

NorthMUNC III

Disarmament and International Security



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North Model United Nations Conference 2017

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NorthMUNC offers various commendations to delegates in each committee at the conclusion of the conference. Delegates will be judged on factors including but not limited to the impact of their debate, ability to understand and follow country policy, strength of research shown, and overall diplomacy when working with other delegates. Individual awards are all to be determined at the discretion of the dais. NorthMUNC also offers awards to delegations of at least 12 whose delegates consistently demonstrate the factors above. Please note that if you are registered as an individual delegate you will not be in contention for a delegation award. Delegate awards include: Verbal Commendation, Honorable Delegate, Outstanding Delegate, and Best Delegate.

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NorthMUNC believes that all delegates should have a fair and rewarding experience. All written materials submitted to the dais (working papers, draft resolutions, directives, etc.) must reflect the original ideas of the sponsors. Furthermore, delegates are not permitted to bring pre-written materials to the conference. If NorthMUNC has evidence of plagiarism or pre-writing (writing clauses or directives before committee starts), delegations will be disqualified from the possibility of awards.



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A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Hello delegates!

My name is Kevin Li and I am a senior at WWP High School North. I've been an avid member of MUN since my freshman year and am fortunate to serve as North's Secretary General this year. Aside from MUN, I serve as the program manager of the CJSIA, a team member of North's math league, and a volunteer lifeguard and swim instructor for the YWCA.

In my free time, which is when I'm not preparing for NorthMUNC or furiously finishing my college apps, I like to watch basketball (OKC) and watch/play Super Smash Bros. (Melee - mang0 + Weston). I am thoroughly excited for a Saturday of intense debate and no doubt will I be impressed by each and every delegate. Good luck and look forward to seeing all of you!

Best,

Kevin Li
Chair, DISEC

Topic of Discussion: Militarization of Space and the Future of Space Security

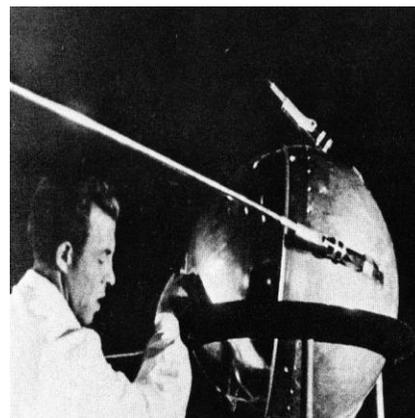
Background: A History of Exploration and Tension

Ever since 1959, many different world powers have been locked into an everlasting competition, which is now known to us as the iconic “Space Race.” The Space Race first came to be on May 1st, 1959, when the United States’ first space flight complex was established. A German rocket scientist named Wernher von Braun was the first person who had began to work on rocket development during World War II under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the concepts that he made prevalent eventually became the base of the models for rockets that were developed by the two main powers in the Space Race. These two leaders happened to be the United States and the Soviet Union. The Cold War was one of the main catalysts for the space race, since the Yalta Conference (a meeting to discuss European post-war negotiations) brought together two different countries who had completely different ideologies and political beliefs -- the United States with democracy, and the Soviet Union with communism.



This inevitably led to conflict in between the two countries, and once they both were able to make intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) that could launch objects into space, the Space Race had finally begun.

Undoubtedly, there were some precautions that the two main players had to acknowledge before the battle to claim the uncharted territories in space started. The Russians ended up making the first moves, while the United States had some powerful responses. Even though the United States had access to Jupiter-C, the advanced rocket that von Braun had made, the Eisenhower administration did not want to take the step and utilize it to shoot satellites since it made the United States look eager to go to war. However, Sergei Korolev (the engineer of the rocket that the Russians used) and the Russian administration did not hesitate, which allowed them to make the first several moves in the Space Race. The Soviet Union was able to use the powerful R-7 rocket to launch Sputnik 1, the first artificial space satellite in the world, on October 4, 1957.



On top of that, the Soviet Union was able to launch Sputnik 2 in less than a month later.

Perhaps the largest victory that the Soviet Union is accredited to was the first man in space, who was Yuri Gagarin. His spacecraft, which was the Vostok 1, was able to complete one single orbit around the Earth. Even though Gagarin was forced to parachute back to Earth after re-entry due to a calculation error, this singular event affected almost everyone around the globe at this time, and was a huge step forward for the Soviets in the Space Race. On the other hand, the United States also executed several different plans to overtake Russia in the Space Race. In December 1957, amidst chaos following the Sputnik launches, the United States attempted a Vanguard satellite launch. Even though this first mission failed, Von Braun was finally given approval to launch the satellite with his signature Jupiter-C rocket. This allowed for the Explorer 1 to become the first American-made artificial satellite in space. Later, under the Eisenhower and Nixon administration in 1958, the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) came to fruition. The USA began by working on the X-Plane series of aircrafts and developing their Air Force program more, and after a few years, Project Mercury was first released. It consisted of many different missions including unmanned aircrafts, and reaching milestones such as carrying John Glenn, the first American to orbit the Earth, in the February of 1962. However, after these two countries have made their respective moves to outdo each other during this time period, John F. Kennedy made a statement on May 25, 1962 that would completely change the goal of the entire Space Race.

