



# Economic Security Mission Center



Homeland  
Security

## Space: Conflict and Consequences



# Agenda

- **Geopolitics: Russia-Ukraine Conflict**
  - **Cyber Attacks**
  - **Electronic Attacks**
  - **Implications**
- **Other Geopolitical Actors**
- **Enduring Threats**
  - **Cybersecurity**
  - **Insider Threats**
  - **Physical Security**
  - **Supply Chain**
- **Mitigation: Cybersecurity Best Practices and Resources**

## Russia/Ukraine

### Not Deployed:

- **Kinetic Antisatellite (ASAT) Weapons**
- **Cyber attack on Space Segment**

### Deployed:

- **Cyberattacks**
- **Electronic attacks**
- **Sanctions/Countersanctions**



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# Space System Attack Vectors

## Segments Vulnerable to Cyberattack

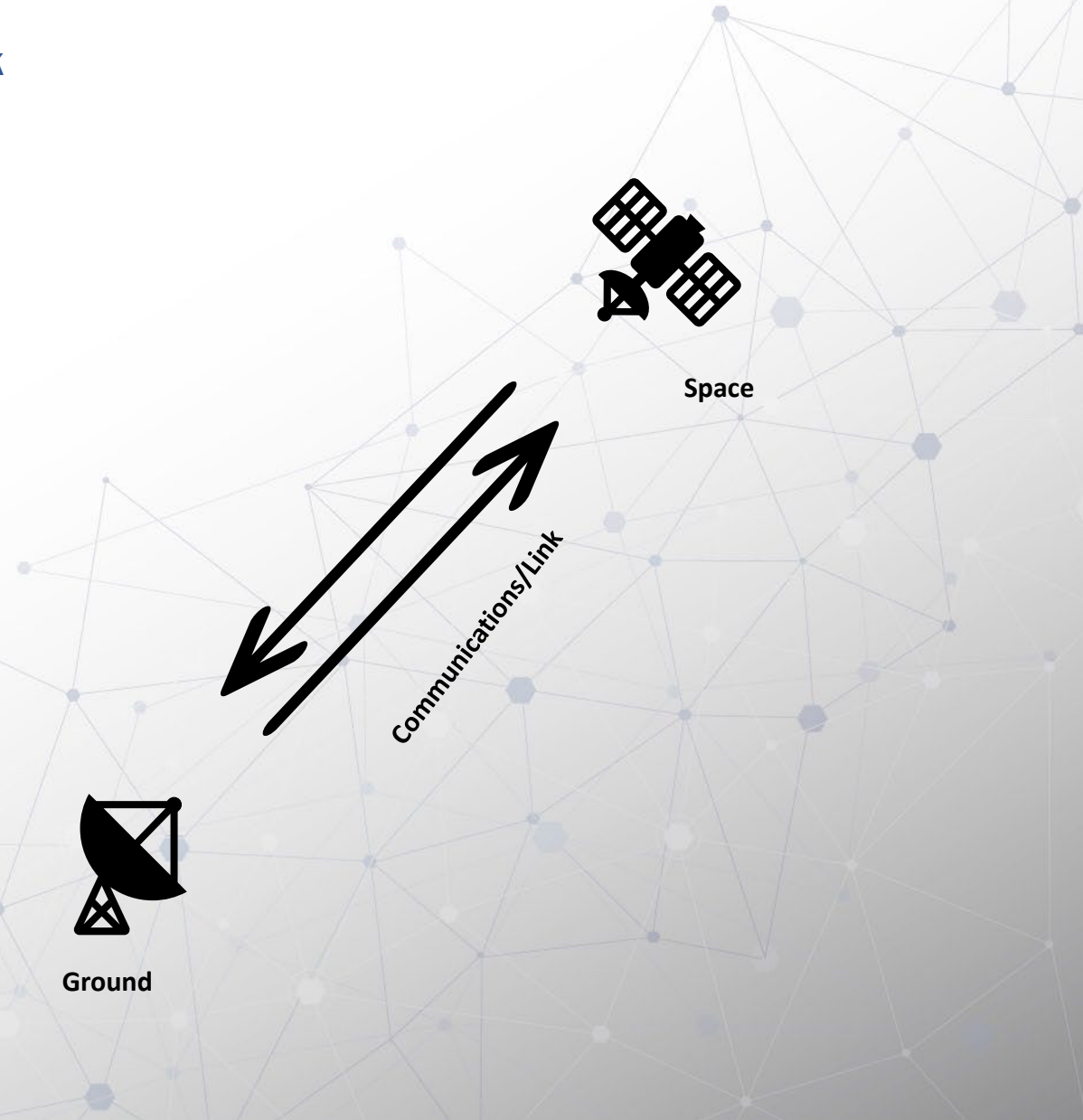
- **Ground**
- **Space**
- **Link**

## Vulnerable Owners/Operators:

- **Government**
- **Military**
- **Commercial**

## Russia/Ukraine Conflict:

- **Ground**
- **Link**



## Russia/Ukraine: What We Have Seen

- **Cyber Attacks**
  - **Targeted Ground Segment**
  - **Space-based assets not targeted**
  - **Damaging Spillover Effects outside of conflict zone**
- **Electronic Attacks**
  - **Targeted Link Segment**
  - **Signal Spoofing**
  - **Signal Jamming**
  - **Damaging Spillover Effects outside of conflict zone**



## Cyber Attack

### Cyberattack in Conflict Zone:

- **Spillover effects reaching as far as Morocco**
  - **27,000 customers Impacted**
- **Energy infrastructure sector impacted**
  - **Long-lasting**
  - **Open to follow-on attack by different malicious cyber actors**
- **Potential Damage:**
  - **Reputational (company and sector)**
  - **Financial (company)**
  - **Economic (sector)**



## Electronic Attack

### Electronic Attack In Conflict Zone:

- **Signal Spoofing**
- **Signal Jamming**

### Spillover effects in Europe and Israel

- **Transportation Sector (aviation)**
- **Communications Sector (provider)**

### Aviation industry impacted

- **Planes grounded up to a week**
- **Planes diverted mid-air**

### Communication sector impacted

- **Company redirected resources**
- **Potential delays to other business projects**



