

**Cleveland Council on
WORLD AFFAIRS**



**Position Paper Compilation
for the
United Nations GA1
Disarmament and International Security**

Cleveland Autumn Model United Nations Conference

November 17-18, 2021

Hosted at Case Western Reserve University

CCWA Autumn MUN 2021

Delegation of: Australia

Represented by: Saint Edward High School

Position Paper for the Disarmament and International Security Committee

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms.

Australia has long supported the United Nations' efforts to prevent and regulate small arms and light weapons (SALW). In 2001 Australia was a participant in preparing and adopting the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons. Under this agreement, steps have been taken domestically to reduce the use and trafficking of restricted weapons. In 1996, Australia passed the National Firearms Agreement which banned the manufacture and ownership of machine guns, anti-tank guns, rocket launchers, flamethrowers, and other similar weapons for civilian use. This law was updated in 2002 with the National Firearm Trafficking Policy Agreement. These strict controls have helped to reduce firearms deaths by 61% since 1996.

The use and trafficking of SALW has become a global issue. With the increase in the technology of gun manufacturing, these weapons can be used to bring down light aircraft, buildings, small ships, etc. Arms trafficking is now a \$4 billion global business. With its geographical position of being inbetween Africa and the East Asia, Australia is very concerned with the increased manufacture, distribution and spread of small arms during periods of civil unrest in both of these regions. In 2013, the United Nations Security Council, with Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop as Council President, adopted UNSC Resolution 2017. This resolution dealt with the increase of SALW and the use of these weapons to destabilize states and called for the enforcement of embargoes and other measures to eradicate the illicit trade of SALW. In 2015 the Security Council met to discuss the human cost of the illicit flow of SALW. Australia was one of several member states which urged that funds be directed for the disarmament and disposal of excess and illicit weapons. Australia remains committed to all UN resolutions concerning SALW trafficking and has taken steps to implement the recommendations as part of our foreign policy. The issue of regulating the spread of small arms has increased in importance as improved communications and technology has increased the illicit trafficking of these weapons. Australia has historically taken an international lead to combat the black market dealings of SALW.

Australia believes the United Nations needs to continually address these issues and implement procedures to reduce this trade. Australia has proven to be a strong partner in the fight to regulate and reduce the spread of small arms. Recently Australia has been further debating the need to regulate these weapons to protect peace and security around the world. This committee now needs to present enforcement and punishment of regimes and rogue groups that facilitate and use illicit SALW. Proceeding into the 21st century, Australia will continue to use its foreign policy and domestic resources to protect sovereign nations from political unrest due to illicit SALW.

II Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

Australia has a history of regulating weapons in outer space. Australia was a charter member of the 1956 United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and Australia is still an active member today. Australia has been a key signer in multiple outer space treaties such as the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons in the Atmosphere, Space and Under Water and the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (The Outer Space Treaty). These, and several other treaties and agreements formed the basis for regulating the use of outer space.

In 1981 the U.N. passed a resolution, the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS). Australia is proud to have supported these agreements in addressing the need to prevent the movement of the arms race from the earth to outer space. PAROS has been at the forefront of the U.N.'s efforts to prevent arms proliferation in outer space for over sixty (60) years. The existing treaties do not, however, address the current technological advances of weaponry in space. Many countries have developed the ability to destroy satellites in orbit and to launch weapons into orbit that can reach the earth or other celestial bodies. The use of these capabilities is accelerating tensions around the world. In addition to the potential hazards of launching and maintaining weapons in space, there is the increase of space debris which causes danger to the atmosphere and to the countries and population centers as it falls to earth. What would happen if a fully weaponized satellite lost contact with the earth and orbited the earth out of control? Outer space is not under the control of any sovereign state or agencies. An arms race in outer space is not subject to current treaties regulating the number of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction either. It stands to reason that if one state were to launch a satellite with nuclear weapon capability other states would quickly follow, escalating the risk to the planet. Recently space exploration has also moved from the public to the private sector. This amplifies the need to address this situation. No longer does a country or group need to develop the technological knowledge to launch a satellite, all it takes is money. This threatens the stability and security of nations. There is the clear fear that nations are starting to compete in the potential militarization of space. Several countries have the ability to intercept and destroy satellites in space, even those used by the military to spy on other countries. Destroying a spy satellite is comparable to a military strike on that country. The Outer Space Treaty called for the exploration of space to be for the benefit of all countries. Historically countries have cooperated in the scientific exploration of space. This will not be the same if space is weaponized.

Two years ago this committee voted on four draft resolutions with the primary purpose of addressing the need to prevent an arms race in outer space. None of these were passed with unanimous consent, and in fact there were two distinct factions with each faction supporting their own agenda. The issue is still before the committee. It is time for this committee to pass a substantive agreement with unanimous consent to prevent an arms race in outer space that could lead to the destruction of our planet. This agreement must include sanctions and embargoes against any state that violates the treaty. A toothless treaty would be similar to those passed in the past and the world cannot afford that at this time.

Country: *Federative Republic of Brazil*

School: *Fuchs Mizrachi School*

Committee: **Disarmament and International Security Committee**

The issues before the Disarmament and International Security Committee are: I) regulating the spread of small arms, and II) preventing an arms race in space. Brazil is devoted to controlling the spread of small arms rather than banning them outright. Brazil is also devoted to the Artemis Accords and is encouraging its fellow Latin American countries to sign the agreement and expand upon its mission.

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

As the largest country in South America and Latin America, the Federative Republic of Brazil acknowledges the substantive struggle to control the proliferation of small arms and illegal guns. In 2019, Brazil witnessed one of the highest rates of gun death in the world. Brazil encourages enforcement of stronger regulations on the manufacturing, importing and distribution of illegal guns. Brazil acknowledges that there are leaders in its own government who espouse widespread gun ownership in order to allow fellow Brazilians the freedom of self- defense. This is not dissimilar to tactics adopted in other Western countries such as the United States.

In order to control abuse of guns at home Brazil has adopted legislation, such as LAW NO. 10,826, making provisions for the registration, ownership, and trading of firearms and ammunition all in an effort to decrease crimes.

Internationally, in August 2018 Brazil deposited its instruments of ratification with the Secretary-General becoming the 97th country to support the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty in 2018, which regulates international trade and seeks to prevent the illegal spread of small arms by setting international standards and government involvement.

Brazil recognizes its own domestic production and the difficulty of abolishing all small arms. Accordingly, we seek a balance between economic necessity and personal safety. Both in Brazil and globally, there are more unregistered than registered firearms in circulation. We must implement stronger regulations and facilitate the decreased spread of arms. We express concern

that civilians may possess and carry multiple guns and unlimited ammunition. We also decry governments that abolish import taxes on small arms. Loosening gun laws will not be an effective way for civilians to protect themselves against crime and violence. We look forward to working with the Disarmament and National Security Committee to create policies that will lead to a local and global decrease in gun violence.

II. Preventing An Arms Race in Space

The Federative Republic of Brazil believes that space is not a place for war -- but rather a place to explore and further our knowledge of science and the universe. Accordingly, we have taken a leading role to prevent an arms race and the weaponization of outer space.

In 1969 Brazil ratified the United Nations Space Treaty (A/RES/2222/XXI) that bans any country from placing or carrying any weapons of mass destruction in orbit, on the moon, or on any other celestial body. Most recently, in 2021 Brazil led all other Latin American countries by adopting the Artemis Accords Space Program and Treaty. The ambitious goals of this comprehensive program are to reaffirm the Space Treaty and ultimately send more people to space for peaceful purposes.

Brazil believes that the decades old Space Treaty is a good start to preventing an arms race in space. Now, all member nations must expand upon the ideas written in the original document. Brazil has several practical goals. First, Brazil calls upon its fellow Latin American countries to join the Artemis Accords. Second, Brazil seeks to expand programs for peaceful space missions. Third, Brazil supports efforts to restrict countries from placing and carrying weapons of mass destruction into space.

Delegation from: People's Republic of China

Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School

**Position Paper for the United Nations Disarmament and International Security Committee
(DISEC)**

The issues before the United Nations Disarmament and International Security (DISEC) include regulating the spread of small arms and preventing an arms race in outer space. The Nation of the People's Republic of China is committed to maintaining national sovereignty but looks forward to collective collaboration to further international tranquility.

