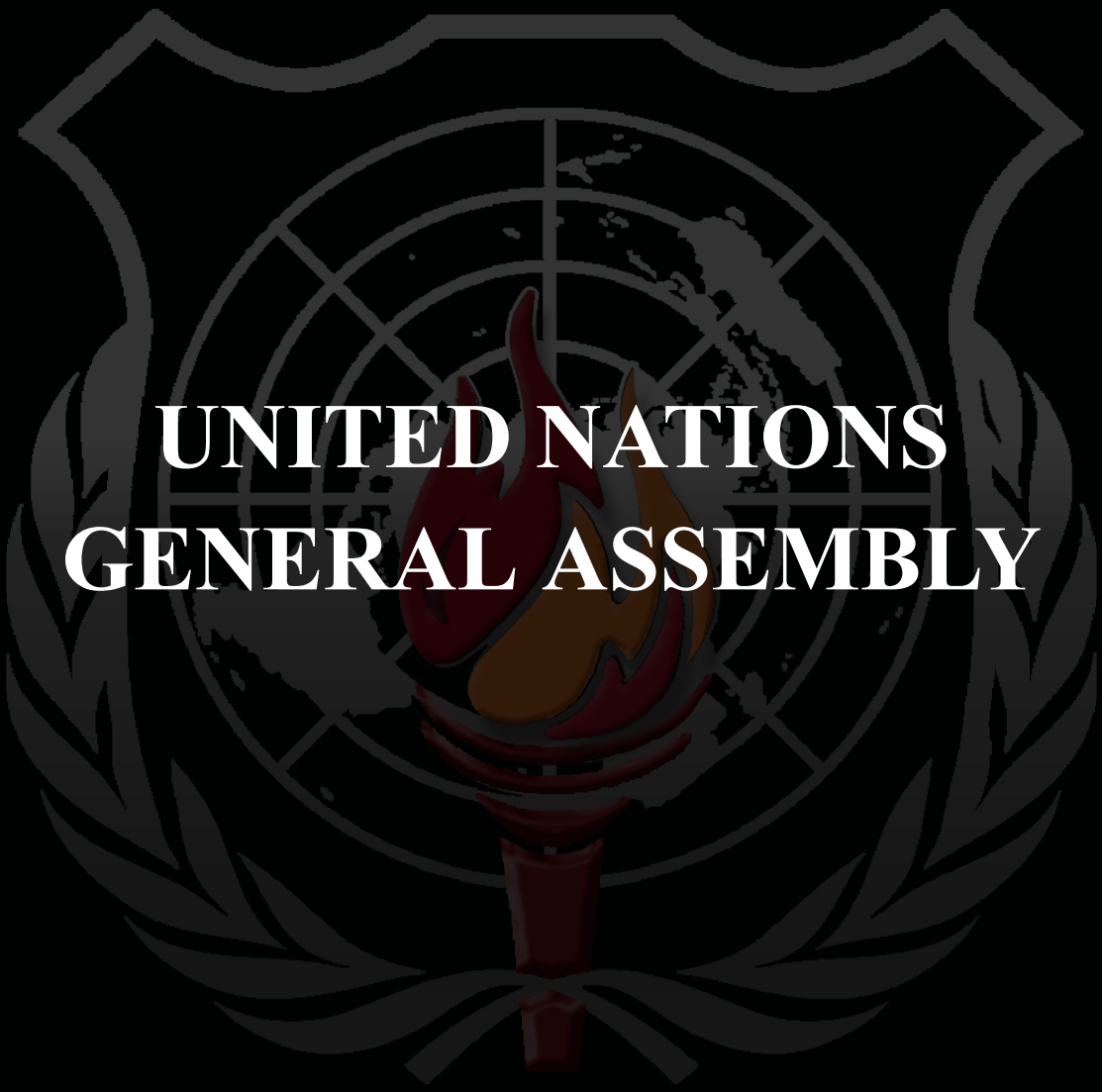


UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings from the Executive Board,

We welcome you to the JPHS Model UN Simulation 2025 organized by Jayshree Periwal High School, Jaipur, India. This background guide is exactly what it claims to be, simply providing a background to the agenda at hand and hence, a stepping stone for a more exhaustive research. This background guide deals with definitions, various laws concerning the agenda and different dimensions of the debate.

