

The Intersection of Geopolitics and Space

Political Science · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which 1967 international treaty serves as the foundational framework for international space law and prohibits the placement of nuclear weapons in orbit?

A) The Moon Agreement

B) The Outer Space Treaty

C) The Artemis Accords

D) The Star Wars Treaty

2. Which international body, established by the UN General Assembly in 1959, is responsible for governing the peaceful use of outer space?

A) UNCOPUOS

B) UNESCO

C) UNICEF

D) UNHCR

3. Under the Outer Space Treaty, which of the following is explicitly forbidden regarding celestial bodies like the Moon and Mars?

A) Scientific research

B) Resource exploration

C) National appropriation by claim of sovereignty

D) Private telecommunications infrastructure

4. Which major space power was the first to launch an artificial satellite, Sputnik 1, triggering the geopolitical competition known as the Space Race?

A) United States

B) China

C) Soviet Union

D) United Kingdom

5. What is the status of Antarctica and the Moon regarding international political claims under their respective treaties?

A) Both are annexed by the UN

B) Both prohibit national sovereignty claims

C) Both are private property of corporations

D) Both are controlled by the Global South

6. The 1979 Moon Agreement attempted to establish that the Moon's resources are part of what international legal concept?

- A) Common heritage of mankind**
- B) Private property of the first explorer
- C) State property of the launching nation
- D) No man's land

7. Which country is currently the only one to have successfully landed a rover on the far side of the Moon, a significant feat of space diplomacy and technology?

- A) India
- B) Japan
- C) China**
- D) Russia

8. The International Space Station (ISS) is a collaborative project involving five space agencies representing which global geopolitical entities?

- A) USA, Russia, Europe, Japan, Canada**
- B) USA, China, India, Brazil, Australia
- C) UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain
- D) NATO members only

9. What is the primary geopolitical function of the 'Artemis Accords'?

- A) A military alliance for space defense
- B) A set of non-binding principles for lunar exploration cooperation**
- C) A treaty to tax space mining
- D) A legal ban on private space flight

10. Which international agreement prohibits the testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere, in outer space, and under water?

- A) The Partial Test Ban Treaty**
- B) The Non-Proliferation Treaty
- C) The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty
- D) The Geneva Protocol

11. Which organization, despite being a private entity, is a key stakeholder in modern space policy due to its contracts with national governments?

- A) SpaceX**
- B) NASA
- C) ESA
- D) JAXA

12. In political science, the 'Kessler Syndrome' describes a scenario where the density of objects in low Earth orbit is high enough that collisions cause a cascade, creating a challenge for which global governance area?

A) Space debris mitigation

- B) Planetary defense
- C) Interstellar migration
- D) Deep space mining

13. Which UN department manages the 'Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space' to maintain transparency in state activities?

A) UNOOSA

- B) UNCTAD
- C) UNEP
- D) UNODC

14. What political status do 'Space Situational Awareness' (SSA) data hold among nations?

A) Unregulated private data

B) Strategic information shared for collision avoidance

- C) Forbidden for public consumption
- D) Only available to the G7

15. The concept of 'Planetary Protection' in space policy refers to preventing what?

A) The invasion of Earth by extraterrestrials

B) Biological cross-contamination between Earth and other worlds

- C) The privatization of solar power
- D) The destruction of space telescopes