I: Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

The increasing concern regarding the spread of small arms has been alive for many decades, as it primarily originated from the Cold War from a political conflict between the USSR and the United States. From there it spread substantially once the Soviet Union collapsed allowing for an inflation of small arms in unstable regions. The increase in small arms circulation has caused the lives of many humans in regions such as Africa and the Middle East to be unstable and dysfunctional lifestyles. Thus be followed by hundreds of thousands of deaths in these regions. Ultimately since the 1990's a variety of regulations have been set to stop this inhuman process. Finally the delegation from the People's Republic of China is looking for a solution to solve the destruction from this issue, as it condemns the spread of small arms as being unsafe for many people.

The Nation of the People's Republic of China is committed to slowing down and eventually stopping the spread of small arms. The spread of small arms trade has affected many of China's allies in the Middle East and Asia. Previous actions taken by the Chinese government have been recently joining the UN weapons trade treaty. The Chinese government has also put a large effort in implementing the UN's Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit trade of Small arms. The Chinese government is looking for international cooperation and efforts made to stop the spread of small arms.

The delegation from the People's Republic of China would appreciate and have high regards towards creative, innovative, and passionate collaboration. Calling for things like more treaties with summits would be a great solution to this problem, along with rewards towards appropriate behavior under treaties. The possibility of providing other business to such arm trades could also

be a solution to the issue. Lastly the Nation of China will be present with a positive and passionate mindset for helping create a better international community.

II: Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

The start of weaponization in space goes as far back as the 1950's when the Cold War was arising. It started between the United States and the Soviet Union trying to gain advantage over one another. This led to the passing of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty by the United Nations. This only regulated space activity and which caused later the Committee on Disarmament to create an international forum for negotiating disarmament. Later the UN then passed a resolution named Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, which backs up the 1967 Treaty. Further concerns on the topic was countries like the United States who in 1997 put a large emphasis on space superiority to military operations. Later countries like China and Russia submitted a draft treaty to the Committee on Disarmament that reiterated the importance of a weapon-free outer space. It was later rejected by the United States. Even though United States claims that there is no arms race in outer space but has made the actions of building up its space force. Finally and most recently NATO states declared that it has no intention for putting weapons in space for the safety of the human race. Finally China supports active participation in Space activity, but condemns any sort of weaponization.

The arms race in outer space has affected the People's Republic of China by causing stress on not only it's government but also its people in the sense of not knowing what weapons its enemies have placed into orbit. Previously China has attempted to stop weaponization of outer space with drafting treaties such as the Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force Against Outer Space Object. This treaty was created to reaffirm the importance of a weapon-free outer space to ensure international peace and safety. China is in full support of outer space activity as the nation itself has a very active program, but completely condemns any sort of harmful device in outer space.

The delegation from the People's Republic of China would heavily support the ensuring of maintaining peace and stability in outer space to keep peace and tranquility here on earth. China heavily favors active participation from all countries present and trying to solve this issue of outer space warfare. China is heavily rooted in the values of maintaining international cooperation and values every opinion and idea present. Lastly, China is a nation that extremely supports technology advancements and would like to nurture the growth made by countries including itself in outer space technology.

Delegation from: The Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Represented by: Laurel School

Committee: DISEC

Position Paper for the Disarmament and International Security Committee

The issues before DISEC today are regulating the spread of small arms and preventing an arms race in outer space. The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea looks forward to working with fellow delegates to find achievable solutions to these pressing issues.

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

The delegation of North Korea is honored to work with fellow delegates to regulate the spread of small arms. We acknowledge the risk that the unregulated trade of small and light arms poses on global conflicts worldwide. They are a hindrance to the United Nations efforts to resolve conflict, in the case of Rwanda, for example. However, our delegation does advise caution in doing so. We must acknowledge small arms are not the root of the issue when attempting to decrease global violence.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has allowed the import and export of small and light arms throughout the nation, however, we have strict firearm policies present throughout the nation. Currently, civilian possession of small arms is prohibited in North Korea, leading to the low rates of domestic civilian violence present throughout our nation. We are deeply committed to the internal regulation of small arms and encourage other nations to follow in our steps. North Korea strongly supports the PoA as a means of regulating the spread of small arms, but we acknowledge that we must strengthen the framework. However, instead of enforcing stricter self-reporting of small arms, we must focus on internal policy. North Korea proposes that countries ought to adopt stricter policy on the domestic spread of small arms.

The issue of regulating the spread of small arms to curb violence is two-fold and our delegation urges the committee to see it as such. While we are committed to curbing violence, we cannot simply

regulate small arms and expect global violence to be immediately reduced. The delegation of North Korea encourages fellow delegations to embrace our modifications to the PoA in order to create lasting peace. We do not wish to inflate United Nations spending on more global conflicts, nor do we wish for the loss of lives to violence to exponentially increase. Therefore, this resolution is of the highest importance to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and we are esteemed to be a part of the solution. The delegation of North Korea hopes to work with fellow delegates to resolve this issue once and for all.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

The delegation of North Korea is honored to be working with fellow delegates on preventing an arms race in outer space. We acknowledge the risk that unregulated weapons of mass destruction and nuclear weapons being placed in the Earth's orbit poses detrimental threats of dreadful proportions to the safety of the universe as we see it. However, we acknowledge that under John Locke, we are all guaranteed natural rights to life, liberty and property. Thus, we contend that when the people *dEmOcRaTiCaLIY* agree to launch nuclear weapons and methods of mass destruction into the Earth's orbit it is completely ethical to do so.

Position Paper for the General Assembly, DISEC

The issues before the General Assembly are: Regulation the Flow of Small and Light Arms; and Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space. France is adamant to regulate the spread of small arms and to prevent an Arms Race in Outer Space for overall world peace.

I.Regulating the Flow of Small and Light Arms

The delegation of France believes firmly that the spread of small arms must be regulated and under close surveillance. Small arms contribute to a worldwide issue that has been overlooked for many years. It is time to put it under control, being that small arms are the root for many small group and national problems. Terrorists groups and criminals find convenience in small arms. Not only is it easy for them to purchase, but there are not enough restrictions that regulate their usage. Small arms are a threat to communities, as they are most commonly used by perpetrators of gender-based violence, and genocides. The issue of small arms can also expand to prolonged issues, such as what is happening in Africa. It is extremely difficult to track small arms and their sales because they are bought and sold illegally before they are put on the black market, and non-state actors don't typically report what they buy. Collectiveness of individually small and light arms are a threat to international peace and United Nations goals, a restriction on them is needed.

Within the past century, the rise of small and light arms has increased greatly. More usage declares more restrictions, rules, and regulations. Many deals and agreements have been put in place between countries to ensure that the usage of small and light arms is minimized. Because it is a national threat to all countries, they all comply. What makes it difficult is that the patrons of each country don't comply. Since 2008, the UN has called for annual reports on small arms trade between and within countries. All the regulations put in place with the UN is to control small arm trade, in hope that it will decrease in sales and production. France takes part in the UN by turning in the annual report of trade, advocating for an additional regulation category, and supports the register. France also acts within the European Union. In 2002, the council adopted a joint action combating the destabilizing accumulation and spread of small arms by putting civilian and military capacities at the disposal of each country. In 2003, they placed a common positioner on the control of arms brokering, trying to regulate sales. France's gun laws date back to 1939 and have been amended since. They now stand as: *There is no right to bear arms for the French, and to own a gun, you need a hunting or sporting license which needs to be repeatedly renewed and requires a psychological evaluation.* If the law is broken, they are looking at a maximum of seven years in prison and a fine. France's gun laws are working well, mass shootings are not common- as they are in the US- and their citizens have been able to comply with the rules.

The safety and security of our nation, our neighboring nations, and the United Nations should be our top priority. Ensuring that we, and our patrons, stay safe starts from the very bottom- the regulation of small and light arms. The delegation of France has been successful in our gun laws and we believe it is possible for all nations to do as we did. Strict regulations on the manufacturing of small and light arms and the sales/ buys should be put in place. We can do this by regulating the products sold that are needed to manufacture small and light arms, closely monitoring factories, and keeping a close eye on small terrorist groups such as ISIS, who can easily buy and sell small and light arms illegally and secretly. If the trade of small arms is monitored closely, the usage will be minimized. We also believe that it is important to closely test and track the patrons that are legally allowed to buy and use a gun. Not only should there be strict tests and questioning involved in receiving a license to operate small arms, but the nations should also hold monthly questionnaires and keep each legal patron under close

surveillance, making sure that they use their gun privilege for legal activities. The General Assembly and DISEC can and will be very successful in regulating small and light arms, the delegation of France believes that we can do this by putting down laws and rules and following up with them.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

A slight shift in the ordered dynamic of nations, such as the authority of weaponizing space, will help the modernization and development of countries all around the world. The undiscovered sector calls for exploration and opportunity for weaponization to extend its limits past the ground-based course most countries have yet to overcome. In 1967, a UN Outer Space Treaty was passed that advocated for the suppression of weaponization of space. This was followed by a 1981 resolution, which reinforced the beliefs and principles of the previous theory. However, the placement of satellites is an open battlefield, giving any nation the opportunity to launch one of their own satellites into our solar system. Several nations in the UN were in favor of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty and are in favor of banning weapons in space. They fear that weaponizing space will give one nation too much power and will result in the destruction of orbiting satellites and a full-on war in outer space. We need to come to a consensus on the limits of space and how we can weaponize the area peacefully.