This document gives you an overview of the history and functions of WHO as well as an academic summary of the agenda in discussion as a starting point for you to develop your countries' positions. For your own advancement and profit, but also to ensure a successful and constructive working atmosphere in the committee, let us kindly suggest for you to:

1.Be well researched: Read through this background guide and take it as a point of departure for your own research into the position your countries take on the issues on the agenda. Do not limit your research to the background guide.

2.Stay in character: Learn about your country and capture the mentality of its representatives. Set up some basic goals that are appropriate for your country and act according to them. Find allies that your country would side with in reality as well.

3. Learn and practice diplomacy: Be respectful towards your fellow delegates and follow the Rules of Procedure. Be diplomatic rather than demanding and try to win over opposition instead of forcing your opinion on others.

4. Have fun: Simulating diplomacy should never be taken so seriously that cooperative fun turns into sour competition. Enjoy the debate, get to know new people and don't forget: The conference doesn't end when the meeting is suspended.

Please feel free to reach out to us via E-Mail.

We wish you all the best for your preparations and am looking forward to seeing you at the conference!

adarsh.aspirant@gmail.com (Do not spam until important)

Sincerely,

Adarsh Kumar Singh Sneha Agarwal Bhumi Sharma

(Chairperson) (Vice President) (Rapporteur)

KNOW YOUR CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Adarsh kumar Singh,

Building Aspirant Learning, India | Director, GD Goenka Healthcare, Ghazipur, UP, India | 70K+ Individuals Mentored, 100+ Speeches, 7K+ LinkedIn | Engineer
LinkedIn - https://in.linkedin.com/in/adarshsinghkumar
Instagram- https://www.instagram.com/adarsh_kumar.singh/?hl=en

Adarsh Kumar is an accomplished Education & Soft Skills Consultant with over six years of experience, empowering schools across India since 2018. A 2x TEDx Speaker and Harvard Act 2 Impact Awardee, Adarsh has been at the forefront of making soft skills training affordable and accessible to learners from all walks of life.

As the Founder & COO of Aspirant Learning, India's fastest-growing educational enterprise, Adarsh has collaborated with prestigious institutions like IITs and IIMs and earned recognition for his innovative approaches to learning and development. His international acclaim extends beyond India, with notable achievements in Sri Lanka for his expertise in public speaking and problem-solving.

Dedicated to SDG 4 (Quality Education), Adarsh has partnered with over 150 institutions, impacting more than 10 lakh students through workshops, mentorship, and upskilling programs. He has also taken significant strides in rural development by enabling students to pursue diplomas and graduate degrees in the healthcare sector.

A recognized leader in education, Adarsh has judged over 300 academic events and continues to inspire India's youth to become tomorrow's changemakers. His vision is simple yet profound: to equip young minds with the skills and confidence they need to transform their futures

BACKGROUND GUIDE FOR DELEGATES

Proofs/ Evidence in the Council

When conducting research for the committee, it is crucial to consider the credibility of the sources utilized. While various sources can provide valuable information and perspectives, it is important to note that the Executive Board will only accept proof and supporting documents from credible sources. Therefore, non-credible sources should be avoided. The following sources are acceptable for providing evidence/proof:

1.**News Sources:**

-

a)**Reuters**: Reuters is a reputable news source that can be used as evidence or proof in committee. Any article from Reuters that clearly states a fact or contradicts a statement made by a delegate in a committee can be accepted as credible information by the Executive Board. This is because Reuters is a well-known international news agency that has a long history of providing accurate and unbiased news coverage. In order to ensure that the information being used from Reuters is credible, ***delegates should be careful to verify the accuracy and reliability of the specific article they are using. They should also consider any potential biases that may exist in the reporting, such as political or cultural biases***.

For more information on Reuters and its standards of journalism, delegates can visit the Reuters website at Reuters | Breaking International News & Views

b)**State-Operated News Agencies**: State-operated news agencies are media outlets that are owned and operated by the government of a particular country. These agencies are often used to disseminate information and news to the public, both domestically and internationally. In the context of the UNGA, reports from state-operated news agencies can be used to support or oppose a particular country's stance on an issue. ***However, it is important to note that these reports can be denied by other countries in the committee if they are not considered credible or substantial enough***.

