

International Cooperation, Challenges, and New Horizons (1)  
International Cooperation, Challenges, and New Horizons - Session 1 (1)

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DIPLOMACY OF THE FUTURE: THE POLAND-RWANDA PARTNERSHIP AND NEW  
CHALLENGES IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

**Abstract**

With the dynamic development of space technologies, outer space has become a new platform for international cooperation, reshaping traditional diplomatic and political relationships. The partnership between Poland and Rwanda, initiated on February 26, 2024, marks a groundbreaking example of space cooperation between Eastern European and Sub-Saharan African countries. It is the first such agreement between these regions, opening new avenues in international relations and demonstrating how unconventional actors can influence global politics through space activities as a diplomatic tool and a new form of diplomacy based on space technology development. Objective of the Study: The study aims to analyze the partnership between Poland and Rwanda, compare the actions of other countries, and identify potential new actors who, through engagement in the space race, may play a significant role on the international stage. Additionally, the research examines the potential for similar partnerships and highlights how new space technologies can foster the emergence of new players in the political arena. Methodology: The study is based on qualitative analysis and a review of political and press documents to examine the impact of new actors on the international scene, using outer space as a diplomatic tool and a new form of diplomacy based on space activities. Results: The analysis reveals that the Poland-Rwanda partnership in space cooperation represents a milestone and the first agreement of its kind between countries from Eastern Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa, transcending traditional geopolitical divisions. This initiative redefines the role of smaller actors on the international stage, strengthening their position as active participants in a new form of diplomacy based on space activities. The expansion of the Artemis Accords to include Chile, which joined on October 25, 2024, and the Lunar Organization with Senegal on September 5, 2024, underscores these organizations' capacity for global growth and the formation of new partnerships, contributing to the redefinition of traditional forms of diplomatic cooperation. Conclusions: Space cooperation is emerging as a foundation for modern diplomatic frameworks, offering an alternative to traditional forms of political dialogue. The Poland-Rwanda partnership serves as an example of a new form of space diplomacy that enhances both countries' positions on the international stage, demonstrating how emerging players can influence global political trends through space activities.