France believes that the military advancement in space is a great benefit in protecting their satellites and identifying possible threats in space. To advance into a possible new world, countries need to take action, or else we stay the course we're currently in and make no movements for change. Like France, the United States is readily making their military placements in space, and they are taking on the power and responsibility to do so. In 2019, former president Donald Trump announced the *US Space Force*, a plan that begins by the US increasing their power in space. They aimed to heavily arm their satellites with weapons and high-tech security. After the US made this announcement, the leaders and engineers in France were following right behind. They began to lay out their own system and prepared to bring their blueprints to life. Earlier this year in March 2021, France conducted their first Military exercise in outer space, the first European country to do so. With the eyes of the world on them, France displayed their powerful technology and arsenic exclusive to their satellites in space. The militarization of space can be done, in a controlled and peaceful manner when nations all agree upon a solution.

The complete ban of outer space militarization due to political action is unacceptable. As one of the most influential sovereign states in the United Nations, France is willing to negotiate on a compromise on this issue. The militarization of outer Space should not be prevented, just maintained. Nations should have the ability to take their weapons into space, and place high security on their satellites, so long as they don't destroy, harm, or interfere with property that is of another notation. They must be protecting their own equipment, not attacking or targeting that of other nations. France believes that an amendment to previous Outer Space Treaties is looked upon favorably, to take a step forward at the advancement of technology in the new world.

Representatives of: Germany
School: Padua Franciscan High School

Position Paper for the General Assembly, First Committee (DISEC)

The Issues presented before the General Assembly are: The Regulation of the Spread of Small Arms and The Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space. This delegation is in full support of furthering small arms regulation with proven methods already used in Germany and to mediate any conflict in space. The delegation of Germany also sees the potential devastation of these threats if left unchecked and hopes to reach a solution with fellow delegates for the betterment of society.

I.Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

Since 1972, Germany has been advocating for stricter gun regulation. A recent increase in gun violence has brought the further crackdown on dangerous weapons a necessity for MUN. In Germany, there have been many shootings that were the result of one reason, technology. While technology brings many benefits, it was also the reason the Halle synagogue shooter was able to livestream not only making his guns, but the horrific shooting itself. Websites like ghostguns.com provide kits to make guns at home without any registration or a serial number. Because of this, regulation should not only be in the real world, but in the online world as well. Modern technology makes gun violence a far greater threat than it once was and because of this, Germany is in full support of furthering regulation on small arms.

In 2013 and 2015, the ISACS was passed which was a resolution that detailed the classifications of small arms and how they would be dealt with. While this resolution was a huge step in the right direction, it was not fully accepted by all countries. The recent growth of online gun websites, resulting in a larger access to weapons, should warrant further restrictions on small arms. Online websites like the ghostguns.com acquire gun parts by making partial and therefore untraceable weapons which allows them to skirt the confines of the law. Stricter regulation is needed on examples like this to prevent these guns from getting into the wrong hands. Although outdated, the 2015 ISACS is an excellent basis on which to create this new resolution to combat new gun violence threats.

Over the past 50 years, Germany has solved gun violence with surprising success. In 1972, the Red Army scare was ended in part due to harsher gun legislation and over the following decades other laws would follow. In 2002, 2008, and 2009, the staple of Germany's gun control laws would be passed and put into effect. While some believe that gun restriction is not only an infringement of rights, but ineffective, Germany has shown that to be the opposite. Germany's gun violence is still at large especially due to emerging threats like ghost guns, but strict gun control has made Germany one of the safest countries in the world and is leading the way for others.

The country of Germany seeks to create an online and physical regulation of small arms in the footsteps of ISACS and its own gun control laws.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

The arms race in space is on the horizon and the recent advancements of anti-satellite capabilities by multiple countries has proven that. Germany hopes that it can mediate the tensions between rival countries and lead this possible disaster into a safer direction.

Each year, both sides of the conflict instigate and challenge the other. The solution to this matter is for these countries to put aside their trivial differences for the safety of the world. It benefits no one for a select few countries to be fighting each other illegally in space.

As a peaceful country, Germany is hoping to be a leader in mediating peace between these rivals and hopes other countries will support its goals. Without the support of other countries, the situation could escalate to a worse state.

The country of Germany is willing to mediate each side of this possible arms race to prevent further escalation.

Delegation from: Israel

Represented by: Archbishop Hoban High School

Position Paper for Disarmament and International Security (DISEC)

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

The use and trade of small arms has been an increasingly alarming topic for the UN. Weapons became more easily accessible in politically unstable countries during the Cold War. Regulations have been set to help manage the flow of arms globally in the 1990s. Small arms have made it more difficult to reach goals of greater peace. Israel believes all states should fulfill their arms control obligations in order to better human security.

The management of arms is of great importance for the country of Israel. Israel and Palestine are in a long ongoing conflict over the land. This began when Jews in Europe were being persecuted and harassed. Many Jews wanted freedom from the torment they were receiving so they began to move to the area that is now Palestine. Great Britain, which took control of Israel in 1923, supported the idea of Jew moving to Palestine and claiming it as the Jewish national home. Later Jews in Palestine were forced to flee to Israel. The migration upset many surrounding Arab countries. The Jews and Arabs were left in a war by the British. Due to this, Israel is a constant threat of terrorism from surrounding enemy countries. This is why they are in full support of the UN Programme of Action, or UNPOA, and are looking to improve its implementation by all states and believe there is a special need to address the weapons coming in and out of the country. The main goal of UNPOA is to completely destroy the trade of small and light arms. On December 18, 2014, Israel also signed the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in efforts to monitor arm exports and sales. This treaty is in their best interest because it combats the sale of arms to terrorist groups who are often a threat to the country.

States and individuals are bearing the consequences of organized crime caused by unregulated sales of arms. The country will adopt the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. Further steps within the country will also be taken to increase the effectiveness of the plan. Israel will refrain from implementing the principle of self-determination due to its bias for certain countries. All this will be done in hopes of reducing terrorist attacks and bettering the life of individuals.

II. Arms Race in Outer Space

The current situation that Israel is facing is one that could be remedied through a peaceful treaty. A treaty would have to be signed by countries with opposing views in order not to create new conflicts.

Since the 1950s, a number of countries have tried to place weapons in space such as the United States and the Soviet Union. To ensure peaceful relations between countries, the United Nations passed the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. The treaty regulates the exploration of numerous celestial bodies in outer space. The treaty does not state about any kind of weapons in space. The Committee of Disarmament was formed in 1978 to negotiate issues about international security. Israel is a member of the Committee of Disarmament in opposition to an arms race in outer space.

Currently, Israel is trying to maintain a peaceful and neutral position. Israel and the United States are in agreement for peace and not a war in outer space. Several European countries are also in agreement with Israel and the United States. Numerous countries have tried to attack the citizens of Israel for their position on this issue. The government of Israel ensures the safety of all Israelis, attacks by neighboring countries have moved Israel backwards on this issue.

In the future, Israel can continue to work with its allies to ensure that there is not an arms race in outer space. Israel will remain a neutral country trying to make peace. Peaceful relations must be made with neighboring countries. An arms race in outer space will only be prevented if all countries agree that a war in space is unnecessary, signing a treaty could prevent a war.

Delegation from: Italian Republic

Represented by: Beaumont School

Position Paper for the General Assembly, First Committee

The issues being addressed by the General Assembly First Committee, Disarmament and Security are: Regulating the Flow of Small and Light Arms and the Arms Race in Outer Space. The delegation from the Italian Republic recognizes the need to find viable resolutions to these pressing concerns.