Kennedy, for the first time, proposed the finish line as landing a man on the moon and returning him to the Earth safely.



NASA started to recruit a plethora of astronauts who were apt to take on the challenge of the Gemini and Apollo Programs. The Russians, once again, took the first move and were successful, by utilizing the Voskhod (3 man capsule). They were able to have the first spacewalk on the Voskhod 2, and the Soviets had one again. However, the Americans were determined to expand their space exploration programs and be able to get the first man on the moon. The Gemini missions were conducted, which essentially tested orbital maneuvers, space docking, energy sources, rendezvous radar, and Extra-Vehicular Activity, all of which would be vital components for success during the Apollo Program. Unfortunately, the Apollo Program had a devastating start as the first Apollo ship caught on fire during a launch rehearsal, killing all 3 astronauts onboard. Nevertheless, the United States took this mistake into consideration and was able to launch the successful Apollo 7

mission in the October of 1968, and Apollo 8 on Christmas Eve of the same year. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union were conducting their Soyuz Missions, and Soyuz 4 and 5 were able to go into orbit, dock, and form the first space station. Shortly after on July 16, 1969, the United States were able to reach their goal after the Apollo 9 and 10 missions with Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Mike Collins -- the first men on the moon through the Apollo 11 mission. Even though the race to the moon was over, and the "Space Race" of that time, the urge to explore the unknown areas of space has never ceased to exist. In fact, in recent years, it is arguable that this urge has been reinvigorated.

Modern Issues

The idea that outer space is a platform for solely peaceful purposes took root at the outset of space exploration during the Cold War. Nevertheless, due to innovation of space technology for both the military and civilians in decades since, the sanctity of outer space has become increasingly endangered. Although the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 calls for the aforementioned "peaceful purposes principle," the relationship between the military and outer space is only growing stronger. In fact, space technologies such as GPS and satellite phone communications were actually meant originally for the military. Recently, the threat of the weaponization of outer space and the targeting of satellites was revived by the testing of anti-satellite weapon capabilities by China in 2007 and the United States in

2008. Since, there have still been allegations of further developments of ASAT capabilities among the three leading space powers. Despite its alarming threat of a possible space arms race, the issue of the weaponization of outer space has been shielded from the public in secrecy. And as the deterioration of geopolitical relations only worsens, the threat of a possible arms race that the international community has worked to prevent since the signing of the OST in the 1960s is only growing.



As stated before, the Cold War had become a fact of life in both countries (and in many others for an example, as a matter of fact) ever since the 1950s, which eventually led to widespread fear of potential threats, clashes of ideas between various countries, and even threats of espionage. Since many have realized the potential issues that may arise due to this conflict, the world has made the effort to to cooperate on a variety of manned and unmanned space projects (except for China, since they have expressed potential security concerns in the past) with the goal of promoting space exploration all around the world, while also secretly promoting their own political agendas. Often times, there have been conflicted views on the purpose of new space programs, and whether

countries and private companies are conducting expeditions and experiments based on personal vendettas, or simply because they want to promote the idea of space exploration in countries that may not have space programs yet. Nevertheless, many advancements have been made since the end of the Space Race (1972), which questions the security of space and the rationales behind these exploration missions. Some of these new advancements included the NASA shuttle program, the development of space stations (particularly the ISS, or the International Space Station), satellite and probe technological development, the creation of new space exploration programs all around the world, and private space ventures such as Elon Musk's SpaceX. The last advancement mentioned has gained a lot of popularity and press over the last decade, since many small businesses have sprung up across the globe, and some countries have even gone out of their ways to support these private enterprises. NASA is even promoting competition between companies in this industry by offering contracts to companies for the transportation of cargo, and eventually crew members, to the International Space Station. Due to this fact, it is evident that NASA has an arsenal of programs that are helping to advance, purchase services from, and transfer technologies to emerging United States private sector projects. This same industry is seen differently from China's government, since the United States sees it as a self-sustaining, competitive sector, while the Chinese see it as a tool to further expand their own program, the CNSA. It is important to note that companies will always

continue to rise up in the private sector, and if governments are backing their ventures, the militarization of space is only a short time away. With organizations from all around the world trying to find new areas in space, they will start to find the need of protecting their territories by threatening the use of deadly weapons. As a result, as the Disarmament and International Security Committee, it is important for you to come up with different solutions to prevent the potential threat of violence that is lingering over our heads.

