

No. 8843. **TREATY¹ ON PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF STATES- IN THE EXPLORATION AND USE OF OUTER SPACE, INCLUDING THE MOON AND OTHER CELESTIAL BODIES. OPENED FOR SIGNATURE¹ AT MOSCOW, LONDON AND WASHINGTON, ON 27 JANUARY 1967**

The States Parties to this Treaty,

Inspired by the great prospects opening up before mankind as a result of man's entry into outer space,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the progress of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

¹ Came into force on 10 October 1967, the date of deposit of the instruments of ratification by five Governments, including the Governments designated as Depositary Governments under the Treaty, i.e., the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, in accordance with paragraph 3 of article XIV.

Instruments of ratification were deposited on the dates indicated as follows :

	<i>With the Government of the USSR</i>		<i>With the Government of the United Kingdom</i>		<i>With the Government of the United States of America</i>	
Australia	10 October	1967	10 October	1967	10 October	1967
Bulgaria	28 March	1967	19 April	1967	11 April	1967
Canada	10 October	1967	10 October	1967	10 October	1967
Czechoslovakia	18 May	1967	11 May	1967	22 May	1967
Denmark	10 October	1967	10 October	1967	10 October	1967
Finland	12 July	1967	12 July	1967	12 July	1967
German Democratic Republic	2 February	1967				
Hungary	26 June	1967	26 June	1967	26 June	1967
Japan	10 October	1967	10 October	1967	10 October	1967
Mongolia	10 October	1967				
Nepal	16 October	1967	10 October	1967		
Niger			17 April	1967	3 May	1967
Republic of Korea					13 October	1967
Sierra Leone	13 July	1967	25 October	1967	14 July	1967
Sweden	11 October	1967	11 October	1967	11 October	1967
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	31 October	1967				
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	10 October	1967	10 October	1967	10 October	1967
United Arab Republic					10 October	1967
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*	10 October	1967	10 October	1967	10 October	1967
United States of America	10 October	1967	10 October	1967	10 October	1967

*The United Kingdom ratification is in respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Associated States (Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla and Saint Lucia) and Territories under the territorial sovereignty of the United Kingdom, as well as the State of Brunei, the Kingdom of Swaziland, the Kingdom of Tonga and the British Solomon Islands Protectorate. At the time of depositing its instrument of ratification the United Kingdom declared that it reserves the right not to apply this Treaty to Southern Rhodesia unless and until the United Kingdom informs the other depositary Governments that it is in a position to ensure that the obligations imposed by the Treaty in respect of that territory can be fully implemented.

Believing that the exploration and use of outer space should be carried on for the benefit of all peoples irrespective of the degree of their economic or scientific development ,

Desiring to contribute to broad international co-operation in the scientific as well as the legal aspects of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Believing that such co-operation will contribute to the development of mutual understanding and to the strengthening of friendly relations between States and peoples,

Recalling resolution 1962 (XVIII), entitled "Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space", which was adopted unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 December 1963,¹

Recalling resolution 1884 (XVIII), calling upon States to 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, which was adopted unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 October 1963,²

Taking account of United Nations General Assembly resolution 110 (II) of 3 November 1947,³ which condemned propaganda designed or likely to provoke or encourage any threat to the peace, breach of the peace or act of aggression, and considering that the aforementioned resolution is applicable to outer space,

Convinced that a Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, will further the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Have agreed on the following :

Article I

The exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind.

Outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be free for exploration and use by all. States without discrimination of any kind, on a

¹ United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/5515)*, p. 15.

² United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/5515)*, p. 13.

³ United Nations, *Official Records of the Second Session of the General Assembly*, p. 14.

basis of **equality** and in **accordance** with **international** law, and **there shall** be **free** access to all areas of **celestial** **bodies**.

There **shall** be freedom of scientific **investigation** in **outer** **space**, including the moon and other **celestial** **bodies**, and States shall facilitate and **encourage** **international** **co-operation** in such **investigation**.

Article II

Outer **space**, including the moon and other **celestial** **bodies**, is not subject to national appropriation by **claim** of **sovereignty**, by means of **use** or **occupation**, or by any other means.

Article 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 **inter-****national** **co-operation** and understanding.

Article IV

States Parties to the Treaty undertake **not** to place in orbit around the earth any **objects** carrying **nuclear** **weapons** or any other kinds of **weapons** of mass **destruction**, instal such **weapons** on **celestial** **bodies**, or station such **weapons** in **outer** **space** in any other manner.