I. Regulating the Flow of Small and Light Arms

Small arms can be classified as small and easily concealable guns most often used in crime, creating a clear issue in which careful regulation is necessary. To further outline this crisis, 1.4 million global deaths by small arms occurred between 2012 and 2016, without considering non-fatal injury. These are due mostly to the simplicity of acquiring small arms illegally. Eight million small arms are produced globally on a yearly basis, and proper handling of them is crucial to the advancement of the UN's success in preventing gun violence. Italy's delegation takes a restrictive stance on this, recommending that new laws be put into place to help manage the distribution of small arms.

The crime organization Camorra in Italy has been a large contributor to the distribution of illegal guns to former Soviet countries since the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991. Italy desires to improve this situation and that of other Italian crime organizations. Laws are already in place to help regulate and control gun usage such as Legislative Decree 30 December 1992 No 527. This focuses on the control of gun possession, including guidelines about the marketing of small arms and the monitoring of information about illegal small arms passing through electronics. More laws such as this could help improve the attention of the UN to gun possession movements within crime organizations throughout separate countries.

To successfully reduce the flow of illegal small arms trafficking throughout the UN, legitimate data must be collected. Without reliable knowledge of how many arms are in possession legally, comparative data about illegal arms is unattainable. Ties between legal and illicit gun administration are clear, and it is impossible to reduce those connections when dealing with the estimations that the UN has used previously. The dark net is also a contributor to the illegitimate trade of small arms. Connections between human and drug trafficking and gun distribution must be discovered and utilized when attempting to uncover patterns in gun trade. A more expansive understanding of criminal methods is recommended by Italy's delegation to move forward. In 2013, the UN signed the Arms Trade Treaty in an attempt to slow the traffic of illegal small arms to conflict zones such as Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal. This was not a success due to the fact that it focused on establishing a common way gun trade is kept track of, ignoring the fact that the amount of guns throughout the United Nations needed to be reduced or held at a standstill.

To minimize the conflict caused by the illegal distribution of small arms, Italy's delegate recommends greater attention to the extensive methods that crime organizations use to illegally distribute small arms. Italy also suggests a focus on technology in tracking gun trade, and the acknowledgement of the amount of guns possessed in the member states. Considering this when moving towards a resolution can reduce the worldwide deaths and political strife due to illicit distribution of small arms.

II. Arms Race in Outer Space

The weaponization of space is one of the most pressing modern issues that this committee must address. As technological advancements continue, this body must consider the threat of space weapons becoming an aspect of warfare, posing a grave threat to all nations. To keep space as a common asset for all nations, we must create comprehensive guidelines to prevent the development of an arms race. The delegation of Italy promotes creating strong regulations to combat this issue.

Previous measures of the United Nations to address this concern have failed due to vague language and insufficient regulations. The weaponization of space has posed a potential threat since the first satellites in the 1960s. The 1967 Outer Space Treaty promotes an equitable approach to space exploration, prohibiting any state from claiming ownership. This treaty also prohibits the establishment of weapons of mass destruction and military operations on celestial bodies, but fails to set a concrete framework. The delegation from Italy suggests creating a renewed treaty that better defines the actions being prohibited, taking into consideration the technological advancements in this area. Such a treaty must take into account risks beyond weapons of mass destruction, such as the potential use of terrestrial weapons to target satellites, and regulate space debris which could pose a problem for future exploration initiatives.

This assembly can also build off of previous initiatives by bringing back the framework of the 1981 Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space resolution. A renewed draft of this resolution must consider the additions of regulations of the destruction of satellites and management of space debris. An international committee of aerospace experts should be organized to advise on how to best regulate these matters. The exploration of space must remain open to all nations without the threat of obstruction or destruction.

Space must be utilized in a manner that promotes the good of the global community as a whole. Italy fully supports the European Union's 2016 Space Strategy for Europe, which emphasizes the sustainable advancement of technology and research. These advancements can be furthered through a collaborative use of terrestrial and celestial resources. The first pillar of this strategy is for the mitigation of climate change and the promotion of sustainable development. Italy's Cosmo-SkyMed satellite system contributes to this goal through its monitoring of the earth's surface for the prevention of natural disasters. On the global stage, these technologies can prove essential to aid areas vulnerable to the effects of climate change, such as the use of UN satellite imaging to plan evacuation routes during the 2015 flood of Malawi. The second pillar of this strategy is diplomacy. International efforts towards space exploration and research both foster relationships between nations and aid developing nations towards the technological advancements that they require. The third pillar is increasing international security through border and maritime surveillance. Innovations in these areas will contribute greatly to the well-being of all nations. Through adopting these goals in a new Outer Space Treaty, this assembly can take great steps towards preventing the weaponization of space.

Jefferson Area High School
Japan
DISEC

On the topic of Regulating the Spread of Small Arms this is not a new issue that the globe has faced. Small arms and light weapons have been around for hundreds of years. These weapons are commonly used as 'self-defense and or murder weapons in many nations globally. It's been like this ever since their creation. These guns were used during the colonization of the 'New' World to exterminate native populations, these guns are used today by police, and these guns are used today by citizens with intent to harm others. In Japan, there is a very low amount of small arms ownership with about 0.6 weapons per 100 people. However, in other states such as England, there are 6.2 guns per 100 people. In the United States, there are roughly enough guns for every citizen to own five. Small arms are becoming increasingly problematic with a dramatic increase in gun violence being seen globally. This is not a new issue but a reoccurring and consistent one that needs to be solved.

As the delegation of Japan, we strongly believe in the regulation of small arms internationally. The misuse of small arms has proven to be detrimental to the safety and lives of millions across the globe. We want our and the world's people to be confident in their safety. We want Japan and all nations globally to maintain political efficacy in doing our jobs in keeping our people safe. The regulation of small arms is essential in doing this. For example with our regulations in Japan, we have a small average of 6 gun violence deaths per year. This is extremely low when compared to other nations such as the United States which has a rough average of 40,000 deaths annually. We believe it is essential to do anything in our power to protect our people from the very prominent threat that small arms and light weapons possess globally. We want to prevent the devastation that small arms cause to lives, families, and even communities. We view it as essential to work with not only our allies but all willing countries as this issue is in dire need of an effective, long-lasting solution.

With various solutions at hand, the delegation of Japan is open to any and all discussion, suggestions, and negotiations as it is an essential part of the United Nations. Our goal is to work to find a solution that suits all states. We view it as essential to work with all member states to come up with an effective solution to this very deadly problem. Some solutions that we have come up with are to restrict the number of gun shops allowed, restrict certain types of small arms, more detailed background checks, and communications with local authorities on any and all small arms purchases. These are all solutions that have been implemented in Japan and have proven to be effective. Gun violence saw a dramatic decrease in Japan without the complete banning of all small arms. We view these restrictions as essential to the global safety of our people. We are open to discussing these solutions more with other member states along with coming up with solutions that are tailored to each member state's needs for a perfect fit for all. We view it as mandatory for all member states to come together and protect our people against the dangers of small arms.

Jefferson Area High School
Japan
DISEC

On the topic of Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space, this may be a relatively new issue that we as a globe have faced. A little over half a century ago, the first astronauts were sent to space by Russia and the United States. This prompted the Space Race to end for these two countries. However, this dawned a new era of space exploration. Since then, globally, over 11,000 satellites have been launched, with around 5,000 still in orbit. 40,000 rockets have been launched, including small rockets. With these current numbers, we can see how an arms race is almost inevitable in outer space. With enough time and diligence, we as the United Nations can resolve this problem that could prevent a possibly catastrophic war that not only us, but our future generations would have to bear the burden of.

As the delegation of Japan, we strongly believe in the prevention of this. Not only for our safety, but for the safety of our neighbors, our allies, and our planet. We care for the stopping of a possible war that could devastate our national economy, global economy, ecosystems, populations, and innocent civilians. Stopping a possible arms race is crucial in preventing a future war, as it would give a solution to the problem without starting one. Thus, we believe, and would do anything in our power to stop a war that can devastate our Earth. We would like to work with not only our allies, but open up and work with all willing countries, because we believe in the urgency of this issue, and believe it needs to be solved immediately.