[Analysis of the Problem](#)

When discussing space operation, there are three main categories that any significant operation can fall under, which are civil operations (exploratory), defense operations (mandated by the military), and private enterprise operations. Civil operations, which are usually conducted by individual states or state organizations, are committed to the scientific exploration of space. For example, NASA would be considered as a civil operation. The next is a defense operation, which would be purely to improve a state or region's standing in space defense. This can be done on a variety of platforms, such as space-oriented defense consisting of offensive systems or defensive measures. The Department of Defense within the United States is an example of a Defense organization. Lastly, the smallest, yet arguably not for long, sector is private space contracting. These organizations are usually for-profit, are not mandated or aligned with the government in any way, and work to craft operational solutions. All

of these organizations differ in their own ways, whether it be what sector they're in or what operations they are conducting. However, throughout all of these organization types, there are problems that have risen, and will continue to rise unless they are identified, and you, as a delegate, work with other members of DISEC to create a comprehensive paper with various solutions to combat these problems. However, throughout this committee, there are a few main problems that all of you must address -- legal uncertainty, private spaceflight in the international community, equity among space faring nations, and the cooperation of countries within space regarding international disarmament.

Legal Uncertainty:

As stated in the Outer Space Treaty (OST) signed in 1967, there is a clear ban on the presence of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction within outer space. However, the treaty did not mention any clear definition of what can be considered as a weapon of mass destruction. Due to this, any object in space can be considered a weapon of mass destruction. As a result, the need for clarifying these definitions arises since it could potentially prevent an arms race and eradicate any forms of miscommunication.

Private Spaceflight in International Community:

The proliferation of private companies has caused a lot of miscommunication, since the wide array of companies causes a whole layer of

complexity to be added to the already complex issue of space security in between government programs. Due to the fact that countries no longer have a monopoly on launch system, it starts to complicate international laws, which is why legal framework is needed in this area.

Equity Among Space Faring Nations:

Even though we are living in the 21st century, there are still quite a few countries around the world that are not capable of spaceflight, whether it be through a government program or a private enterprise. This has created unbalanced power in favor of the big players who have the funding and the infrastructure to take part in space expeditions, while countries who may not have these resources will have to use the launch systems of other countries to further expand their view of space. This causes a level of dependency that could potentially be harmful. An equitable path must be found and provided to all countries so that peace can be restored and smaller countries can have the opportunity to start their own space programs in a healthy manner.

International Disarmament Cooperation in Space:

The first steps of this program was the formation of the International Space Station, along with several programs such as NASA from the United States, Roscosmos from Russia, CSA from Canada, JAXA from Japan, and ESA from a conglomerate of European countries. As made clear above, China was absent from these negotiations, and to this day, operate in secrecy regarding their space missions. It is imperative that all

countries are included when discussing disarmament, since leaving a country in the shadows may cause problems in the near future.

Possible Solutions

Strengthening International Organization and Oversight:

The United Nations has discussed space security in the past before, notably in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) in 1959. However this committee didn't talk about any disarmament issues, and the decisions of future committees were often non-binding, which meant there has been little action so far. This calls for the need for international organizations to develop mechanisms to strengthen their influence over ratified guidelines and make the effort to work together on regulations (in both the public and private sectors).

Further International Regulation and Legislation

The existing space legislation is largely unenforced, lacks protocols that are needed to address specific situations, and unfortunately favors larger countries with higher GDPs since they often have increased resource access. Further, new defense laws should emphasize the preservation of order and safety in outer space, and especially address the issue of defining the term "space weapon" using a lexicon of some sorts. Through these new laws, there should be significant adaptation from previous legislation regarding the rapid progression of technology and new geopolitical issues

that have come up in the 21st century. Through this, the freedom from potential threats will be ensured.

Mandated Cooperation in Space:

Even though the United States is currently the clear leader when it comes to space exploration, its efforts alone will be insufficient when it comes to future missions, since collaboration will be needed to prevent any types of clashes from purely competition. Despite many geopolitical tensions between the leaders in the space programs, space programs should work together to create relationships. Scientific partnerships, such as sharing technology with smaller countries, should also be promoted so that every country's interests are considered and acknowledged.

Useful Resources

1. <http://www.unidir.ch/files/conferences/pdfs/the-outer-space-treaty-and-the-future-of-space-security-diplomacy-en-1-1246.pdf>
2. <http://mackenzieinstitute.com/weaponization-space-future-star-wars/>
3. www.history.com/topics/space-race
4. www.historylearningsite.co.uk/modern-world...cold-war/what-was-the-cold-war/
5. https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/apollo/missions/apollo11.html
6. https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/51_usc_sections_1010_1_-_71302_national_and_commercial_space_programs_2014.pdf
7. www.spacex.com/about
8. <https://www.state.gov/t/isn/5181.htm>
9. https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/main/index.html