

interpretation;

(c) any relevant rules of international law applicable in the relations between the parties.

4. A special meaning shall be given to a term if it is established that the parties so intended.

The discussion of treaties which follows is arranged chronologically by the date of the agreement in question. It should be noted that several treaties are covered which might seem at first glance to be irrelevant to the subject of arms control and outer space. These agreements are included simply because some of their provisions (especially those regarding verification) or the circumstances surrounding their negotiation may shed light on developments respecting arms control and outer space.

i) The Charter of the United Nations (1945)³

The UN Charter has considerable relevance to the subject of arms control and outer space. It is explicitly mentioned in several treaties which deal directly with outer space including the 1967 Outer Space Treaty where parties agree to carry on their activities relating to the exploration and use of outer space "in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations ..." (Article III; see also the Preamble). Similarly, the Moon Treaty mentions the Charter (Articles II and IV) as does the Environmental Modification Convention (Preamble and Article V).

Particularly relevant in this context is one of the stated purposes of the UN:

1. To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace; (Article 1)

Also important is the Preamble which states that the peoples of the United Nations will ensure that "by