

Proposal for Autumn Congress

Proposal
301

LYMEC Autumn Congress, November 8 to 9., 2019 in London

Author: Centerpartiets Ungdomsförbund (CUF)

Status: accepted rejected transferred to _____

The Autumn Congress may decide:

1 Taking Europe Out of This World

2 When looking up at the night sky, one is instantly humbled by the vastness of outer space. Outer
3 space is an undiscovered mystery but also a tool to learn more about our home, Earth. The
4 space industry feeds the economy with new innovations that improve our everyday lives and
5 solve issues faced by the whole of mankind. The benefits of international cooperation have time
6 and time again been exemplified by common achievements within this industry, such as the
7 running of the International Space Station. Access to space needs to be safeguarded from the
8 threats of pollution and poor competence provision. Furthermore, with outdated legislation and
9 treaties that create confusion regarding ownership and sovereignty in outer space, the risk
10 conflict escalates. This is further spurred on by diminishing international cooperation. Space
11 exploration has inspired generations, and space must be cared for in order to continue doing so
12 in the future.

13 Therefore,

14 *Deeply alarmed* by the increasing quantity of space debris in orbit that disturbs the vision of
15 telescopes, damages and decreases lifespan of satellites, and threatens the safety of
16 spacecrafts due to a heightened risk of puncture,

17 *Recognises* the practice of asteroid mining has the potential to generate substantial amounts of
18 wealth,

19 *Noting* that the economic profits gained from practising asteroid mining gives private companies
20 reason to invest in space technology,

21 *Fully aware* that the uncertainty of ownership of celestial bodies and their resources might cause
22 armed conflicts,

23 *Noting with deep concern* the risks involved for third party countries that result from using kinetic
24 weapons in outer space,

25 *Recognises* that the previous lack of cooperation between private companies and government
26 space agencies has resulted in space programmes with inefficient use of human and financial
27 capital,

28 *Bearing* in mind the high financial costs in undertaking space research,

29 *Taking into account* the limited public funding in the field of space exploration, threatening
30 European research facilities' ability to compete in a global context,

31 *Keeping in mind* the consequences that weakened competition might impose, such as the
32 unintentional monopolisation of access to celestial bodies and outer space,

33 *Aware of* how lacking competence threatens the future of space research and development,
34 *Reaffirming* the benefits that come with space research and exploration in the form of civil
35 applications of developed technologies, such as new industries and technology,
36 *Underlining* the public interest in space exploration and technology,
37 *Emphasising* that space exploration inspires future generations to work within the realm of
38 science;

39 LYMEC calls for;

- 40 1. The European Space Agency to increasingly use private-public partnerships in order to
41 reduce costs and accelerate the development of the European space industry;
- 42 2. The EU to increase their contribution to the European Space Agency's budget;
- 43 3. The International Space Exploration Coordination Group to include commercial actors to
44 a greater extent in order to increase transparency and synergy between the public and
45 private sectors;
- 46 4. The United Nations Space Committee to ban the use of conventional weapons in outer
47 space;
- 48 5. More interaction between young people and the space industry to ensure the provision of
49 skills and continued public interest in space;
- 50 6. The United Nations Space Committee:
 - 51 1. to reevaluate the "Outer Space Treaty" of 1967 with the purpose of modernising
52 and clarifying the role of commercial actors in space exploration,
 - 53 2. to open a dialogue on the allocation of resources generated by mining on celestial
54 bodies;
- 55 7. Tougher legislation on the destruction of retired satellites and other artificial objects in
56 orbit, for example:
 - 57 1. the implementation of mandatory and fail-safe deorbitation systems,
 - 58 2. the introduction of shorter periods before mandatory self-destruction,
 - 59 3. the establishment of incentives for actors that remove large objects from the
60 Earth's orbit;
- 61 8. The European Commission to encourage and facilitate research and development of
62 technologies and methods that seek to reduce Kessler syndrome, through programmes
63 such as Horizon Europe.

Attention: This is a preview! The official text is printed in the proposal book for Autumn Congress 08 - 09 November 2019.