With many solutions at hand, the delegation of Japan is open to negotiation, as that is a key part of the United Nations. To find a solution that appeals to all states. We want to work with all member states to come up with a solution that will solve this problem in the most efficient way. Some solutions we have come up with in our country is minimizing the testing done in outer space. We have very few long range weapons that would need to be used or launched in space. Therefore, we believe this could be a possible solution. We have seen in the past conflicts between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America that a cold war can lead to many more wars. We believe that this also needs to be prevented. So, perhaps launching more satellites used to spy wouldn't be such a good idea. However, maybe a multi-country satellite used to share information between countries would be a viable solution. Almost set up like the International Space Station, this unmanned satellite would serve as a nice, diplomatic way to prevent an arms race and wars. Some potential NGOs for the funding would be: Space Studies Institute, National Space Society, National Space Club, and the Planetary Society. However, these NGOs are based in the United States. So, perhaps with their help, we can launch these projects in an effort to prevent an arms race in outer space.

Delegation From: The Netherlands

Represented By: Beaumont School

Position Paper for the United Nation Disarmament and International Security Committee

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

Presently standing as the main deliberative policymaking and representative body of the United Nations, the Disarmament and International Security deals with a range of disarmament concerns. The UN recognizes weapons intended to be used by one person as small arms and weapons utilized by two or three people as light arms. The distinctive factor with the categorization of these arms regards their portability. Small and light arms establish a significant threat to the goals of the United Nations. With growing challenges for peacekeeping efforts, these weapons provide convenience for criminal and terrorist groups. Threatening the morals and goals of the Netherlands with their stance on equity, these principles are in jeopardy with employing these weapons in gender-based violence. Severe violations of human rights are typically carried out with small and light arms. A vital role is considered by these arms as within the outcome of conflicts regarding the presence of small arms in an area does not guarantee a conflict occurring. However the existence of small arms is related to prolonged conflict. Individual small and light arms may not pose as many risks to global security as major arms or weapons feasible of mass destruction; however the amplifying number and usage establish them as a threat to UN goals as well as global peace. A massive expansion of light and small arms occurred during the Cold War. The United States and USSR often sold weapons to young states and rebel groups to extend their political interests; these actions prompted an increase in the amount of small arms available in Africa. The former Soviet weapon stockpiles illegally shipped to countries under the control of the UN arms embargoes. Amplifying the danger of terrorists, rebel groups, etc, the AK-47 weapons prove the significance of acquiring arms for defense against these groups. There are available measures for countries to take at the national level such as managing their internal arms sales with various methods to reduce the likelihood of illegal international arms sales. The likelihood of illegal arms is reduced if they are sold from the country with a licensing system as well as a focus on good domestic management.

The portability of the small arms has created a threat to the Netherlands, especially with the latest terrorist attacks in 2019 regarding one man shooting 6 people, killing 4 and injuring 2 with these arms. As these weapons are convenient for smuggling into our country, intensifying security within our borders proves to be vital for peace as a threat rises. Through advancements of gender equity, the small arms are also feasible to regress these efforts with a history of gender based violence. Not only do these arms pose a threat to the well being of our citizens, our country's principles and morals are in jeopardy as well. Carrying concerns regarding extremist groups and individuals within the country, with a possible pending attack with online threats, vigilance will be adopted by the Netherlands government. It has been seen in the past, especially with the terrorist attack in 2019 that only one individual is needed to create destruction. This potential for destruction is amplified by the sale of small arms, as these are deadly weapons that can be used by only one person to inflict destruction. With growing awareness towards these liabilities, as a country the Netherlands has created relationships with groups and individuals to prevent further distress. The Netherlands has been making attempts to counter terrorist groups' financing. They are members of the FATF (the Financial Action Task Force). The Netherlands also has its own Financial Intelligence Unit which assists the financial intelligence team for Europol. The Netherlands is a part of the Defeat ISIS Coalition's Counter ISIS Financial Group (CIFG).

With the growing threats and awareness by governments as well as dangerous groups towards the possibilities of small arms regarding national morals as well as safety, the need for action is evident. The Netherlands would like to state their ban on the sale and usage of small arms within our country. As the small arms jeopardize safety, morals, and respect within the country, restrictions will be mandated on these weapons.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

In 1967, the Outer Space Treaty declared that outer space can be used by all of humanity. This Treaty specifically states that member nations of the UN must, “refrain from placing in orbit around the earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction or from installing such weapons on celestial bodies.”. However, the ambiguity of this treaty leaves much room for interpretation. The U.N. has attempted to draft a treaty which would clearly state the expected and allowed behavior and restrict the number of weapons which could be intended to use in outer space. However, the countries of the United States of America, Russia, China, India, and the European Union have not unanimously agreed to produce such a treaty. The Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space resolution, passed by the UN in the year 1981, again asked for the banning of weapons in outer space and asked for the Committee of Disarmament to work for a strict and effective ban on weapons in outer space. As a result, the Committee of Disarmament formed a separate committee, designed exclusively for drafting such a treaty, but this committee was disbanded, largely by the United States, in 1994, because the U.S. felt the committee to be unnecessary as there was no active arms race at the time. The concern of an arms race grew in 1997 when the U.S. declared that outer space was more important than battlefields or warfare. Again in 2005 and 2008, treaties designed to ban weapons in outer space were drafted but rejected by other countries, namely the United States of America. The United States continues to claim that there is no current race of arms in outer space, but the country also continues to improve and grow its space force.

The Netherlands has a history of working toward disarmament. Most notably, the Netherlands has been a member of the Conference of Disarmament since it was founded in 1979. This committee works toward disarming countries of their nuclear weapons, avoiding a nuclear conflict, limiting the chances of an arms race in outer space, and defending countries that do not have their own nuclear weapons. Deep concern and a yearning for a ban of weapons in outer space grows in the Netherlands, as the United States of America stores some of their nuclear weapons in different countries throughout Europe, including the Netherlands. This is concerning because these nuclear weapons could potentially be used in an arms race in outer space, as the United States’ intention for these weapons is unknown.

Countries throughout the world are producing more and more technology which could potentially establish dangerous weapons that could be used in outer space. Due to this fact, it is absolutely necessary that a treaty which clearly and strictly enforces a ban on weapons in outer space be passed. The Netherlands wishes to form a treaty which bans the distribution, presence, and usage of weapons which could be used in outer space. The Netherlands hopes to pass this treaty to keep safe, not only countries which serve as storing units for nuclear weapons, but also the entire world. which surely would be affected by an arms race in outer space.

Delegation from: the Russian Federation

Represented by: Mayfield High School

Position Paper for Disarmament and International Security (GA1 DISEC)

There are two topics currently before the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC): they are Regulating the Spread of Small Arms and Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space. As a responsible member of the global community, the Russian Federation recognizes the significance of these issues and is eager to work towards resolving them with our fellow nations.

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

Since man sharpened rocks into knives, weapons of a small, personal nature have become a ubiquitous tool for the exploitation and destruction of innocent human lives. With the advent of widely available pistols, rifles, and other small arms, taking a life or causing horrific amounts of anarchy is as easy as flipping off a safety switch and depressing a trigger. By the United Nations Small Arms Review Conference of 2006, the illegal firearms trade had swelled to a staggering 25% of all global small arms sales. The Russian delegation asserts that further regulation must be put in place to curtail the sale of small arms to illegal actors, malicious parties, and rogue states.

The United Nations has been ineffective at passing meaningful resolutions on the topic of small arms. The only UN resolution to pass in modern history which attempts to address the illicit small arms trade is the *Arms Trade Treaty*, a treaty that is superficial, idealistic, and vague at best. Since the Russian Federation's founding, terrorism and lawlessness brought on by the illegal arms trade have caused thousands of deaths and created needless, preventable suffering. Foremost among these tragedies are the ongoing terrorist campaigns in the North Caucasus, as well as the horrific Beslan School Siege of 2004, which claimed 333 innocent lives. The Russian Federation recognizes that preventing such atrocities is best done by curtailing illegal arms sales. As such, the Russian Federation has invested considerable resources in taking preventative actions; earlier this year, a few hundred small arms were seized during a Federal Security Service raid. However, to truly put a stop to the anarchy and bloodshed caused by black market small arms, the Russian Federation would once more like to call for international cooperation focused on producing meaningful, effective resolutions to this centuries-old issue.

