

Can the Weaponization of Outer Space be Prevented?

Victoria Samson, Secure World Foundation

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Secure World Foundation (SWF) is a *private operating foundation* that promotes cooperative solutions for space sustainability

Our vision: The secure, sustainable, and peaceful uses of outer space that contribute to global stability on Earth

Our mission: Secure World Foundation works with governments, industry, international organizations, and civil society to develop and promote ideas and actions to achieve the secure, sustainable, and peaceful uses of outer space benefiting Earth and all its peoples



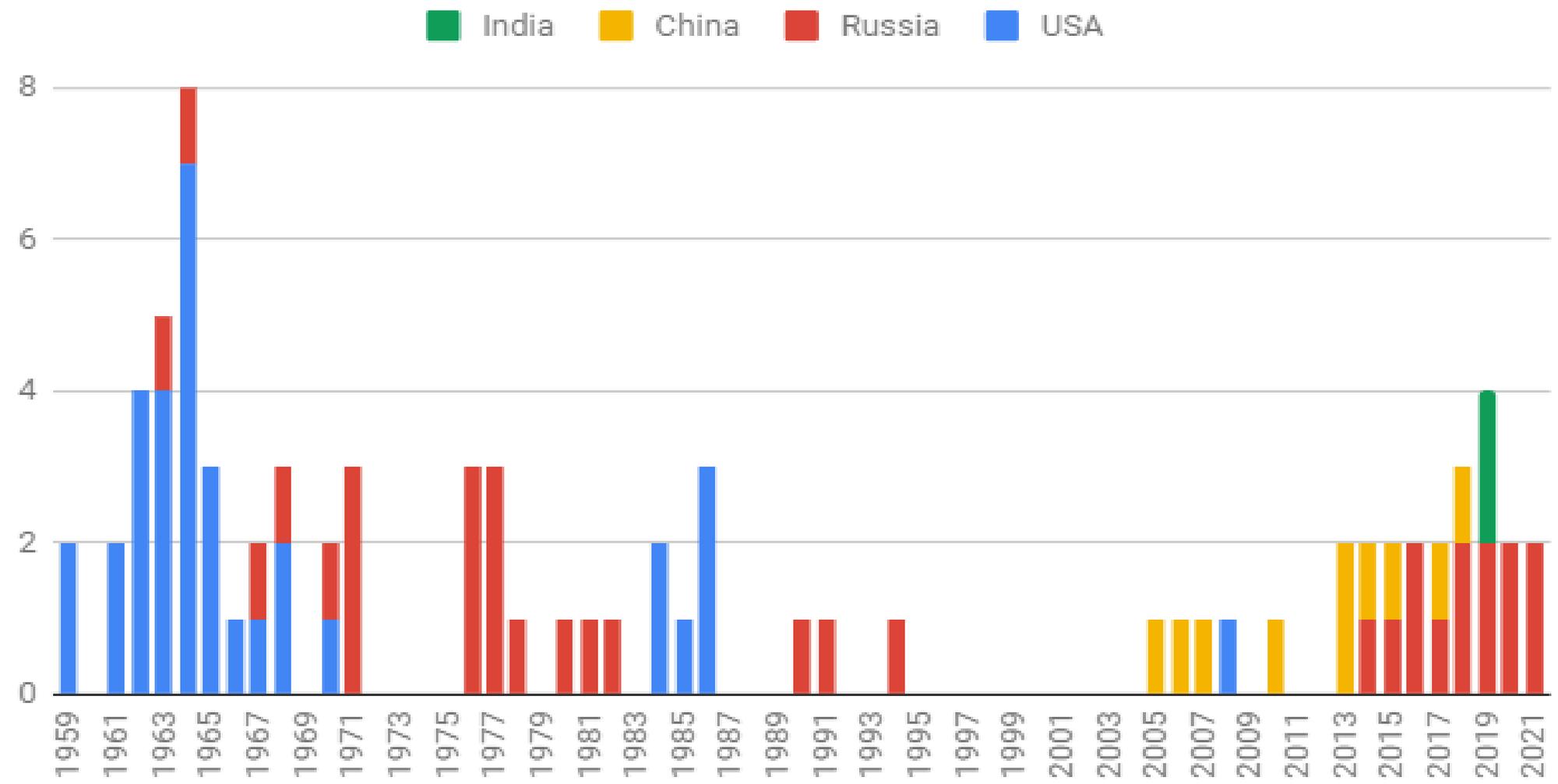
2022 Global Assessment

	U.S.	Russia	China	India	Aus.	France	Iran	Japan	North Korea	South Korea	U.K.
LEO Co-Orbital	■	▲	■	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
MEO/GEO Co-Orbital	■	▲	■	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
LEO Direct Ascent	■	▲	▲	■	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
MEO/GEO Direct Ascent	■	▲	■	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Directed Energy	■	▲	■	●	●	■	●	●	●	●	●
Electronic Warfare	▲	▲	▲	■	●	■	■	●	■	●	●
Space Situational Awareness	▲	▲	▲	■	■	■	■	■	●	■	■

Legend: none ● some ■ significant ▲



ASAT Tests by Year





Norms in Space Governance

- Much of the existing space governance framework is based on norms
 - Example: Freedom of overflight for satellite reconnaissance
 - Launch of Sputnik in 1957 helped set the norm that satellite overflight did not breach territorial sovereignty
 - By mid-1960s, freedom of overflight was a generally accepted norm
 - Was not codified into “hard law” until Outer Space Treaty of 1967
- For the moment, space governance discussions focus on establishing new norms of behavior, not binding agreements/treaties
 - Far more space actors than ever before, with diverse interests and goals
 - Increasingly challenging to get global consensus on new “hard law”
 - Several major space powers (including United States) resistant to any discussion of binding agreements



State of Multilateral Civil Discussions

- In 2010, the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN COPUOS) established the Working Group on the [Long-Term Sustainability \(LTS\) of Outer Space Activities](#)
 - The Working Group was tasked with producing a set of voluntary, non-binding guidelines for all space actors to help ensure the long-term sustainable use of outer space
- In June 2019, the COPUOS plenary officially adopted these 21 guidelines, and agreed to create a working group under the agenda item of “The Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities” of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
- **92 Member States agreed on these guidelines**
- Full text available in UN document [A/AC.105/2018/CRP.20](#). The four major sections:
 - Policy and regulatory
 - Safety of space operations
 - Cooperation and capacity-building
 - Scientific and technical R&D

Questions?

Thanks.

Victoria Samson,
vsamson@swfound.org

@SWFoundation

