

# Legal Considerations on a Regional Security Organization for Planetary Defence

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## Art. 52 UN-Charter

Nothing in the present Charter precludes the existence of **regional arrangements or agencies** for dealing with such **matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security** as are **appropriate for regional action** provided that such arrangements or agencies and their activities are consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations.

## A Planetary Defence Organization complies with the “regional” criterion

- Activities of a planetary defence organization are geographically confined to Outer Space.
- A planetary defence organization’s field of operation includes the maintenance of peace and security from NEO-threats.

## **NEO-threats are matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security**

- The Security Council's discretion in making determinations on “threats to the peace” includes natural threats.
- NEO-impacts are natural threats with effect on the global environment.

## The „arrangements or agencies“ criterion provides for institutional flexibility

- Members can decide upon the degree of institutionalization.
- Due to the structural flexibility, multiple actors may participate.
- An “agency” may also qualify as international organization.

## **A regional security organization for planetary defence may incur international legal personality**

- if created by at least two States or international organizations,
- by any type of instrument governed by international law,
- with its own organs able to express the organization’s “own will”  
and
- aimed at achieving specific tasks.

## **An international organization for planetary defence may be subject to international space law**

- Due to its international legal personality, an IO for planetary defence may declare its acceptance of the UN Space Treaties.

# Conclusion

Art. 52 UN-Charter includes a regional organization aimed at deterring NEO-threats as matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security with international legal personality.

A closer collaboration between the UN-Security Council and a regional security organization for planetary defence may effectively prevent NEO-impacts.



**Thank you for your attention!**

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