COUNCIL ON STRATEGIC RISKS | SECURE WORLD FOUNDATION | GCSP Geneva Centre for Security Policy

UN FIRST COMMITTEE SIDE-EVENT

Verifying the Prohibition on the Placement of Nuclear Weapons in Outer Space

Legal, Technical, and Policy Pathways

MONDAY, OCT 26, 2026 | 1:15 PM – 2:30 PM
UNHQ: CONFERENCE ROOM 8
OPEN ATTENDENCE; FIRST COMMITTEE ACCESS REQUIRED

The Council on Strategic Risks (CSR), the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), and Secure World Foundation (SWF) invite you to a side event following a series of dialogues to verify and implement the Outer Space Treaty.

Our project raises awareness of the practical legal, policy, and new technological pathways to verify the presence or absence of a nuclear weapon in a satellite. Our project demonstrated this is necessary—and achievable—to help preserve outer space as a stable and secure domain for all nations.

Our findings show that we can gradually strengthen compliance and transparency by developing a layered system of threat education, space situational awareness, advances in technical verification options, commercial participation, and evolving state practice. Over time, these measures could combine to create a credible verification and accountability architecture that reinforces Article IV, and reduce incentives to deploy nuclear weapons in orbit.

With increasing attribution and accountability options, we aim to help deter the forward progress of any weapons of mass destruction anti-satellite programs.

For more information: Jess Rogers / jrogers@csrisks.org
Lunch will be provided.