As the world's second-largest arms manufacturer, the Russian Federation is an active participant in the legal arms trade. It is the Russian Federation's belief that nations such as ours, with the means to produce and sell weapons without malicious intent, should be able to do so, provided they are sold to legitimate clients with reasonable restrictions on their use, resale, and

redistribution. Though the illicit arms trade is responsible for untold amounts of suffering, the Russian Federation believes that the global arms trade should not be forced to suffer under the burden of overregulation thanks to the actions of unaffiliated malicious groups.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

The Russian Federation has been a major participant in the global space launch scene. The Russian Federation is proud to have been one of the major builders of the International Space Station, and the sole means of transporting astronauts to and from humanity's great outpost in space for just under a decade. As a steadfast launcher of government astronauts, private citizens, and commercial payloads, the Russian Federation is proud of the international cooperation and peace our efforts have helped to bring about in the realm of outer space. It is our hope that the space sector remains free of weapons, conflict, and hostility not just for the sake of our nation, but for the sake of humanity as a whole. The Russian Federation is vehemently opposed to the entire concept of a militarized outer space, and wholeheartedly supports updating existing regulation. However, increased outer space militarization from other nations regarding space, including the establishment of primary armed services branches that deal solely with outer space, has led us to request this committee to work to curtail this unprecedented and deeply concerning aggression.

The Russian Federation is a proud signatory of 6 United Nations treaties governing the use of weapons in space, most notably the 1967 *Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies*. Russia holds dear the belief that manned spaceflight is a civilian and commercial field, not a military one. The Russian Federation will continue to uphold this belief, as our diplomats work to pass the *Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force against Outer Space Objects Treaty*. Additionally, the Russian Federation's spaceflight activities are almost exclusively limited to crewed and uncrewed International Space Station launches, as well as the construction and launch of Soyuz rockets for Arianespace and OneWeb from our facilities. Our manned spaceflight program has remained civilian, and the Russian Federation has no intentions of generating conflict in yet another realm of human existence.

The Russian Federation is strongly in favor of maintaining the existing international regulatory climate regarding the militarization of space and the deployment of space-related weaponry, although the Russian Federation would look favorably upon policy that updates these regulations to account for advances in space technologies, military or otherwise. The Russian Federation understands and recognizes a nation's right to defense, and we believe that right extends to space -- in the sense that a nation can use space to defend itself on Earth. However, the Russian Federation does not condone the usage of space for offensive purposes, and the Russian Federation is eager to work towards maintaining or updating existing regulation for the benefit of civilian, defense, commercial, and international spaceflight.

Position paper II

Topic B: Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Wyatt Burke, North Olmsted High School

United Nations Disarmament and International Security (DISEC)

An arms race in outer space is non-preferable to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's interest. The development and armament of weapons outside of the Earth's atmosphere is seen as a dangerous and potentially devastating situation for the world to find itself in. As of right now, the only major actors currently suspected of having the capability of producing and using such weapons are the Russian Federation, the United States of America, and the People's Republic of China. Though these tools can be used by very few nation-states the situation should be of concern to every nation no matter their alignment. This should be of great concern as according to recent reports the PRC has just conducted its first test with a hypersonic orbital missile which poses new considerations to the relationship that previously only the USA and Russian Federation have shared. This subject is not new to the UN's usual concerns, it is similar to the reduction of nuclear weaponry or anti-terrorism efforts, in fact, the UN had previously established two previous measures on the issue in 1967, and 1981. It is Saudi Arabia's belief that a situation could arise similar to that of the Cold War if any of the three major powers were to go into hostilities with each other. To avoid such a situation Saudi Arabia believes that three major subjects must be approached and dealt with: disarmament of all pre-established weaponry, the enforcement to disable the production of future weapons, and if all else fails the laws and regulations in which they can be used.

The most relevant bodies regarding this subject are the UN's Committee of Disarmament and the few non-governmental organizations facing this catastrophic issue. As previously mentioned the actions taken by the UN and the CD occurred in 1967 with the Outer Space Treaty which governs how governments explore and conduct themselves in space and in 1981 the resolution, Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space was ratified reacknowledging the previous treaty from 1967. Despite the acknowledgment of the potential dangers from all nations involved the USA, PRC, and Russia have all progressed with extra-atmospheric weaponry and don't seem to be likely to stop unless external forces push against their armament. In regards to this issue, Saudi Arabia is a secondary actor and would most likely not have space weapons deployed against us, however, the effects of war using such weapons would have an extreme effect on us in regards to our economy, our security, and our stability.

The delegates of Saudi Arabia firmly believe that the three points illustrated earlier are key points to prevent further escalations of this issue. Primarily the continued expansion of weaponry should be curtailed by the Committee if possible, with what tools we have at our disposal. DISEC may need to take similar actions to which it took in regards to nuclear weaponry and weapons of mass destruction or in fact, a simpler solution may be to categorize all extraterrestrial weapons as WMD. The secondary topic to reach a decision on would be the disarmament of the weapons that are already in use or at ready. Again this situation may be solved with a solution that were originally developed for terrestrial WMD. Unfortunately getting the USA, PRC, or Russia to agree to such a resolution would be near impossible and even less likely is to get any of them to do so faithfully. The most likely solution to this problem would be the last subject mentioned, the regulation and laws regarding the use and deployment of extraterrestrial weaponry. At the very least there must be terms that even the big three must be able to agree to and at the very worst the committee should be able to persuade them into agreeing to have a conference on the issue in the future.

Country: *South Africa*

School: *Fuchs Mizrachi School*

Committee: **Disarmament and International Security**

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

South Africa stands against the spread of small arms that represents a huge contributing factor to the destabilization of the African continent.

It is well established that regulations governing small arms and light weapons are subject to abuse. Additionally, oftentimes legislation to control the proliferation of arms and ammunition is absent or only applicable at certain times but not at others, such as the time of manufacture but not in the secondary market. As a result, weapons end up in the arms of people who misuse them from South Africa to the continental United States.

In 1999 the United Nations Security Council issued Presidential statements. This issue was then addressed by the assembly. In 2013 Security Council adopted resolution 2117 focusing on the illegal transfer and misuse of small arms. In 2015 resolution 2220 was adopted, encouraging the security of stockpile management and border control. Most recently, a 2019 initiative geared to “Silencing the Guns in Africa” proved how the goal of creating a stable and civil world is still critical.

The illicit trade of small arms across the African continent is the main cause of war. Trading between countries is linked to conflicts around borders and this leads to conflicts within those countries. When civilians have access to large amounts of weapons it challenges law enforcement and allows gangs to overthrow the government and causing unstable leadership.

South Africa is constantly looking to prevent the spread of these weapons. Their proliferation weakens their government as different groups obtain access to small arms. This stance is consistent with the United Nations Program of Action, the National Conventional Arms Control Act. This deals with preventing legally purchased arms from entering the illicit trade, management of stockpiles of arms, and keeping records of surplus arms and their final destination after they are obsolete or deemed surplus. Ambassador S. G. Nene, Deputy Director-General Multilateral Affairs South Africa wrote in his statement to the UN, that legislation is needed to thoroughly regulate each stage of the life an armament to prevent its proliferation. “Essentially this process needs to be regarded as a chain of these successive, but interrelated stages.”

In controlling small arms proliferation we will move toward having a safer planet.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

Since the inception of space discovery, South Africa has been a proud member of the International Community in its pursuit and support of peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

South Africa’s Space Program started in 1980 with the goal of developing a satellite for observation of the Earth. By 1999 the first satellite produced by South Africa (Sunsat -1) was

launched producing multispectral images of our planet. Another satellite (Sumbadandilla, Pathfinder) launched in 2005 marked remarkable coordination of civilian and national resources and led to the development of scientific and Technical policy and understanding the regulation of space missions. South Africa has also been an active partner to fellow nations in facilitating missions to the Moon as well as other planets achieving the first high-quality images of Mars that were sent by Mariner IV to the South African tracking station (Hartebeesthoek). Today, South Africa continues to remain involved as a regional Hub of Space Science and Technology. Roughly 200 people from government research laboratories, private technology companies, and several universities are involved in this endeavor.

The General Assembly of the United Nations instituted resolution 1472 in 1959 establishing the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). South Africa proudly ratified this resolution and many subsequent resolutions that promote international cooperation in space exploration and development. South Africa has a long history of leadership in the United Nations on space-related committees, such as the united nation committee to the committee on the peaceful uses of outer space. It is also one of the co-chairs of the Group on Earth Observations and was the chair of the Committee on Earth satellite in 2007. In 1993 South Africa ratified the Space Affairs Act dealing with regulation of space. This Act created the South African Council for Space Affairs which represents South Africa in international dialogue dealing with space affairs and supervision of space activities in South Africa.

