



7th Prague Space Security Conference
**Forging Strategic Partnerships
in the Global Space Race**
Prague, 16–18 June 2024

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
REPORT**



MONDAY MORNING OPENING REMARKS

JAN LIPAVSKÝ, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

- **Challenges to the Global Order:** Jan Lipavský emphasized the growing threats to international security, including Russia's potential deployment of a nuclear weapon in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and broader concerns linked to Russia's aggression against Ukraine and China's expanding space and terrestrial ambitions.
- **Need for Proactive Diplomacy:** With authoritarian powers increasingly collaborating, Mr. Lipavský underscored that proactive diplomatic efforts and international cooperation are essential to safeguard societies and maintain global stability in the contested space environment.
- **Opportunities in Space Beyond Competition:** While acknowledging the competitive nature of the global space race, there is potential for collaboration in areas like mineral extraction, human space travel, and planetary defense and new fields for joint science and technology projects.
- **Call for Common Standards:** The need for a shared understanding of international norms and regulations was stressed, with an emphasis on building durable partnerships based on common values and principles to ensure the long-term sustainability and security of space activities.



Jan Lipavský, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, delivering Monday Morning Opening Remarks



PANEL 1 SPECTRUM OF SPACE THREATS AND AWARENESS

- **Growing Threat Landscape:** The rapid evolution of space threats was highlighted, including the increased risk of hostile actions by the two major authoritarian space powers, as well as the devastating implications of any nuclear detonations in space.
- **ISpace Domain Awareness (SDA) Needed More Than Ever:** SDA is essential to monitoring and addressing the rising challenges posed by orbital congestion, space debris, and adversarial activities.
- **Strategic Partnerships Key To Addressing Threats:** A functioning partnership among allied governments, as well as with agile industry partners, will be key to effectively managing the vast complexity of today's space landscape – much less what is coming.
- **Integration of Space into Broader Geopolitical Strategies:** Space can no longer be sidelined in broader geostrategic policy decision-making, including how to employ space assets in military conflicts and disrupt and/or defeat the predations of non-democratic space alliances.
- **EU's Evolving Space Security Strategy:** The increasing role of the European Union in space security has been formally recognized, including containing and deterring emerging threats through enhanced cooperation and investment in capabilities.



Panel 1 Speakers: Dr. John Huth, Chief, Office of Space & Counterspace, U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA); Paul Graziani, Chief Executive Officer, COMSPOC; Dr. Peter Hays, Adjunct Professor, George Washington University; Gen. (Ret.) Michel Friedling, Former Commander, French Joint Space Command and Co-Founder and CEO, LookUp Space; and Dr. Regina Peldszus, Space Policy Officer, European External Action Service (EEAS)



PANEL 2 KEY DIMENSIONS OF THE GLOBAL SPACE RACE

- **Space as a Strategic Domain:** The reliance on space assets across a number of sectors makes it integral to national security, economic prosperity, and global governance.
- **Escalating Threats:** Increasing risks posed by adversaries through cyberattacks, destructive anti-satellite weapons, and jamming and spoofing. These concerns must be met by more robust allied coordination.
- **Global Participation in the Space Race:** Unlike in the Cold War era, today's space race involves both traditional powers and emerging nations, with China and Russia integrating space capabilities into their broader military and economic strategies.
- **Enhanced Resilience:** Greater resilience against multi-pronged space threats can only be achieved through greater information-sharing and the integration of commercial space capabilities.
- **Bolstering Public Awareness and Active Space Diplomacy:** space security policy solutions need broad public support, including global efforts to preempt, manage, and respond to space-related incidents and/or crises.



Panel 2 Speakers: Mr. Rodrigo da Costa, Executive Director of the EU Space Programme Agency (EUSPA); Dr. Namrata Goswami, Professor at the Thunderbird School of Management; Dr. Scott N. Pace, Director of the Space Policy Institute at the George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs; Ms. Julie Sheetz, Director of Strategy and Analysis for Space Policy at the U.S. Department of Defense; and Mr. Václav Kobera, Director of ITS and Space Activities at the Czech Ministry of Transport



MILITARY PARTNERSHIPS – BIENNIAL UPDATE

- **Building Stronger Military Partnerships:** Continued efforts to strengthen allied military-to-military ties and enhance policy efforts to ensure domain stability and sustainability, including via shared strategic goals and interoperability.
- **Bolstering Military Space Capabilities:** The U.S., UK, Germany, France, and Italy are rapidly developing their space commands and integrating space into their nation's broader defense strategies to prepare for and react to space threats from adversary nations.
- **Harmonization and Interoperability:** Greater harmonization of efforts, standardization, and interoperability across nations are needed to effectively protect space infrastructure and ensure readiness through joint exercises and collaboration.
- **Example of U.S. Leadership:** The U.S.-led *Combined Space Operations (CSpO)* initiative is a prime example of strengthening allied coordination, including through joint operations, intelligence sharing, and combined efforts to protect and defend space assets.
- **Responding to New Space Threats:** Countering new threats, such as hypersonic missiles and new dual-use technologies, requires continuous adaptation and innovation.



