

## *United States Space Force*

### *MetMUNC XLIX*

**Topic:** Committee Background

**Chairpeople:** Dara Neumann and Kenny Fischer



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### **What is the United States Space Force?**

With technology regarding space exploration and expansion rapidly developing, there has been an increasing focus on space defense from the U.S. government. Our committee, the United States Space Force, has been a part of that heightened attention towards space. Initially established in 1982 as a part of the Air Force Space command, on December 20th, 2019 with the National Defense Authorization Act, the United States Space Force was established as its own independent military branch. It's goal is to organize, train, and equip space forces in order to protect U.S. and allied interests in space and to provide space capabilities to the joint force<sup>1</sup>. The Space Force has inherited numerous military satellites originally a part of it's branch in the Air Force, as well as other space technologies and bases. These satellites are valuable assets to our nation, providing intel on other nations, and aiding in protecting our allies. Without these satellites, the military and defense of our nation would be at a major risk, and the likelihood of attack and invasion would be heightened dramatically. It would be nearly impossible to attack or defend against other nations without these technologies or capabilities. With recent movements and actions from other nations around the world, the job of the Space Force has become even more important as other nations have gained increasingly powerful anti-satellite devices, and other space-military devices, that could pose a threat to the interests and allies of the United States.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.spaceforce.mil/About-Us/About-Space-Force/>

## **Russia's Recent Activities**

Many nations have been experimenting with space technologies, many of which pose a risk to the United States. According to the Department of Defense Strategy Summary from June 2020, “China and Russia present the greatest strategic threat due to their development, testing, and deployment of counter space capabilities and their associated military doctrine for employment in conflict extending to space.”<sup>2</sup> For a number of years Russia has been experimenting with inspection technologies that can monitor its own satellites in orbit, purportedly to make sure those satellites are running properly.<sup>3</sup> However, these technologies can likely be used to spy on other nations’ satellites as well, introducing a major threat to the security of U.S. satellites. An example of this technology was shown in the very end of 2019, when on November 25, 2019, Russia launched the Kosmos 2542 satellite aboard a Soyuz rocket<sup>4</sup>. About 2 weeks later, on December 9, 2019, the Russian Ministry of Defense announced that a smaller subsatellite, Kosmos 2543, had been released from the multi-functional platform of the Kosmos 2542 in space. US radars detected this satellite maneuver by December 9, 2019, and General John “Jay” Ramond, the commander in chief of the US Space Force, said about the event, “The way I picture it, in my mind, is like Russian nesting dolls... The second satellite came out of the first satellite.”<sup>5</sup> This smaller satellite, the 2543, has proven potentially deadly to

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[https://media.defense.gov/2020/Jun/17/2002317391/-1/-1/1/2020\\_DEFENSE\\_SPACE\\_STRATEGY\\_SUMMARY.PDF](https://media.defense.gov/2020/Jun/17/2002317391/-1/-1/1/2020_DEFENSE_SPACE_STRATEGY_SUMMARY.PDF)

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<https://www.technologyreview.com/2020/07/23/1005568/us-space-command-russia-test-anti-satellite-weapon-orbit-kosmos-2543/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.russianspaceweb.com/cosmos-2542.html>

<sup>5</sup> <https://time.com/5779315/russian-spacecraft-spy-satellite-space-force/>

U.S. satellites, with a U.S. satellite needed to move in order to avoid it in January of 2020, which the Space Force believed was intentional and that the Russian satellite was trailing the American one.

The Russians have also been experimenting with other anti-satellite technologies. On July 15, 2020, a high-speed projectile – or “Object 45915,” as it’s called in a report by the US Space Command – separated from the Kosmos 2543 the United States. According to the Russian Ministry of Defense, the Kosmos 2542 and 2543 were part of Russia’s program to test out inspection technologies that will allow them to check out their own satellites and ensure their functionality. The reported purpose of the Kosmos 2543 is an “inspector satellite,” but many view the apparent “stalking” of the US satellites and the release of the high-speed projectile from the Kosmos 2543 is really a demonstration of anti-satellite weaponry.

The Department of Defense recognizes that China and Russia are weaponizing space as a means to reduce U.S. and allied military effectiveness and challenge our freedom of operation in space. They also state that control of space would be necessary “for winning future wars,”<sup>6</sup> which is why both China and Russia are increasing their military capabilities in space.

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<sup>6</sup>

**Questions to Consider:**

1. How can the United States Space Force combat new technologies of other nations in defense?
2. How do we maintain national safety while staying within budget?
3. How can the United States maintain space superiority on the international level?

