

Conference on Disarmament
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Space Security Law

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WHAT IS SPACE SECURITY?

“Space security is concerned with the relationship among space objects and activities, and the maintenance of international peace and security, and disarmament, including the prevention of an arms race in outer space. Space security discussions fall under the purview of the United Nations disarmament bodies, including the Conference on Disarmament, First Committee, and the Disarmament Commission. Space security is also commonly understood to refer to measures designed to prevent deliberate harms to a space system, including its component parts, from intended or intentional threats undertaken by another actor.

Space security is distinct from space safety, although the two are interrelated and can intersect and overlap. Certain languages do not differentiate between ‘safety’ and ‘security’, and therefore can generate confusion in distinguishing the two.”

Almudena Azcárate Ortega & Victoria Samson (Eds.) 2023, “A Lexicon for Outer Space Security”, UNIDIR, Geneva

INTERNATIONAL SPACE TREATIES

- Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1967)
- Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (1968)
- Convention on the International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (1972)
- Convention on Registration of Objects Launched Into Outer Space (1976)
- Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1984)



OUTER SPACE TREATY

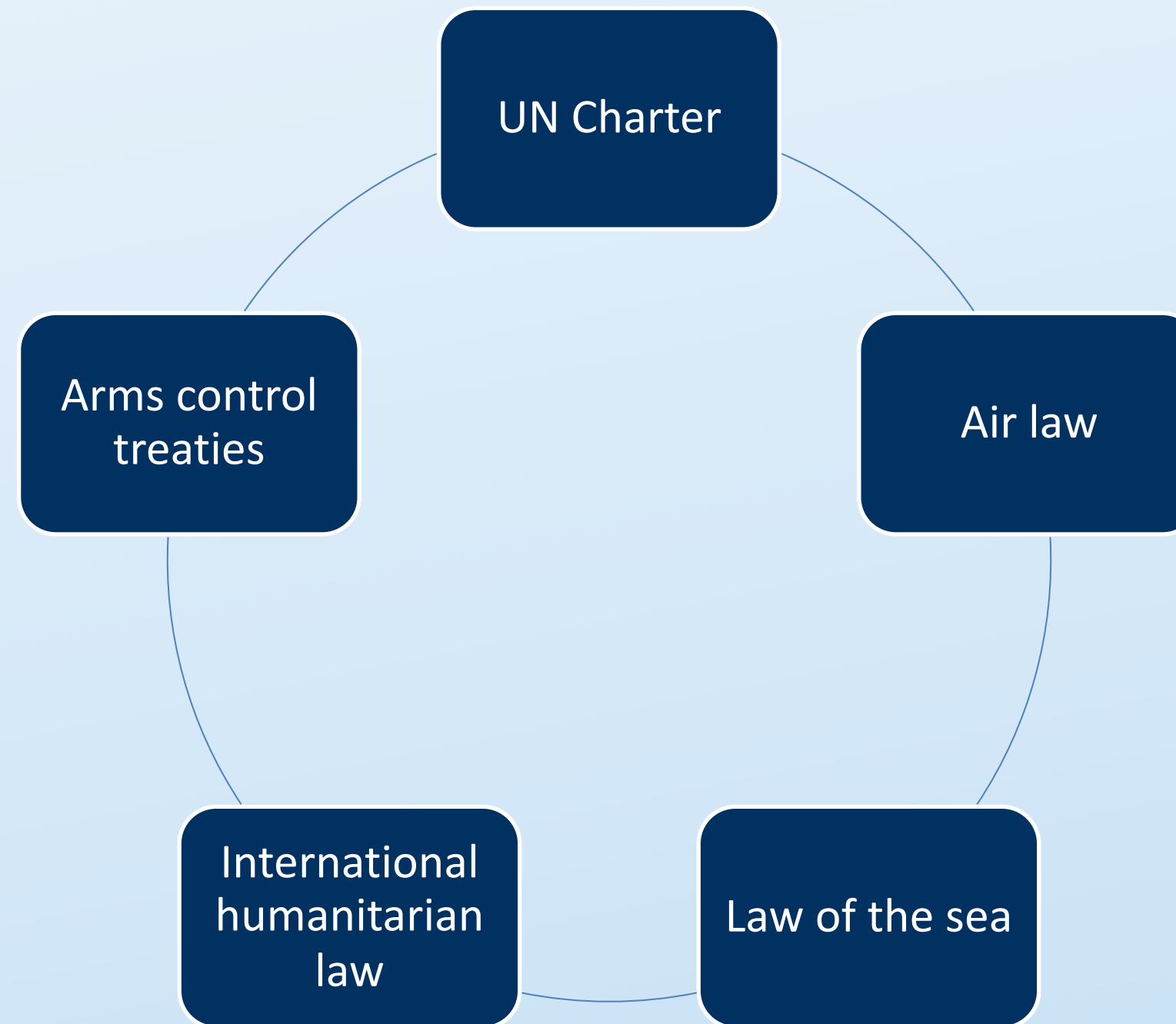
III

- "States Parties to the Treaty shall carry on activities in the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and understanding"