Military Partnerships Panel Speakers: Co. Giuseppe Gentile, Chief of Space the Space Policy and Innovation Branch for the Space Policy Office of the Italian Defence General Staff; Maj. Gen. Paul Tedman, Commander of UK Space Command; Maj. Gen. Michael Traut, Commander of German Space Command; Dr. John Stopher, PSSI Senior Fellow, and former Principal Assistant to the Secretary of the U.S. Air Force for Space; Lt. Gen. Thomas L. James, Deputy Commander of U.S. Space Command; Maj. Gen. Paul Tedman, Commander of UK Space Command; and Maj. Gen. Philippe Adam, Commander of French Space Command



SPECIAL GUEST SESSION

JUN KAZEKI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL SPACE POLICY SECRETARIAT AT THE CABINET OFFICE, GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

- **Parallel Efforts in Civil and Defense Space Activities:** Japan's space policy prioritizes both civil and defense sectors, adapting to evolving security challenges, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region, where threats like territorial disputes and piracy are prevalent.
- **International Partnerships:** Japan engages in a number of efforts to strengthen international partnerships that enhance stable and free access to space, as reflected in the Space Security Initiative, part of broader efforts to strengthen national security, economic development, and technological competitiveness.
- **National Security and Space Autonomy:** Japan's recent defense and space policies emphasize the growing role of space in national security, with a focus on achieving autonomy in space capabilities while contributing to global governance and addressing regional security threats.
- **Sustainable Space Development:** Japan is committed to managing space debris and promoting sustainable development through initiatives led by the National Space Policy Secretariat while encouraging international dialogue and collaboration.



Jun Kazeki, Director General of the National Space Policy Secretariat at the Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, during the Special Guest Session



PANEL 3 DEFINING SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- **Information-Sharing:** Enhances space security by fostering situational awareness among various stakeholders and enabling early threat detection and mitigation, transparency, norms compliance monitoring, including in cyberspace and disaster management.
- **Strategic Alliances and Trust Building:** Strong partnerships – public-private and among nations – help build trust and support collective security goals in an increasingly contested space environment.
- **Military and Commercial Collaboration:** Partnerships that share resources, risks, and rewards across military, commercial, and academic sectors are key to maintaining space superiority and protecting assets in orbit, especially amid growing competition from China.
- **Regional Security Concerns:** Security challenges in the Indo-Pacific theater, especially Taiwan and the Korean Peninsula, require greater SDA-related efforts.
- **Bolstering Space Governance:** Sustainable global governance requires strengthened transparency and trust, the development of majority consensus on international norms and standards, the mitigation of space risks and threats, and the enforcement of accountability, all of which are enabled by Space Situational Awareness.



Panel 3 Speakers: Deanna L. Ryals, Director of the International Affairs, Space Systems Command in the U.S. Space Force; Dr. Pascal Faucher, Chairman of the EUSST Partnership and Programme Manager in Centre national d'études spatiales (CNES); Dr. Kai-Uwe Schrogl, Special Advisor for Political Affairs at the European Space Agency; Dr. Jong-Shinn Wu, the Director General of the Taiwan Space Agency (TASA); and Dr. Il-Seok Oh the Vice President of the Korean Academy of Space Security (KASS)



PANEL 4 SECURING THE STABILITY OF THE SPACE DOMAIN

- **Deteriorating Space Security Landscape Despite Technical Enhancement in Space Situational Awareness:** Despite rapid advances in Space Situational Awareness over the past decade improving transparency of the space domain activities, the growth of counterspace capabilities in the arsenals of an increasing number of actors creates uncertainty tied to the persistent arms race.
- **New International Norms Development:** New international norms and principles that would help manage space threats were called for, drawing parallels to nuclear non-proliferation efforts and advocating for upgraded multilateral cooperation.
- **Diverse Strategic Perspectives:** Insights were shared on how different countries, particularly China, approach space stability and deterrence, with China using space to exert malign influence rather than merely preventing conflict. Concerns about transparency and adequate crisis management were also expressed.
- **Relevance of Existing Legal Frameworks:** Despite evolving space threats, the existing international legal framework, including the Outer Space Treaty, retains its relevance, including for diplomatic efforts to foster responsible behavior and prevent misinterpretation and escalation.



