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THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) IN ACHIEVING “SPACE 2030”  
AGENDA AND SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Abstract**

In recent years non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have had increasingly important roles on the international scene, in all spheres of modern society, from the environmental, and economic spheres to the societal sphere and space sector. NGOs play a significant role in shaping the future of the space sector by promoting responsible and sustainable development, advocating for international collaboration, and inspiring the next generation of space scientists and engineers. These organizations are especially important for emerging and developing space countries, such as countries in the Balkan region, which do not have established space programs, national space agencies and space education curricula. Activities of such entities are reflected in promoting access to space, advancing space education and outreach, supporting space research and innovation, ensuring space sustainability and fostering international collaboration. As one of the key targets of Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnership for the Goals and “Space2030” Agenda, international cooperation is critical for the success of the space sector, allowing countries and organizations to share resources, knowledge, and expertise to achieve common goals. International cooperation is essential to address the challenges facing the space sector, such as space debris, climate change, and disaster response.

In this paper, authors will explore and analyze good practices and the ways in which organizations such as the Space Generation Advisory Council, the Planetary Society, the Space Foundation and Secure World Foundation contribute to space sustainability and sustainable development, with particular emphasis on developing countries. This work will provide a framework for engaging emerging space countries, such as Serbia and Balkan region countries, in contributing to sustainable development and the “Space2030” Agenda.