The moon and other **celestial** **bodies** shall be used by all **States Parties** to the Treaty **exclusively** for **peaceful** **purposes**. The establishment of **military** **bases**, **installations** and **fortifications**, the testing of any type of **weapons** and the conduct of **military** **manœuvres** on **celestial** **bodies** shall be **forbidden**. The **use** of **military** personnel for **scientific** **research** or for any other **peaceful** **purposes** shall not be prohibited. The **use** of any equipment or **facility** necessary for **peaceful** exploration of the moon and other **celestial** **bodies** shall also **not** be prohibited.

Article V

States Parties to the Treaty shall regard **astronauts** as **envoys** of mankind in **outer** **space** and shall render to **them** all possible assistance in the event of accident, **distress**, or **emergency** landing on the territory of another **State Party** or on the high seas. When **astronauts** make such a landing, they shall be safely and promptly returned to the **State** of registry of their space vehicle.

In carrying on **activities** in **outer** **space** and on **celestial** **bodies**, the **astronauts** of one **State Party** shall render all possible assistance to the **astronauts** of other **States Parties**.

States Parties to the Treaty shall immediately inform the other States Parties to the Treaty or the Secretary-General of the United Nations of any phenomena they discover in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, which could constitute a danger to the life or health of astronauts.

Article VI

States Parties to the Treaty shall bear international responsibility for national activities in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, whether such activities are carried on by governmental agencies or by non-governmental entities, and for assuring that national activities are carried out in conformity with the provisions set forth in the present Treaty. The activities of non-governmental entities in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall require authorization and continuing supervision by the appropriate State Party to the Treaty. When activities are carried on in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, by an international organization, responsibility for compliance with this Treaty shall be borne both by the international organization and by the States Parties to the Treaty participating in such organization.

Article VII

Each State Party to the Treaty that launches or procures the launching of an object into outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, and each State Party from whose territory or facility an object is launched, is internationally liable for damage to another State Party to the Treaty or to its natural or juridical persons by such object or its component parts on the Earth, in air space or in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies.

Article VIII

A State Party to the Treaty in whose registry an object launched into outer space is carried shall retain jurisdiction and control over such object, and over any personnel thereof, while in outer space or on a celestial body. Ownership of objects launched into outer space, including objects landed or constructed on a celestial body, and of their component parts, is not affected by their presence in outer space or on a celestial body or by their return to the Earth. Such objects or component parts found beyond the limits of the State Party to the Treaty in whose registry they are carried shall be returned to that State Party, which shall, upon request, furnish identifying data prior to their return.

Article IX

In the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, States Parties to the Treaty shall be guided by the principle of co-operation and mutual assistance and shall conduct all their activities in

outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, with due regard to the corresponding interests of all other States Parties to the Treaty, States Parties to the Treaty shall pursue studies of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, and conduct exploration of them so as to avoid their harmful contamination and also adverse changes in the environment of the Earth resulting from the introduction of extraterrestrial matter and, where necessary, shall adopt appropriate measures for this purpose. If a State Party to the Treaty has reason to believe that an activity or experiment planned by it or its nationals in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, would cause potentially harmful interference with activities of other States Parties in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, it shall undertake appropriate international consultations before proceeding with any such activity or experiment. A State Party to the Treaty which has reason to believe that an activity or experiment planned by another State Party in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, would cause potentially harmful interference with activities in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, may request consultation concerning the activity or experiment.

Article X

In order to promote international co-operation in the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, in conformity with the purposes of this Treaty, the States Parties to the Treaty shall consider on a basis of equality any requests by other States Parties to the Treaty to be afforded an opportunity to observe the flight of space objects launched by those States.

The nature of such an opportunity for observation and the conditions under which it could be afforded shall be determined by agreement between the States concerned.

Article XI

In order to promote international co-operation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, States Parties to the Treaty conducting activities in outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, agree to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations as well as the public and the international scientific community, to the greatest extent feasible and practicable, of the nature, conduct, locations and results of such activities. On receiving the said information, the Secretary-General of the United Nations should be prepared to disseminate it immediately and effectively.

Article XII

All stations, installations, equipment and space vehicles on the moon and other celestial bodies shall be open to representatives of other States Parties to the Treaty on a basis of reciprocity. Such representatives shall give reasonable advance notice of a projected visit, in order that appropriate consultations may be held and that maximum precautions may be taken to assure safety and to avoid interference with normal operations in the facility to be visited.

Article XIII

The provisions of this Treaty shall apply to the activities of States Parties to the Treaty in the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, whether such activities are carried on by a single State Party to the Treaty or jointly with other States, including cases where they are carried on within the framework of international inter-governmental organizations.

Any practical questions arising in connexion with activities carried on by international inter-governmental organizations in the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be resolved by the States Parties to the Treaty either with the appropriate international organization or with one or more States members of that international organization, which are Parties to this Treaty.

