

SSUNS United Nations Outer Space Affairs

Committee: (Specialized) Outer Space Affairs

Character: Sweden

Topic One: The Environment and Space Activity

First of all, the environment and health of outer space is major in being able to continue the frontier into more unknown space, and international cooperation through space affairs is one of the most crucial tools for getting space projects off the ground.

The main goal for Sweden's observations are to support research and technology, to continue and promote the use of satellite to collect information specifically for environmental monitoring, forestry, meteorology, and topographic mapping.¹

Secondly, it is of utmost importance to have a presence in outer space, this is because having more countries gives more opportunity for different space projects with many points of views to aid in the decision process, building, and necessities in space. Sweden has ratified the Outer Space Treaty and believes that an international law system is vital to keep countries alien with each other.²

Topic Two: The Militarization of Space and International Law

Every celestial body that is sent into space by man can be used as weaponry in a war, whether its use to necessary GPS systems to track our satellites or satellites that are used to hold human life. This means that space can be built into a new war territory from above, many good and bad things can come from this.

'The Cold War' in 1957 between the United States and the Soviet Union, although did not create a body count, was a war nonetheless. The arm race began by the launch of the first artificial satellite belonging to the Soviet Union.³ This put a massive advantage to the Soviet Union during the power struggle between them and the United States. The 'Cold War' ended in 1987 when the Soviet Union attempted to put the Energia Rocket into orbit; this rocket was armed with nuclear space mines and defensive cannons to protect itself from satellites, but failed in orbit.

¹ "Sweden," un.org, accessed November 8, 2016,
<http://www.un.org/events/unispace3/speeches/20swe.htm>.

² "The Outer Space Treaty," unoosa.org, April 30, 2014, accessed November 8, 2016,
<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/spacelaw/treaties/introouterspacetreaty.html>.

³ *Wikipedia* (Wikimedia Foundation, 2016), s.v "Militarization of space" accessed November 8, 2016,
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Militarisation_of_space.

As obviously seen above, this war in its time created no harm to human life, but in the cause of weapons being out into orbit could have a tremendous affect on human life by creating debris and a machine war in space. It also puts the peace space treaty in danger by allowing countries to have machines fight a war and, in return, possibly use this weaponry in future ground battles. This is why militarization must be monitored by the UN and set strict rules and guidelines to the extent of what satellites with potential weapons on them will be allowed into orbit.

Topic Three: Space Commercialization

Sweden has tremendous hope for space commercialization, in specifics the ability to bring tourism to outer space and allow citizens a chance to see Earth from above. Hopes of putting Spaceport Sweden will include all levels of space; ground seeing resort 1 500 feet above sea level to experience the northern lights, plane flights 7 000 feet above sea level to witness the aurora borealis from the inside, space shuttles 29 000 feet above sea levels to experience weightlessness, and a resort 360 000 feet above sea level on the face of the moon to be in outer space.⁴

The mining and collecting of resources and materials in outer space can be beneficial to human life, but can also be extremely dangerous. This type of collecting resources must be monitored very closely and take small tests on whether or not any of the resources are replenish able. Over mining and collecting of outer space material can result in a quick decline in our planet's health and the balance of our atmosphere, not allowing us to interact with space anymore.

Bibliography

⁴ "Spaceport Sweden," spaceportsweden.com, 2014, accessed November 8, 2016, <http://www.spaceportsweden.com/#space>.

“Sweden,” un.org, accessed November 8, 2016,
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