



CSIS-PSSI CONFERENCE

SPACE SECURITY: ISSUES FOR THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION

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CONCEPT PAPER

The past several years have witnessed a troubling acceleration of challenges to space security, both natural and man-made. The sharp rise in the number of space actors and assets has complicated multilateral governance and led to competition over limited orbital slots, the electromagnetic spectrum, and norms of behavior in space. As General John Hyten, Commander of U.S. Strategic Command, has noted, terrestrial conflicts can quickly extend into space.

To bolster the European-Japanese-U.S. dialogue on space security and to expand allied collaboration in this area, the Prague Security Studies Institute (PSSI) has convened four high-level conferences since 2011. The goal of this conference series has been to help identify the most pressing man-made threats to a safe and secure space environment and to identify potential solutions or threat-mitigation measures. A special emphasis has been placed on the interrelation of maritime security and space security.

Past conferences were co-organized with the European Space Agency (ESA), the Office of National Space Policy of the Japanese Prime Minister's Cabinet Office, and the Secure World Foundation (SWF). This year's conference is being co-hosted with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). These events bring together leading policy-makers, senior military officers, industry and academic experts, distinguished NGO and private sector representatives from Europe, Japan, and the United States.

This 2017 conference seeks to discuss the highest priority space security issues facing the Trump Administration. U.S. space security strategy has transformed over the past decade following the Chinese anti-satellite (ASAT) test in 2007 and a series of more recent incidents ranging from the demonstration of a potential ASAT weapon launched to near-GEO orbit by China and Russian rendezvous and proximity operations in both LEO and GEO. Major themes of this transformation in U.S. space strategy have been improving the resiliency of satellites and associated ground infrastructure and strengthening deterrence in space. The United States has also continued to upgrade its Space Situational Awareness (SSA) architecture in order to better detect and attribute malevolent activities.

In 2016, the European Union (EU) and the European Space Agency (ESA) released a number of documents that elevated space security to a higher position in the overall European security portfolio. These included the European Commission's 2016 Space Strategy for Europe and its European Defence Action Plan, the EU Global Strategy, the EU-ESA joint statement on shared vision and goals for the future of Europe in space and the conclusions

of the ESA Council meeting at ministerial level. All of these documents highlighted the critical importance of space in Europe's security and defense architecture and the need to protect sensitive space assets.

After decades of its space policy being constrained by its constitution, Japan has now, as a result of a series of new Basic Plans for Space Policy, configured a more security-oriented space program that recognizes space as an integral component of its broader national security planning. Japan's progress in this domain has been most impressive in a relatively short period of time.

The purpose of the 2017 PSSI-CSIS Space Security Conference is to raise awareness and understanding of space security issues. The conference will explore the implications of growing threats to a safe and secure space environment, escalation and deterrence dynamics in space, and the readiness of allied forces for terrestrial conflicts that extend into the space domain. The conference will also consider opportunities for expanded allied cooperation in space-based missile warning and missile defense, space launch, and space situational awareness. By bringing together government officials and outside experts from Europe, Japan, and the United States, this event aims to facilitate discussion and cooperation that will strengthen deterrence and stability in space for the benefit of all.