Panel 4 Speakers: Ms. Mallory A. Stewart, Assistant Secretary of State for Arms Control, Deterrence, and Stability at the U.S. Department of State; Ms. Theresa Hitchens, Reporter on Air and Space Force at Breaking Defense; Dr. Deganit Paikowsky, Lecturer for the Department of International Relations at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Mr. Dean Cheng, Senior Advisor at the United States Institute of Peace; and Ambassador Marjolijn van Deelen, EU Special Envoy for Space at the European External Action Service



TUESDAY MORNING OPENING REMARKS

LT. GEN. KAREL ŘEHKA, CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE CZECH ARMED FORCES

- **Evolving Role of Space in Military Operations:** The key themes were the growing significance of space in modern warfare and the transformative impact of emerging technologies on military operations, including their integration with the cyber domain.
- **Integration of Disruptive Technologies:** The discussion drew parallels to historical advancements, emphasizing the need to understand and integrate disruptive technologies with rapid technological changes impacting both the military and civilian sectors.
- **Technological Advancements and Military Adaptation:** It was noted that commercial technologies often exceed military capabilities, underscoring the need for the military to adapt and keep pace with these advances to maintain a strategic edge.
- **Space and Cyberspace Important For Tactical Operations:** The space and cyberspace domains are increasingly significant in modern military operations and planning. Both domains offer critical capabilities that enhance situational awareness and enable communication and coordination on the battlefield.



Lt. Gen. Karel Řehka, Chief of the General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces during Tuesday Morning Opening Remarks



PANEL 5 ALLIED INDUSTRY STRATEGIC SPACE COMPETITIVENESS

- **Integration of Commercial and Government Sectors:** The success of integration of commercial entities into national security frameworks enhances cost-effectiveness and operational efficiency.
- **Strengthening Strategic Autonomy:** Efforts to enhance strategic autonomy and resilience in space means balancing dependence on external entities and fostering a robust, competitive, and reliable space ecosystem.
- **Importance of Space Assets Protection:** Strengthened security measures to protect space assets and intellectual property are required in an increasingly contested environment, including agile solutions to safeguard competitive advantages.
- **Coordinated Strategic Space Competitiveness:** Streamlined regulatory frameworks, increased mutual awareness of key obstacles, and expanded engagement opportunities for international companies are key to protecting allied strategic space competitiveness.



Panel 5 Speakers: Hermann Ludwig Moeller, Executive Director of the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI); Dr. Hiroshi Koyama, Fellow at the Defense and Space Systems Group at Mitsubishi Electric Corporation; Isabella Poldrugo, Acting Head of Unit for Space Policy at the Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space (DG DEFIS), European Commission; Richard DalBello, Director of the Office of Space Commerce at the U.S. Department of Commerce; and Rob Baker, Vice President of Strategic Space Protection at System High Corporation



PANEL 6 GROUND-BASED SPACE RACE IN THE ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL DOMAIN

- **Strategic Alliances and Influence:** Space represents a potent tool for building alliances and influencing nations, particularly in the Global South, highlighting the West's advantages in infrastructure and mature space capabilities.
- **Economic and Financial Impact:** To build a viable space economy, there needs to be a sustainable formula for leveraging private capital and streamlining government and private industry efforts.
- **Global Competition and Soft Power:** The role of space as a soft power tool has been strengthened by the rapid growth of international and commercial space activities. Addressing the current key geopolitical flashpoints cannot be done without capitalizing on commercial capabilities and infrastructure.
- **Challenges and Barriers:** Key barriers include slow policy changes, bureaucratic inertia, and too many theoretical discussions that do not lead to a more innovative and execution-focused approach.
- **Ground-Based Space Race:** The major authoritarian space powers use economic statecraft and infrastructure development to extend influence and reshape global norms. The West must understand these dynamics and respond strategically to maintain its competitive edge.



Panel 6 Speakers: Peter Marquez, Head of Space Policy at Amazon Web Services (AWS); Kari Bingen, Director of the Aerospace Security Project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); Laura Winter, Host & Editor of The DownLink Podcast; Dr. Yuka Kobayashi, Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics and International Studies at SOAS, University of London; and Kevin O'Connell, Former Director of the Office of Space Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce, and Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Space Economy Rising LLC



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