space.
May 5 1961	Alan Shepard becomes the first American person in space.
February 3 1966	Luna 9 becomes the first successful man-made object to reach the moon (USSR)
1967	The outer space treaty is developed and signed bringing it into action.

DISEC

July 20 1969	First manned moon landing is made - Apollo 11 by the USA
1975	China begins development in a space program
2000>	The research by both China and the USA directs itself to be able to reach Mars. Despite China being significantly behind in the development of their space program, they research and adapt quickly in order to keep up with the USA. In addition, ASAT systems become further developed and prioritized

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QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION MUST ANSWER (QARMAs)

1. Should militarization of outer space be banned, and if so, to what extent?
2. What weapons must be included in the ban, if the decision is made to ban the militarization of outer space?
3. How would the demilitarization or militarization of outer space be carried out?
4. Whose responsibility is it to clean outer space of space debris?
5. Should any regulations be imposed on private space agencies, and if so, what should they be?
6. How can the UN play a role in preventing an arms race in outer space?

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GOOD LUCK TO ALL DELEGATES!