Here are some examples of government websites from different countries:

●United States of America - https://www.usa.gov/

●United Kingdom - https://www.gov.uk/

●Russia - https://government.ru/en/

●China - http://english.gov.cn/

●India - https://www.india.gov.in/

●France - https://www.gouvernement.fr/en

●Japan - https://www.japan.go.jp/

●Germany - https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en

These websites are the official government websites of their respective countries and are considered credible sources of information. However, it is always recommended to cross-check information from multiple sources to ensure accuracy and impartiality.

2. **Government Reports**:

Government reports are often comprehensive and provide insights on various aspects of the issue at hand. They are usually prepared by experts in the field and offer a wealth of information that can help delegates develop a more nuanced understanding of the issue.

To utilize government reports effectively, delegates can begin by identifying the relevant government agencies that specialize international cooperation and collaboration.

To study these reports, delegates can start by reading the executive summary to get an overview of the key findings. They can then read the sections of the report that are most relevant to their research. ***Delegates should also pay attention to the methodology used in the report and evaluate the credibility of the data presented.***

- ***Multilateral organizations, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)****, can provide valuable information and reports related to the agenda.*

  These organizations may have specific areas of focus related to the agenda and may conduct research, provide data, and publish reports that can be used as credible evidence. ***However, it is important to note that these organizations may have their own biases and agendas, and therefore it is recommended to cross-check information with other credible sources****. Here are some links to the websites of these multilateral organizations:*

  - *oNATO: https://www.nato.int/*
  - *oASEAN: https://asean.org/*
  - *oOPEC: https://www.opec.org/*

3. UN Reports:

*UN reports are considered credible information and evidence for the Executive Board. These reports can be sourced from various UN bodies, affiliated bodies, and treaty-based bodies. UN bodies include the United Nations Security Council (**UNSC**), General Assembly (**GA**), Human Rights Council (**HRC**), and other subsidiary organs. UN-affiliated bodies include the International Atomic Energy Agency (**IAEA**), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (**IMF**), International Committee of the Red Cross (**ICRC**), and other organizations that work in collaboration with the UN. Treaty-based bodies include the **Antarctic Treaty System** and the International Criminal Court (**ICC**), among others.*

You can also access reports from various UN bodies, such as the UNSC and HRC, through the UN website at https://www.un.org/.

(Reports from affiliated bodies like the World Bank and IMF can be accessed through their respective websites at *https://www.worldbank.org/* and *https://www.imf.org/*, respectively. Reports from treaty-based bodies like the ICC can be accessed through their official website at *https://www.icc-cpi.int/*.

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

As one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, the General Assembly is the main deliberative, policymaking, and representative body of the organization. The General Assembly First Committee's role within this framework is to cultivate discussions surrounding disarmament and threats to international peace and security. The General Assembly First Committee works within a forum for multilateral negotiations to ensure global peace and find solutions to any challenges to the international security regime. In order to accurately simulate the committee, it will be key for delegates to emulate the normative and best practice-setting approaches of the General Assembly, as opposed to operational work.

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has existed since the creation of the UN and is one of the six principal organs of the UN established by the Charter of the United Nations (1945). The First Committee considers all matters related to disarmament and international security. General Assembly resolution 1378 (XIV) of 20 November 1959 on "General and Complete Disarmament" was the first resolution co-sponsored by all Member States and considered the question of disarmament the most important question facing the world at the time. Consequently, the General Assembly established the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) in 1952 with a general mandate to discuss topics related to disarmament. Furthermore, in its 26th session, the General Assembly declared the 1970s as a Disarmament Decade. During this time, additional institutions were established; in 1979 the Conference on Disarmament (CD) was created as the international community's multilateral negotiation forum on disarmament, and in 1980, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) was created with the purpose of undertaking independent research on questions related to disarmament.