Article XIV

1. This Treaty shall be open to all States for signature. Any State which does not sign this Treaty before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Treaty shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification and instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, which are hereby designated the Depositary Governments.

3. This Treaty shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by five Governments including the Governments designated as Depositary Governments under this Treaty.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Treaty, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession,

5. The Depositary Governments shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession to this Treaty, the date of its entry into force and other notices.

6. This Treaty shall be registered by the Depositary Governments pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article XV

Any State Party to the Treaty may propose amendments to this Treaty. Amendments shall enter into force for each State Party to the Treaty accepting the amendments upon their acceptance by a majority of the States Parties to the Treaty and thereafter for each remaining State Party to the Treaty on the date of acceptance by it.

Article XVI

Any State Party to the Treaty may give notice of its withdrawal from the Treaty one year after its entry into force by written notification to the Depositary Governments. Such withdrawal shall take effect one year from the date of receipt of this notification.

Article XVII

This Treaty, of which the English, Russian, French, Spanish and Chinese texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Depositary Governments. Duly certified copies of this Treaty shall be transmitted by the Depositary Governments to the Governments of the signatory and acceding states.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorised, have signed this Treaty.

DONE in triplicate, at the cities of London, Moscow and Washington, the twenty-seventh day of January, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven.

*Signature pages of the Treaty deposited
with the Government of the Union
of Soviet Socialist Republics*

*Pages de signatures du Traité déposé
auprès du Gouvernement de l'Union
des Républiques socialistes soviétiques*

*[For the dates on which the signatures
were affixed, see p. 296 of this volume.]*

*[Voir p. 297 du présent volume la
date d'apposition des signatures.]*

ЗА СОЮЗ СОВЕТСКИХ СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКИХ РЕСПУБЛИК
FOR THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
POUR L'UNION DES REPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES SOVIETIQUES
POR LA UNION DE REPUBLICAS SOCIALISTAS SOVIETICAS
蘇維埃社會主義共和國聯盟

Андрей ГРОМЫКО

ЗА СОЕДИНЕННОЕ КОРОЛЕВСТВО ВЕЛИКОБРИТАНИИ
И СЕВЕРНОЙ ИРЛАНДИИ
FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
POUR LE ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
POR EL REINO UNIDO DE GRAN BRETANA E IRLANDA DEL NORTE
大不列顛及北愛爾蘭聯合王國

Geoffrey W. HARRISON

ЗА СОЕДИНЕННЫЕ ШТАТЫ АМЕРИКИ
FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POUR LES ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
POR LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA
美利堅合眾國

Llewellyn E. THOMPSON

List of Signatures affixed in Moscow, London and Washington

	Moscow		London		Washington	
Afghanistan	30 January	1967			27 January	1967
Argentina	18 April	1967			27 January	1967
Australia					27 January	1967
Austria ,	20 February	1967	20 February	1967	20 February	1967
Belgium	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	2 February	1967
Bolivia					27 January	1967
Botswana					27 January	1967
Brazil	30 January	1967	2 February	1967	2 February	1967
Bulgaria ,	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Burma	22 May	1967	22 May	1967	22 May	1967
Burundi					27 January	1967
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic . . .	10 February	1967				
Cameroon					27 January	1967
Canada	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Central African Republic					27 January	1967
Ceylon			10 March	1967		
Chile	20 February	1967	3 February	1967	27 January	1967
China					27 January	1967
Colombia					27 January	1967
Congo (Democratic Republic of)	29 April	1967	4 May	1967	27 January	1967
Cyprus	15 February	1967	16 February	1967	27 January	1967
Czechoslovakia	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Denmark	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Dominican Republic . . .					27 January	1967
Ecuador	7 June	1967	16 May	1967	27 January	1967
El Salvador					27 January	1967
Ethiopia	10 February	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Federal Republic of Germany	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Finland	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
France	25 September	1967	25 September	1967	25 September	1967
Gambia			2 June	1967		
German Democratic Republic ,	27 January	1967				
Ghana	15 February	1967	3 March	1967	27 January	1967
Greece ,					27 January	1967
Guyana					3 February	1967
Haiti					27 January	1967
Holy See			5 April	1967		
Honduras					27 January	1967
Hungary	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967