The United Nations has a long history of endorsing peaceful use of space and the moon. The Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies clearly states that the use of outer space will be carried out for the benefit of all countries and all of mankind. It is to be shared and not be claimed by any nation. States may also not place nuclear weapons or any weapons of mass destruction in space. Despite several additions to this treaty, there are loopholes that have allowed several nations to place weapons in space. On November 6, 2020, the General Assembly, adopted five new resolutions to: 1) prevent an arms race, 2) advance practical measures to prevent an arms race in outer space, 3) to avoid placement of weapons in outer space, 4) create transparency in outer space activities, and 5) establish norms, rules, and principles of responsible behaviors. Over the last several years, several countries such as France and Russia have experimented with weapons mounted in outer space.

South Africa has always supported the peaceful exploration of outer space. South Africa's most recent project highlights this. As Dr. Peter Martinez, the chair of the working group on the long time sustainability of outer space, wrote that South Africa's most recent goals are, “developing a network of satellites to provide earth observation imagery to facilitate the continent's response to drought, flooding, outbreaks of fire, water scarcity, and the spread of infectious diseases, the destruction of ecosystems, water degradation and air pollution.” We encourage the United Nation to continue creating a responsible international community of space citizens.

Delegation from the Swiss Confederation

Represented by Lakewood High School

Position Paper for the Disarmament and International Security Committee

The issues presented to the First Committee are: Regulating the Spread of Small Arms; and Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space. Switzerland is steadfast in its position that violence should be prevented in any ways possible, notably the continued regulation of small arms trade and illegal trafficking, as well as its position that Space should remain a demilitarized zone occupied solely by research and exploratory operations. The delegation hopes that the First Committee will come together in agreement on matters concerning these two very real issues.

I. Regulating the Flow of Small and Light Arms

Thousands of people die each year from homicide caused by gun violence each year across the world, according to the UN Office of Drugs and Crime, but even more die due to acts of insurgency and warfare, which are far greater in number. Desiring to see peace reach even the farthest corners of the world, Switzerland continues to press for further regulation on the flow of weaponry in order to lessen the number of deaths due to gun violence.

The Swiss Confederation, since 2017, has had a firm stance against the continued spread of small arms to third-party actors independent of any national government or well-renowned organization. Switzerland, a proud signatory of the Arms Trade Treaty and a member of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA), is concerned with the continued number of crimes committed by those misusing small arms that circulate on illegal black markets. As home of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Switzerland continues to be alarmed by the number of deaths caused by the misuse of small and light arms.

As defined by the UN Small Arms Conference of 2006, small arms are those intended for use by one person while light arms are those intended to be used by a small crew. Both, however, are equally dangerous to the safety of civilians who come into contact with them. Switzerland and its constituents are firm in our beliefs that these arms must continue to be regulated in order to guarantee the safety and security of the entirety of the world's population. Switzerland would like to see the First Committee come to an agreement on limiting the number of weapons currently being circulated in the world, and would make note that previous agreements on the topic have seen increased safety across the globe.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

Following the 1957 launch of Sputnik and the ensuing space race, the international community came together for the purpose of ensuring the Cold War did not expand into this new theater. In more recent years, the threat of space militarization has returned after mostly disappearing following the collapse of the Soviet Union, due to U.S attempts to consolidate space power and Chinese Anti-Satellite (ASAT) missile testing. The 1967 Outer Space Treaty banning the militarization of other celestial bodies is the largest international treaty pertaining to space militarization; Since the late seventies the U.N has passed “soft law” such as the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines from the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) calling for nations to avoid intentional destruction of spacecraft, however none have been legally binding. While there have been attempts to pass updated and legally binding resolutions, political tensions between the U.S, Russia, and China have so far stalled any progress.

Since co-founding the European Space Agency in 1975 The Swiss Confederation has been involved in the continuing effort to keep military installations out of Outer Space. Since joining the UN in 2002 Switzerland has seen a renewed effort to prevent space militarization through it's continued membership in COPUOS since 2008 as well as it's support of the EU's International Code of Conduct (ICOC) proposal that sought to reinforce international commitment to using space peacefully. Unfortunately, these efforts have seen little success, largely due to the aforementioned political tensions over military endeavors in space. Swiss policy has also been focused on promoting ties between the disarmament community and those advocating for the peaceful use of space, with hopes that such a coalition may have more success in pushing international policy.

Switzerland believes the international community is long overdue when it comes to new and legally-binding legislation aimed at preventing the proliferation of space based weaponry, however acknowledges that it is unlikely the Disarmament Committee will be able to reach a consensus on this topic. Therefore Switzerland hopes to craft a solution aimed at encouraging civilian use of space over military applications as well as a resolution aimed at reducing threats to space based infrastructure such as space junk through limitations placed on intentional destruction of satellites and space shuttles.

Country: *The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

School: *Fuchs Mizrachi School*

Committee: **Disarmament and International Security Committee**

The issues posed for consideration by the Committee of Disarmament and National Security are: the oversight of the regulation of small arms and light weapons, and the avoidance of a potentially devastating arms race occurring in space. In the pursuit of these issues and topics, the United Kingdom conveys ardent support for the safety and well-being of all human beings in regard to DISEC and its mission, and enthusiasm for the furtherance of the goals represented herein.

I. Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

Throughout the existence of DISEC, the United Kingdom has advocated for the safe and effective regulation of the small arms trade, enhanced vigilance in regards to the monitoring of weapons manufacturing, trade, and stockpiling, and for the existence of several treaties in regards to gun safety and control. The United Kingdom would like to see participation in such regulation be promoted throughout every member nation of the UN and beyond. With more than a billion firearms in circulation, it is vital that all small weapons be properly and safely regulated to prevent harm to any human being.

The United Kingdom is well known for its stringent policies on gun control, both within its borders and within its capacity as a member of the United Nations as a member of DISEC. Inside the bounds of the United Nations, the United Kingdom frequently supports resolutions that encourage safe and legal arms trade between states. Resolutions A/RES/75/64, A/RES/75/68, and A/RES/75/61 all prove to be a more than adequate sampler towards what the United Kingdom supports, with all dealing with the strengthening of international disarmament treaties in addition to the intensifying of regulations on the arms trade, along with an express desire to increase the information available in relation to disarmament with the intent to curtail “cultures of violence”. In more general terms, the UK supports the widespread implementation and maintenance of legislation similar to the Arms Trade Treaty and the PoA treaty. Each is designed to instantiate the hope for a safe and well regulated arms economy as well as the proper monitoring of gun imports and exports into reality, where they will be used to ensure the protection of civilians and military professionals alike.

A reigning theme in what the United Kingdom seeks to codify among international policy is unity. Without having most of the countries currently in the United Nations supporting treaties which relate to global disarmament, all that is left is a disparate set of regulations that, while still technically functional, will not effect change with near the same amount of efficacy as it would if its policies were universally agreed upon. An example treaty that has not been universally ratified is the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). The ATT sets down legislation that directly parallels what the United Kingdom supports, which is regulation, information, and cooperation in relation to small weapons. It is clean, concise, and directly addresses what needs to be changed with regards to firearms of all sizes. But there is room to improve. What we desire is the more universal implementation of policies which would increase the regulation and surveillance given to the weapons trade, limit the diversion of weapons towards illicit markets, along with multiple other protocols that would increase the safety of the firearms trade and reduce the potential for crime and terrorism as a result of small weapons. The United Kingdom would like to promote cooperation among nations as well, requesting that states work together to limit the trade of arms to areas where they are it would be deleterious should they appear, as well as ask the participatory nations of the United Nations to monitor and share information regarding the arms trade itself to determine the likelihood of potential redirection towards a black market weapons trade and to consider mitigation measures in order to lower the likelihood of this happening. Though there is more detail that can be added to each step outlined here, each lies at the crux of our desired policy outcomes.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

The United Kingdom has previously supported several treaties written with the purpose of checking hostile military action in space. These include the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, the 1979 Moon and other Celestial Bodies agreement, the PAROS agreement, and several others that never made it into official legislation due to resistance from one or several nations. Though the protocols listed therein do limit the usage of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), they do not limit the usage of conventional arms, satellite destroyers and ASATs, and only provide a framework for international space law. In an attempt to combat this problem, the Conference on Disarmament was created to, among other things, prevent an arms race in space. However, it is not yet enough. The United Kingdom seeks more complete and in depth legislation apropos cosmic weaponry, designed to remove ambiguity on what constitutes a space weapon and furthermore who is responsible for any less than beneficial actions that may occur in space, how nations should properly cooperate, and how to effectively discourage betrayal of the treaty.