Several other disarmament-related entities and other organizations also report to the General Assembly through the First Committee, such as the regional centers on disarmament and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization. The ratification of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1970 was a fundamental cornerstone in the field of nuclear disarmament. Efforts leading to this vital agreement started a decade earlier, and an important element in its development took place in the First Committee. In 1958, when nuclear non-proliferation was on the agenda for the first time, the First Committee recommended the creation of an ad hoc committee studying the dangers of nuclear dissemination, but this resolution failed to be adopted by the General Assembly Plenary. Over subsequent years, this subject was recurrent, and the First Committee adopted a series of resolutions recognizing its central role in pushing negotiations on non-proliferation forward.

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) is the main policy-making organ of the Organization. Comprising all Member States, it provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter of the United Nations. Each of the 193 Member States of the United Nations has an equal vote.

The UNGA also makes key decisions for the UN, including:

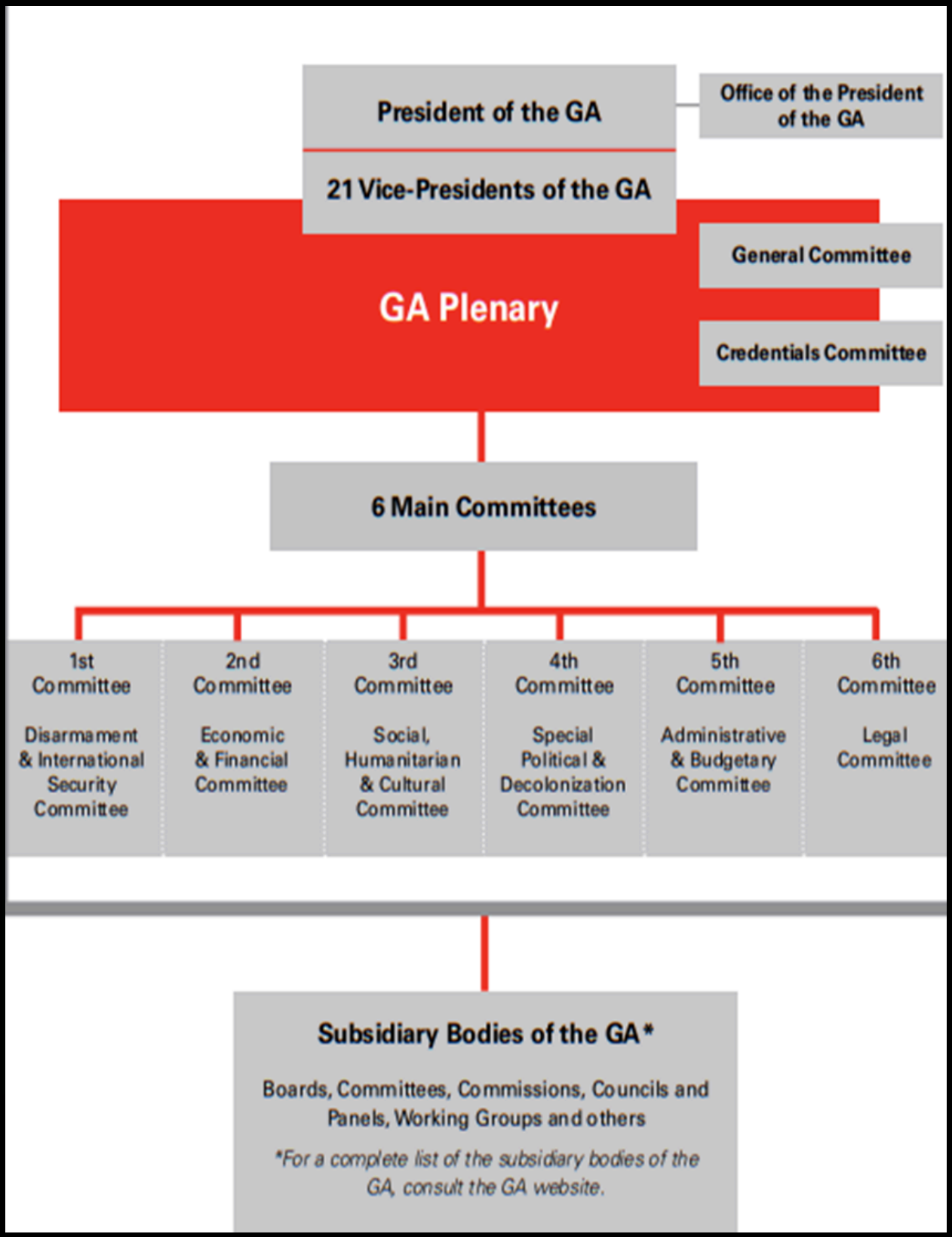
appointing the Secretary-General on the recommendation of the Security