## Sanctions/Countersanctions

### Space enterprise is interconnected

- **March 2021: Russia Launched 38 spacecraft from 18 different countries on a single Soyuz rocket**
- **March 2022: Russia is isolated, due to sanctions and its reaction to them.**

### Impacts:

- **ExoMars Rover Research Mission Postponed**
- **OneWeb launch canceled; forced to find alternate launch provider**
- **Rocket engine delivery to US Defense Contractors and others canceled**
- **Delayed launches of the following:**
  - **One reconnaissance satellite**
  - **Four Galileo PNT satellites**
  - **Multiple scientific research satellites**



## Future Conflict

**Current conflict does not guarantee similar outcomes in future conflict.**

**Different actors have different calculus.**

**Different actors have different counterspace/cyberspace capabilities:**

- **China: Kinetic + Cyber**
- **North Korea: Jamming/Spoofing + Cyber**
- **Iran: Cyber**

## Enduring Threats

- **Not exclusive to space industry**
- **Not limited to nation-states**
  - **Cyber criminal groups**
  - **Insider Threats**
  - **Lone wolves**
- **Can take the following forms:**
  - **Weak cybersecurity practices**
  - **Insider threats**
  - **Lax Physical Security**
  - **Supply Chain Vulnerabilities**



## Cybersecurity

- **Imperative to have strong cybersecurity at every stage of space system/space asset development and deployment.**
- **Malware, ransomware, denial of service: some common types that have affected aerospace/defense sector.**
- **Reversible and irreversible cyberattacks.**
- **Insider threats and lax physical security can have a compounding effect on cyberattacks.**
- **Jurisdictional issues impact cybersecurity and can create additional cybersecurity vulnerability.**

## Supply Chain

- **Many organizations involved in development and deployment of space system/asset.**
- **Shared components/vendors**
- **Increases cyber vulnerability**



## Resources for Mitigation

**CISA.GOV**

A background graphic consisting of a complex network of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a web or data network. The nodes are represented by small circles and hexagons in various shades of blue and grey, connected by thin, light grey lines. The overall effect is a sense of digital connectivity and data flow.





**QUESTIONS?**