**Helpful Links:**

<https://www.spaceforce.mil/>

[https://media.defense.gov/2020/Jun/17/2002317391/-1/-1/1/2020\\_DEFENSE\\_SPACE\\_STRATEGY\\_SUMMARY.PDF](https://media.defense.gov/2020/Jun/17/2002317391/-1/-1/1/2020_DEFENSE_SPACE_STRATEGY_SUMMARY.PDF)



# Committee List Key:

- 1 = First Option
- 2 = Neutral
- 3 = Second Option

1. Does your person favor diplomatic approaches to solve issues (i.e. contacting foreign governments), or do they favor more militaristic approaches (i.e. sending military forces).



2. Does your person prioritize staying withing allocated budget for the Space Force, or are they willing to spend excess money in order to guarantee safety.






3. Does your person prefer to use connections within the nation that they have access to, or do they prefer to reach out to other nations for support?



4. Does your person prefer to keep matters internal to the Space Force, or are they willing to reach out to other branches of the military and government



| Name  | Position  | Core Beliefs/Goals   |
|---|---|--|
|  <p><b>General John W. Raymond</b></p>   | <p>Chief of Space Operations</p>                | <p>Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: <b>3</b><br/>           Budgeting vs. Safety: <b>2</b><br/>           Isolationism vs. Globalism: <b>2</b><br/>           Internal vs. Collaborative: <b>3</b></p> |
|  <p><b>General David D. Thompson</b></p> | <p>Vice Chief of Space Operations</p>           | <p>Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: <b>3</b><br/>           Budgeting vs. Safety: <b>2</b><br/>           Isolationism vs. Globalism: <b>1</b><br/>           Internal vs. Collaborative: <b>3</b></p> |
|  <p><b>Roger A. Towberman</b></p>      | <p>Chief Master Sergeant of the Space Force</p> | <p>Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: <b>3</b><br/>           Budgeting vs. Safety: <b>2</b><br/>           Isolationism vs. Globalism: <b>1</b><br/>           Internal vs. Collaborative: <b>3</b></p> |
|  <p><b>Kamala Harris</b></p>           | <p>Vice President of the United States</p>      | <p>Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: <b>1</b><br/>           Budgeting vs. Safety: <b>3</b><br/>           Isolationism vs. Globalism: <b>3</b><br/>           Internal vs. Collaborative: <b>3</b></p> |

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|   | <p>White House Chief of Staff</p>                        | <p>Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: <b>1</b><br/>         Budgeting vs. Safety: <b>3</b><br/>         Isolationism vs. Globalism: <b>3</b><br/>         Internal vs. Collaborative: <b>3</b></p> |
|   | <p>Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)</p> | <p>Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: <b>3</b><br/>         Budgeting vs. Safety: <b>3</b><br/>         Isolationism vs. Globalism: <b>1</b><br/>         Internal vs. Collaborative: <b>1</b></p> |
|  | <p>Director of Staff</p>                                 | <p>Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: <b>2</b><br/>         Budgeting vs. Safety: <b>2</b><br/>         Isolationism vs. Globalism: <b>3</b><br/>         Internal vs. Collaborative: <b>1</b></p> |
| <p><b>Lieutenant General Nina M. Armagno</b></p>                                   |  |  |



**Patricia Mulcahy**

Chief Human Capital  
Officer

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **2**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **1**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **2**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **2**



**Lieutenant General B.  
Chance Saltzman**

Chief Operations Officer

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **3**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **1**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **1**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **1**



**Major General Leah G.  
Lauderback**

Director of Intelligence,  
Surveillance and  
Reconnaissance

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **1**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **3**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **3**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **2**





**Linda Thomas-Greenfield**

U.S. Ambassador to the  
United Nations

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **1**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **1**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **3**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **3**



**Janet Yellen**

United States Secretary of  
the Treasury

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **1**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **1**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **2**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **1**



**Steve Jurczyk**

Administrator of the  
National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
(NASA)

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **1**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **2**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **2**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **1**



**Lieutenant General Stephen N. Whiting**

Commander of the Space Operations Command:  
Peterson Air Force Base,  
Colorado

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **3**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **3**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **1**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **1**



**Major General DeAnna M. Burt**

Commander of the Space Operations Command West:  
Vandenberg Air Force Base, California

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **2**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **3**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **2**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **2**



**Lieutenant General William J. Liquori Jr.**

Chief Strategy and Resourcing Officer

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **2**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **1**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **1**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **2**



**Brigadier General Jennifer L.  
Grant**

Director of Plans and  
Programs

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **2**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **1**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **2**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **2**



**Major General Kimberly A.  
Crider**

Chief Technology and  
Innovation Officer

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **2**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **1**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **2**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **2**



**Lieutenant General John F.  
Thompson**

Commander of the Space  
and Missile Systems Center:  
Los Angeles Air Force Base,  
California

Diplomatic vs. Militaristic: **2**  
Budgeting vs. Safety: **3**  
Isolationism vs. Globalism: **3**  
Internal vs. Collaborative: **2**