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**The Decision to Act: Political, Legal, Social, and Economic Aspects**

**Legal Framework of The United Nations Security Council's Role in Decision  
and Implementation of Planetary Defense Action**

**mgr Krzysztof Niewęglowski<sup>(1)</sup>,**

<sup>(1)</sup>*Maria Curie Skłodowska University in Lublin, Giełdowa 4A/205 Warszawa, Poland,  
+ 48 504 681 560, k.nieweglowski.lbn@gmail.com*

**Keywords:** *planetary defense, United Nations, Security Council*

**ABSTRACT**

The obligation for states to participate in actions aimed at preventing catastrophic threats to the international community must be considered a crucial and pivotal obligation. In particular, planetary defense actions in the face of an imminent threat of collision with a near-Earth object are a cause in which all state actors should participate in order to prevent the extinction of humanity. This obligation to participate in planetary defense can be based on the United Nations Charter provisions and other general principles of law recognized by civilized nations.

In contemporary international law, the UN Security Council will play a special role in decision-making and coordination regarding how to undertake planetary defense against threats from celestial bodies. Under the United Nations Charter provisions, the Security Council has the authority to determine the existence of any threat to peace and can make recommendations or decisions on the measures to be taken to maintain international peace and security. All members of the United Nations are obligated to make available to the Security Council, upon its request and in accordance with special agreements, the armed forces, assistance, and facilities necessary for maintaining international peace and security.

The aim of this paper is to outline the legal framework of the role of the UN Security Council in deciding on planetary defense actions along with their implementation. Moreover, the paper will examine the legal tools available to the UN Security Council in the event of an imminent threat of collision with a near-Earth object. Drawing on

contemporary international law, the paper will also discuss the nature of the obligation to participate in defense and its binding force.

Krzysztof Niewyłański