Council electing the non-permanent members of the Security Council

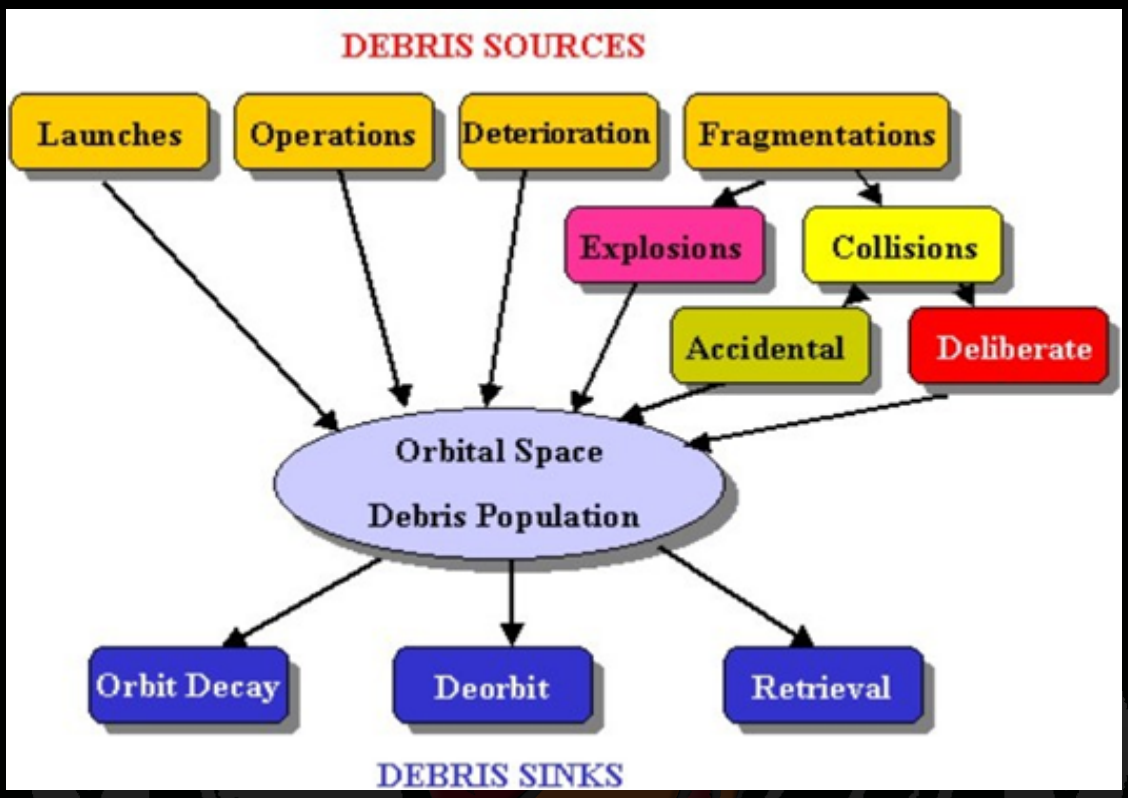
approving the UN budget

The Assembly meets in regular sessions from September to December each year, and thereafter as required. It discusses specific issues through dedicated agenda items or sub-items, which lead to the adoption of resolutions.

Sitting arrangements in the General Assembly Hall change for each session. During the 79th Session (2024-2025), Yemen will occupy the first seat in the Hall, including in the Main Committees (followed by all the other countries, in English alphabetical order).


President of the GA
Office of the President of the GA
21 Vice-Presidents of the GA
General Committee
GA Plenary
Credentials Committee
6 Main Committees
1st Committee
Disarmament & International Security Committee
2nd Committee
Economic & Financial Committee
3rd Committee
Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Committee
4th Committee
Special Political & Decolonization Committee
5th Committee
Administrative & Budgetary Committee
6th Committee
Legal Committee
Subsidiary Bodies of the GA*
Boards, Committees, Commissions, Councils and Panels, Working Groups and others
*For a complete list of the subsidiary bodies of the GA, consult the GA website.

INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA



One may ask, “What is Orbital Debris?” Although we don’t see space junk in the sky, beyond the clouds and further than the eye can see, it enters low Earth orbit (LEO).

LEO is an orbital space junk yard. There are millions of pieces of space junk flying in LEO. Most orbital debris comprises human-generated objects, such as pieces of space craft, tiny flecks of paint from a spacecraft, parts of rockets, satellites that are no longer working, or explosions of objects in orbit flying around in space at high speeds.

Most “space junk” is moving very fast and can reach speeds of 18,000 miles per hour, almost seven times faster than a bullet. Due to the rate of speed and volume of debris in LEO, current and future space-based services, explorations, and operations pose a safety risk to people and property in space and on Earth.

NASA’S Definition -
https://www.nasa.gov/headquarters/library/find/bibliographies/space-debris/
The NASA-Handbook (NASA-HDBK) is published by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to provide the scientific background to NASA’s Orbital Debris Program as defined in NASA Procedural Requirements (NPR) 8715.6, Procedural

Requirements for Limiting Orbital Debris, and NASA Standard (NASA-STD) 8719.14, Process for Limiting Orbital Debris.

Link-
https://standards.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/standards/NASA/Baseline/1/nasa-hdbk-871914_baseline_with_change_1.pdf

Historically, the primary sources of space debris in Earth orbits have been (a) accidental and intentional break-ups which produce long-lived debris and (b) debris released intentionally during the operation of launch vehicle orbital stages and spacecraft. In the future, fragments generated by collisions are expected to be a significant source of space debris.

Space debris mitigation measures can be divided into two broad categories: those that curtail the generation of potentially harmful space debris in the near term and those that limit their generation over the longer term. The former involves the curtailment of the production of mission-related space debris and the avoidance of break-ups. The latter concerns end-of-life procedures that remove decommissioned spacecraft and launch vehicle orbital stages from regions populated by operational spacecraft.

Link - https://www.unoosa.org/pdf/publications/st_space_49E.pdf (Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space by UNOOSA)

Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines

A set of guidelines stand issued by UNOOSA to support control on space debris, which revolves around-

1.Limit debris released during normal operations
2.Minimize the potential for break-ups during operational phases
3.Limit the probability of accidental collision in orbit
4.Avoid intentional destruction and other harmful activities
5.Minimize potential for post-mission break-ups resulting from stored energy
6.Limit the long-term presence of spacecraft and launch vehicle orbital stages in the low-Earth orbit (LEO) region after the end of their mission
7.Limit the long-term interference of spacecraft and launch vehicle orbital stages with the geosynchronous Earth orbit (GEO) region after the end of their mission

Link to Guidelines- https://www.unoosa.org/pdf/publications/st_space_49E.pdf
The growing quantity of debris in Earth orbit poses a danger to users of the orbital environment, such as spacecraft. It also increases the risk that humans or manmade structures could be impacted when objects reenter Earth's atmosphere. Initiatives have been put in place at both the federal and international level to mitigate orbital debris. The National Space Policy of the United States of America directs agencies and departments to implement U.S. Government Orbital Debris Mitigation Standard Practices. The U.S. has also endorsed the United Nations' Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines, introduced in 2007.

What is Orbital Debris?

Orbital debris is the term for any object in Earth orbit that no longer serves a useful function. These objects include non-operational spacecraft, derelict launch vehicle stages, mission-related debris, and fragmentation debris.

Image 1.3.1 **Sources of orbital debris.**

Derelict launch vehicle stages

Many discarded launch vehicle stages remain in orbit, and can be as large as 8 metric tons. Pictured above is a Delta II second stage being lifted along the mobile service tower on Pad 17-B at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

Photo Credit: NASA

NON-OPERATIONAL SPACECRAFT

Of the more than 6,800 spacecraft placed into Earth orbit since the 1957 launch of Sputnik 1, approximately 2,400 non-operational spacecraft are still in Earth orbit. Now considered orbital debris, these objects vary in size. Picosats and microsats may be small, weighing only a kilogram, but massive objects remain in orbit beyond their lifetimes as well. Geosynchronous spacecraft can be several metric tons. Small or large, these objects pose potentially mission-ending threats to operational spacecraft.