Peace in the new frontier is something that the United Kingdom has consistently hunted for in the form of support for various treaties, resolutions, and frequent advocacy for committees dedicated towards the scientific, economic, and technological benefit of all humankind. Consequently, the United Kingdom has been seen actively supporting resolutions in the same strain as A/RES/75/36, which established the PAROS agreement, a current keystone document in regards to the disarmament and the peaceful exploration of space, with resolution A/RES/75/36 and its ilk providing more general support towards peace in space. In tandem with such resolutions, the United Kingdom also supports the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), which is responsible for ensuring international cooperation vis-à-vis outer space, encouraging scientific study in space, and exploring legal problems that arise when outer space is concerned, especially the military action within. Undoubtedly, all of the aforementioned concepts are necessary key ideas that the United Kingdom would like to see embodied in future international policy for the sole benefit of humanity.

Fundamental to a peaceful future in space is the institution of laws and treaties which would appropriately guide national and international action in space towards a future that is equitable for all mankind. In the spirit of achieving these goals, a committee or piece of legislation capable of being changed to meet the ever advancing pace of technology must be devised in order to define what space weapons and what the weaponization of space actually is before the UN may proceed in preventing these activities. The United Kingdom sees the detriments of not doing so as clear: if left unregulated or merely poorly regulated, space may become the newest and coolest way for humanity to dig itself into the metaphorical ground. And even if this theoretical treaty or committee is perfectly suited to its time, it may not be for long. Accordingly, it must be adaptable so that it may apply to the future or be easily adjusted to fit. Moreover, such a document or committee must be dedicated to improving the outcome of human activity in space. Not only should it limit hostile activity in the reaches above Earth's atmosphere, it should also be designed to foster economic, scientific, and technological growth throughout every nation of the world, in order to dissuade the existence of petty military conflicts. This treaty should optimally stress the importance and have the majority of nations in the UN as signatories, so that the prevention of an uninvolved nation doing something catastrophic might be limited.

Though the litany of tasks that must be accomplished may seem daunting, The United Kingdom would like to note that we have precedence here. There exists a committee, along with several drafted treaties which have all been historically dedicated to the prevention of an arms race in space. In order to expedite this process, it is paramount that these treaties be consulted and the ideas behind them used as a framework in order to construct a set of rules which will govern peaceful interaction in space for decades.

CCWA AUTUMN MUN 2021

Country: United States of America

School: St. Edward High School

Position Paper for the Disarmament and International Security Committee

I. The Question of Regulating the Spread of Small Arms

The United States has a long and storied history of small arms regulation both within and outside of the UN. A core tenet of the United States Constitution, the governing document of the U.S., is the freedom for its citizens to possess firearms. Countless U.S. Governments have seen this as one of the best defenses against the rise of tyrannical governments. Thus the U.S. has always sought to preserve its right to trade and sell weapons to both developed and undeveloped countries. However, the Delegation of the United States well understands the danger of these weapons getting into the hands of criminals, gangs, cartels and/or extremist groups who will use them for destructive purposes, posing great risks to local, domestic and international stability and security.

The Delegation of the United States is particularly concerned to seek practical solutions to prevent such small arms weaponry ending up under the control of proscribed terrorist groups like the Taliban, Al Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah and Boko Haram (amongst numerous others). Whilst the UN has worked on a myriad of small arms regulation and control agreements over the years, notably the Program of Action (POA), the US has found most of these to be too broad and invasive, restricting the government's ability to protect the country's foreign interests through arms deals. Furthermore, the real heart of the problems associated with the spread of small arms is in relation to terrorist and other extremist groups. By focusing on a resolution that targets this central issue, a good balance can be attained between solving the problem and yet still respecting national sovereignty. The US believes in a sanctions-based program which punishes countries discovered to be channeling small arms to terrorist groups and or turning a blind eye to such groups continuing to possess and use them. This will massively incentivize countries who support these organizations to stop and force others with lax gun regulation laws to start developing more robust legislation. Furthermore, such a potential resolution will allow countries to maintain the right to legally bear arms domestically under appropriate regulation in addition to their sovereign right to sell weapons to other appropriate countries in a regulated manner.

Throughout its history the U.N. has struggled to agree on gun regulations that enjoys wide acceptance amongst member states. The U.S. believes that this is because previous resolutions were too invasive of national sovereignty and restricted the freedom of countries to look out for their own interests. Especially during this time of non-state actors rising in prominence, it is critical that we allow countries to be able to deal and interact with them, whilst still denying and preventing access to small arms to negative non-state actors that present unacceptable threats to other countries or regions of the world. The U.S. believes that a resolution based on a balance between respecting national sovereignty and getting results will not only be popular but most beneficial for most countries.

II. Preventing an Arms race in Outer Space

The United States of America has always recognized that weaponization of Outer Space beyond the earth's atmosphere is a key and core prerequisite for a lasting peace on earth itself. The USA supported the 1956 United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space, in addition to subsequent agreements such as the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. In 1981 the UN negotiated the PAROS Agreement (The Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space), which the USA supported.

The Delegation of the United States recognizes and acknowledges the rivalry with other nations that characterized travel to and the use of outer space to launch satellites to benefit navigation on earth, amongst other objectives. The USA remains the only nation to have successfully landed men on the moon and brought them back again safely and continues with deeper space exploration projects beyond where mankind has ever gone before. The USA has always respected the notion that Outer Space should not become weaponized and be used as a future potential launching area for weapons of mass destruction or indeed for offensive weapons of any kind. The USA accepts that rapid technological advancements – particularly in the twenty first century – have heightened the capacity and will of other member states of the UN to launch their own Outer Space programs and that many thousands of vehicles now orbit the earth, many of which are beyond the control of the USA. The potential for weapons to be deployed or controlled through such technological advancements is thus significant and the USA opposes the notion that one country might one day seek to destabilize, cripple or destroy the orbiting space vehicle of another nation in an act of aggression.

The Delegation of the United States would look favorably on this Committee considering various options to bind member states to the principle of keeping Outer Space a weapons-free zone, with suitable mechanisms established to regulate and monitor the same. At the same time, the USA insists on its sovereign right to maintain a defensive capacity to take action against any covert weaponization of Outer Space that clearly threatens the national interest of the United States or her allies or which threatens world peace.

CCWA Autumn MUN 2021

Delegation of: Venezuela

Represented by: St. Edward High School

Position Paper for the Disarmament and International Security Committee

I. Regulating The Spread of Small Arms

The spread of small arms around the globe over the past decades has presented serious problems to the safety and security of individuals, wider society and to many nations as the instability and violence has caused death, injury and destruction on a wide scale. Unregulated sales and transportation of small arms undermine the national sovereignty of many nations and create conflict zones that become difficult to control.

The Delegation of Venezuela opposes the further spread of unregulated small arms but also retains the right to protect its own national sovereignty and to safeguard Venezuela's national interests. In 2012 the Government of Venezuela banned the private sale and possession of small arms weaponry within Venezuela in order to ensure greater national security and to curb gangsterism, violent crime and challenges to the authority of the State. Amnesties for the turning in of small arms yielded more than 15 000 such weapons being handed over, along with stricter sentences (raised to twenty years for the illegal possession of small arms) and the Delegation of Venezuela believes these policies may serve as positive guidelines to other member states as effective ways to curb the spread of small arms proliferation and prevent further violence.

Venezuela proposes that this Committee adopt similar measures to gain control of a lucrative international cross-borders black market trade in small arms that is destructive and challenging to peace and security in all nations.

II. Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space

The Delegation of Venezuela opposes the use of weapons of any sort in Outer Space and supports previous UN agreements and resolutions to prevent this from happening. Venezuela views the possible deployment of offensive weaponry beyond the earth's atmosphere as a serious threat to world peace.

The Space Race between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic in the 1960s and 1970s led to many technological advancements that benefitted the world as a whole, such as orbiting navigational satellites and better understanding of weather patterns and great enhancement in communications. The twenty first century has, however, seen numerous other member states of the UN develop their own space programs as space technology has become more widespread and the possibility that adversaries might seek to damage or destroy the orbiting satellites of others presents serious dangers for everyone. The Delegation of Venezuela rejects the weaponization of Outer Space in any shape or form accordingly.

Venezuela would like to see further resolutions to bind member states to the principle of a weapons-free Outer Space with the creation of UN-backed regulations to ensure this.