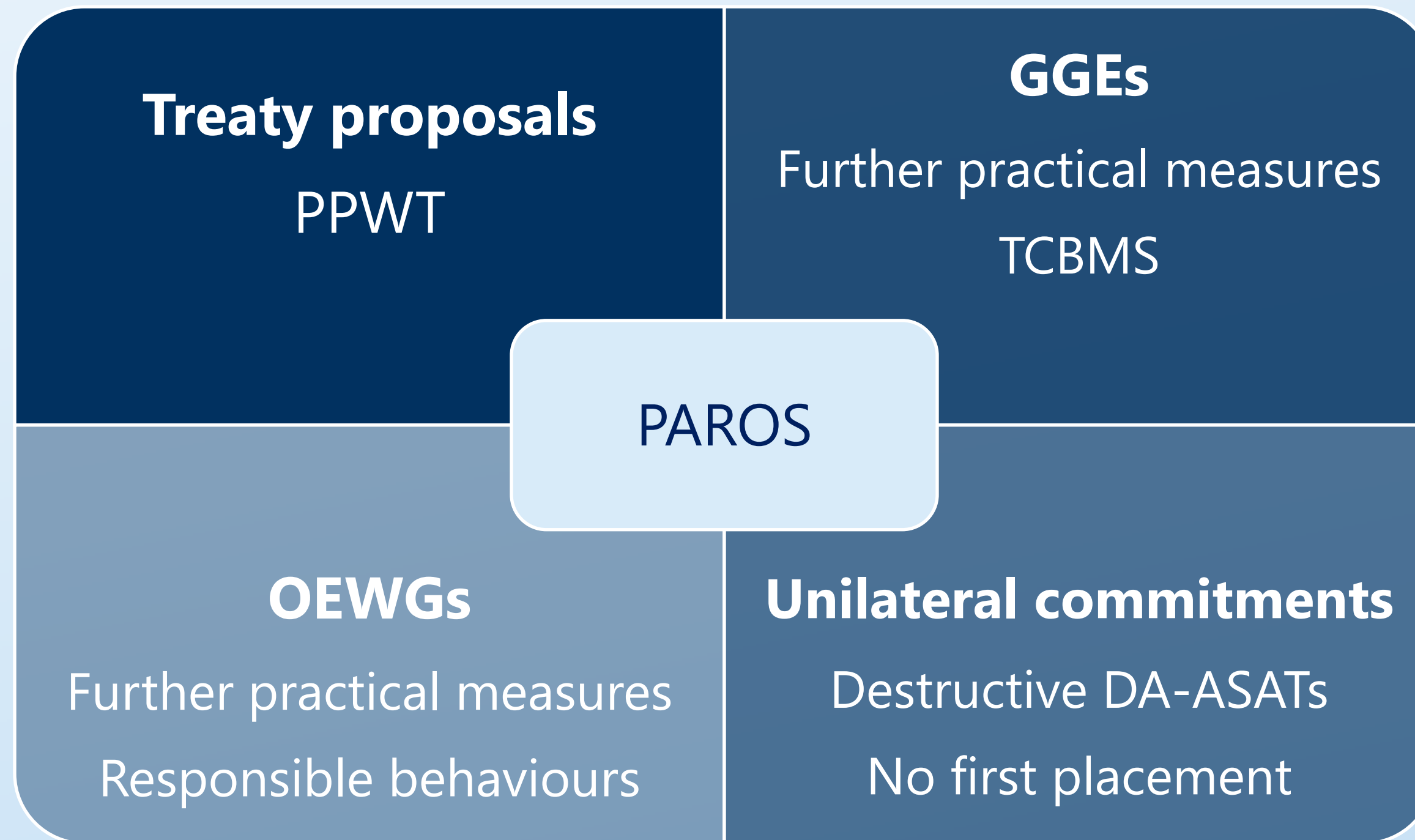
IV

- States Parties "undertake not to place in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weapons on celestial bodies, or station such weapons in outer space in any other manner"
- "The establishment of military bases, installations and fortifications, the testing of any type of weapons and the conduct of military manoeuvres on celestial bodies shall be forbidden"

GENERAL INTERNATIONAL LAW



PAROS INITIATIVES



PAROS RESOLUTIONS (78TH SESS)

- 78/19 – Prevention of an arms race in outer space
- 78/20 – Reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours
- 78/21 – No first placement of weapons in outer space
- 78/52 – Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities
- 78/238 – Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space



Thank you

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