DERELICT LAUNCH VEHICLE STAGES

More than half a century has passed since the first launch vehicle stage was placed into Earth orbit. More than 30 percent—approximately 1,700—of the launch vehicle stages used since then remain in Earth orbit. Such debris can be as small as 100 kilograms (or even less) and as large as 8 metric tons.

MISSION-RELATED DEBRIS

Debris can be generated during the launch and satellite-deployment processes. Items such as sensor and engine covers, straps, springs, and yo-yo despin weights were frequently jettisoned into Earth orbit during the 1960s and 1970s. Such debris was typically created during the first day or within the first few weeks of launch. Today, design modifications on spacecraft and launch vehicles have virtually eliminated such potential for orbital debris.

FRAGMENTATION DEBRIS

Most of the debris in Earth orbit results from the fragmentation of spacecraft and rocket bodies on orbit after their mission has been completed. Fragmentation is generally due to one of three things: anomalous events, explosions, or collisions. Most are accidental, and can occur 25 hours after successful completion of the mission—or 25 years later. Guidelines and standards created by NASA, the U.S., and other nations seek to eliminate or limit the occurrence of satellite fragmentation of any kind.

Cataloged debris refers to objects in Earth orbit that have been identified by DOD and the sources of the debris have been confirmed. In LEO, cataloged debris is larger than 10 centimeters, which is the size of the debris that can be tracked by the U.S. Space Surveillance Network.

The sensitivity of the U.S. Space Surveillance Network tracking instruments degrades in GEO, which means cataloged debris in that environment is generally larger than 70 centimeters. Based on cataloged debris, scientists know that one-third of the debris currently in Earth orbit originated from fragmentation resulting from just 10 satellite breakups. In actual numbers,

Figure 1.3.1 **10 worst satellite breakups (based on cataloged debris).**

	Common Name	Owner	International Designator	Cataloged Debris*	Debris in Orbit*	Year of Breakup	Altitude of Breakup	Cause of Breakup
	Fengyun-1C	China	199-025A	3218	2989	2007	850 km	Intentional Collision
	Cosmos 2251	Russia	1993-036A	1559	1371	2009	790 km	Accidental Collision
	STEP 2 Rocket Body	USA	1994-029B	710	58	1996	625 km	Accidental Explosion
	Iridium 33	USA	1997-051C	567	487	2009	790 km	Accidental Collision
	Cosmos 2421	Russian	2006-025A	509	0	2008	410 km	Unknown
	SPOT 1 Rocket Body	France	1986-091C	492	32	1986	805 km	Accidental Explosion
	OV 2-1 / LCS 2 Rocket Body	USA	1965-082DM	473	35	1965	740 km	Accidental Explosion
	Nimbus 4 Rocket Body	USA	1970-025C	375	245	1970	1075 km	Accidental Explosion
	TES Rocket Body	India	2001-049D	370	111	2001	670 km	Accidental Explosion
	CBERS 1 Rocket Body	China	1999-057C	343	178	2000	740 km	Accidental Explosion
	* As of March 2012			**Total: 8616**	**Total: 5506**			

over 5,000 objects came from the breakups listed above, out of about 15,000 total objects cataloged by DOD. Most of these events were accidental. Fortunately, from an environmental standpoint, most fragmentation debris has since fallen out of orbit: it has reentered Earth's atmosphere, burning up or disintegrating in the process, and is no longer orbital debris.

Link to Understanding Debris Management-
https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/692076main_orbital_debris_management_and_risk_mitigation.pdf?emrc=e20460
In recent years, the proliferation of space debris and related issues of space safety and sustainability have gained new global attention, including in nonspace communities, such as media, entertainment, high-level policy fora and the general public.

In the space sector, stakeholders are increasingly demonstrating a shared global effort to address these challenges.

This momentum is particularly visible in the past 5 years, with two concurrent dynamics at play:

1.Existing frameworks and newly developed instruments are expanding their scope (e.g. special requirements for LEO constellations, or increasing inclusion of additional issues, debris removal or dark & quiet skies agenda) and increasing stringency,
2.There is a sharp increase in non-state led initiatives (NGOs & Industry), which, while offering novel and innovative ways of engaging with this challenge, may also complexify the global space debris mitigation landscape.