	<i>Moscow</i>		<i>London</i>		<i>Washington</i>	
Iceland	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
India	3 March	1967	3 March	1967	3 March	1967
Indonesia	30 January	1967	14 February	1967	27 January	1967
Iran			27 January	1967		
Iraq	9 March	1967	27 February	1967	27 February	1967
Ireland			27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Israel	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Italy	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Jamaica	29 June	1967	29 June	1967	29 June	1967
Japan	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Jordan					2 February	1967
Laos	2 February	1967	30 January	1967	27 January	1967
Lebanon	23 February	1967	23 February	1967	23 February	1967
Lesotho					27 January	1967
Luxembourg	27 January	1967	31 January	1967	27 January	1967
Malaysia	3 May	1967	21 February	1967	20 February	1967
Mexico	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Mongolia	27 January	1967				
Nepal	3 February	1967	6 February	1967	3 February	1967
Netherlands	10 February	1967	10 February	1967	10 February	1967
New Zealand	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Nicaragua			13 February	1967	27 January	1967
Niger					1 February	1967
Norway	3 February	1967	3 February	1967	3 February	1967
Pakistan	22 September	1967	12 September	1967	12 September	1967
Panama					27 January	1967
Peru					30 June	1967
Philippines	29 April	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Poland	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Republic of Korea					27 January	1967
Republic of Viet-Nam					27 January	1967
Romania	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Rwanda					27 January	1967
San Marino	6 June	1967	24 April	1967	21 April	1967
Sierra Leone	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	16 May	1967
Somalia					2 February	1967
South Africa					1 March	1967
Sweden	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Switzerland	30 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Thailand	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Togo					27 January	1967
Trinidad and Tobago	17 August	1967	24 July	1967	28 September	1967
Tunisia	15 February	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Turkey	27 January	1967	27 January	1967	27 January	1967
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	10 February	1967				

	<i>Moscow</i>	<i>London</i>	<i>Washington</i>
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	27 January 1967	27 January 1967	27 January 1967
United Arab Republic	27 January 1967		27 January 1967
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	27 January 1967	27 January 1967	27 January 1967
United States of America	27 January 1967	27 January 1967	27 January 1967
Upper Volta			3 March 1967
Uruguay	30 January 1967		27 January 1967
Venezuela			27 January 1967
Yugoslavia	27 January 1967	27 January 1967	27 January 1967

Treaty on principles governing the activities of states in the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies. Done at Washington, London, and Moscow January 27, 1967; entered into force October 10, 1967. 18 UST 2410; TIAS 6347; 610 UNTS 205.

Parties.

Afghanistan	Dominica	Laos	Sierra Leone
Algeria	Dominican	Lebanon	Singapore
Antigua & Barbuda	Rep.	Libya	Slovak Rep.
Argentina	Ecuador	Madagascar	Solomon Is.
Australia	Egypt	Mali	South Africa
Austria	El Salvador	Mauritius	Spain
Bahamas	Fiji	Mexico	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	Finland	Mongolia	Swaziland
Barbados	France	Morocco	Sweden
Belarus	German, Dem. Rep.	Nepal	Switzerland
Belgium	Germany, Fed. Rep.	Netherlands	Syrian Arab Rep.
Benin	Greece	New Zealand	Thailand
Brazil	Grenada	Niger	Togo
Brunei	Guinea-Bissau	Nigeria	Tonga
Bulgaria	Hungary	Norway	Tunisia
Burkina Faso	Iceland	Pakistan	Turkey
Burma	India	Papua New Guinea	Uganda
Canada	Iraq	Peru	Ukraine
Chile	Ireland	Poland	USSR
China	Israel	Romania	United Kingdom
Cuba	Italy	Russian Fed.	United States
Cyprus	Jamaica	St. Kitts & Nevis	Uruguay
Czech Rep.	Japan	St. Lucia	Venezuela
Czecho- slovakia	Kenya	San Marino	Vietnam, Socialist Rep.
Denmark	Korea	Saudi Arabia	Yemen (Aden)
	Kuwait	Seychelles	Zambia

No, 8843

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA, AFGHANISTAN, ARGENTINA, etc.**

**Treaty on principles governing the activities of States in the
exploration and use of outer space, including the moon
and other celestial bodies. Opened for signature at
Moscow, London and Washington, on 27 January 1967**

Official texts: English, Russian, French, Spanish and Chinese.

*Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great
Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America on 30
November 1967.*

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES, ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD, ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE,
AFGHANISTAN, ARGENTINE, etc.**

**Traité sur les principes régissant les activités des États en
matière d'exploration et d'utilisation de l'espace extra-
atmosphérique, y compris la lune et les autres corps
célestes. Ouvert à la signature à Moscou, Londres et
Washington, le 27 janvier 1967**

Textes officiels anglais, russe, français, espagnol et chinois.

*Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques, le Royaume-Uni de
Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord et les États-Unis d'Amérique le
30 novembre 1967.*