Increasing stringency of international space debris mitigation instruments

Link to the Resource-
https://www.espi.or.at/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/ESPI-Report-93-Space-Debris-Mitigation.pdf

Major International Legal Frameworks and UN Instruments

Major International Legal Frameworks and UN Instruments

These frameworks establish the legal foundation for the conduct of space activities and overarchingly promote international cooperation or peaceful uses of outer space.

- **UNGA Resolutions:**
  - ***Annual PAROS Resolution:*** Aims to prevent an arms race in outer space, contributing indirectly to the mitigation of space debris.
  - ***2022 DA-ASAT Test Ban Resolution:*** Bans destructive anti-satellite tests, which significantly reduce the creation of new space debris.
- **International Legally Binding Mechanisms:**
  - ***UN "space treaties", in particular the Outer Space Treaty (OST) of 1967:*** The cornerstone of international space law, which includes provisions relevant to the mitigation of space debris and the responsible use of outer space.

Supplementary International Standardisation

These standards and frameworks provide additional technical guidelines to support the safe conduct of space activities.

- **Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS) Standards,** such as:
  - ***Conjunction Data Messages (CDMs):*** a widely used format for sharing conjunction assessment information, aiding in collision avoidance.
- **European Cooperation for Space Standardization (ECSS)** initiative with international and multi-stakeholder footprint, aiming to develop a coherent, single set of user-friendly standards (including related to space debris mitigation), for use in all European space activities.

Supporting Collective Statements

These statements, proliferated in the past few years and endorsed by various types of stakeholders, reinforce the commitment to responsible space activities.

- **Statement for a Responsible Space Sector (2022):** Endorsed by multiple organisations to promote sustainable practices in the space sector.
- **AIAA Satellite Orbital Safety Best Practices (2022):** Released jointly with 3 companies – Iridium, OneWeb and SpaceX and addressing primarily best practices LEO operations
- **Astra Carta Framework (2023):** Unveiled by the UK monarch, this framework outlines principles for the responsible use of outer space.
- **ESSI Memorandum of Principles (2023):** Launched to establish fundamental principles for sustainable space activities.
- **Lisbon Declaration for Outer Space (2024):** A recent declaration aiming to enhance international cooperation and sustainability in outer space activities.

Way Forward

Despite broad involvement, space sector stakeholders often take action within parallel frameworks, and without alignment on concrete implementation pathways. The analysed mechanisms frequently contain a variety of principles, however. many of them often fall short in providing concrete requirements (e.g. in traffic coordination), especially when compared to other domains (e.g. aviation).

In addition, when noting the increasingly proliferated landscape of international instruments, one could question the added value of new mechanisms. Could "less" be "more"?

Different courses of action are in the perimeter of public actors. On one side, the growing stringency of space debris mitigation instruments solidifies the pathway towards stricter regulatory landscapes. The progress in international instruments coupled with national policy development increasingly prioritising space safety and sustainability create a credible critical mass to inform regulations that can ensure a more sustainable future in space.

In this light, it is essential to also strike a balance so that industry competitiveness is not stifled.
Regulatory evolution should mitigate increasing entry barriers to new market actors. Public actors should also enable technology development pipelines to ingest regulatory requirements into future missions and systems. Ultimately, together with regulation, the public sector should deploy additional programmatic resources to develop the required space solutions.

Scopes of space debris mitigation instruments largely remain at technical and operational level. Fostering a conducive environment for enhancing space safety and sustainability entails communication and perception in a wider audience. The broader narrative surrounding space debris has been often pessimistic, highlighting worst-case scenarios such as collisions and the eventual inaccessibility of space, spurring a negative perception of space even beyond the space community. However, it is critical to shift this narrative towards a more positive outlook, accentuating the socio-economic benefits of space and the positive effect of developing the foundations, which require space safety and sustainability for space to develop its full benefit to economy and society.

To facilitate your understanding, Link-
https://www.espi.or.at/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/ESPI-Report-93-Space-Debris-Mitigation.pdf

Warm Regards,

Adarsh Kumar

Singh Chairperson,

UNGA

Email: adarsh.aspirant@gmail.com