Global Counterspace Capabilities: An Overview

Victoria Samson, Secure World Foundation RSIS Webinar, "Whither Space Security? Reducing Space Threats and Preventing an Arms Race in Outer Space"

July 27, 2023



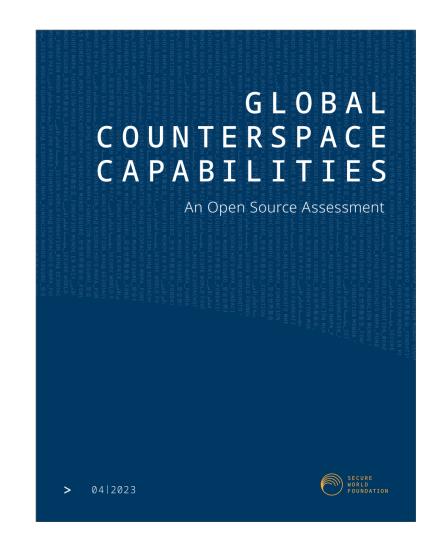
Secure World Foundation (SWF) is a *private operating foundation* that promotes cooperative solutions for space sustainability

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

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- Existence of counterspace capabilities is not new, but the circumstances surrounding them are
- Significant R&D/testing of a wide range of destructive & nondestructive counterspace capabilities by multiple countries
- Only non-destructive capabilities are actively being used in current military operations



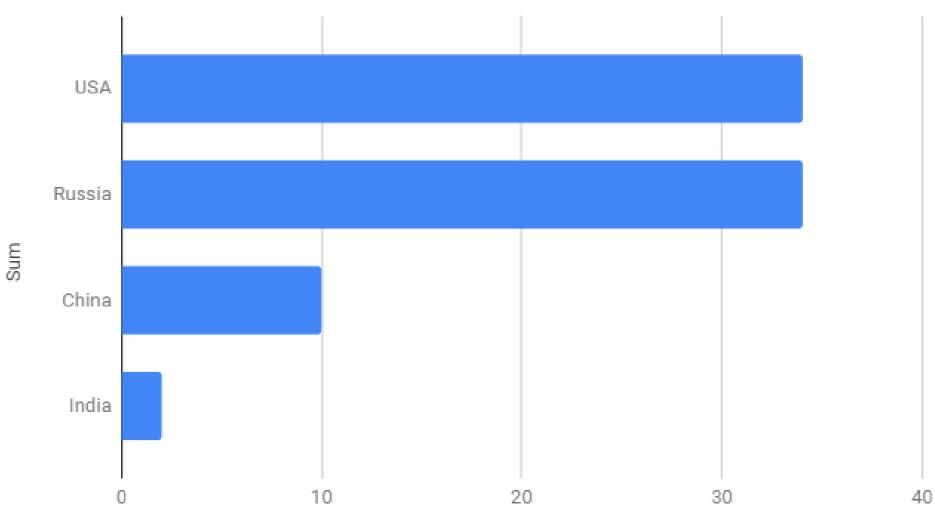
https://swfound.org/counterspace

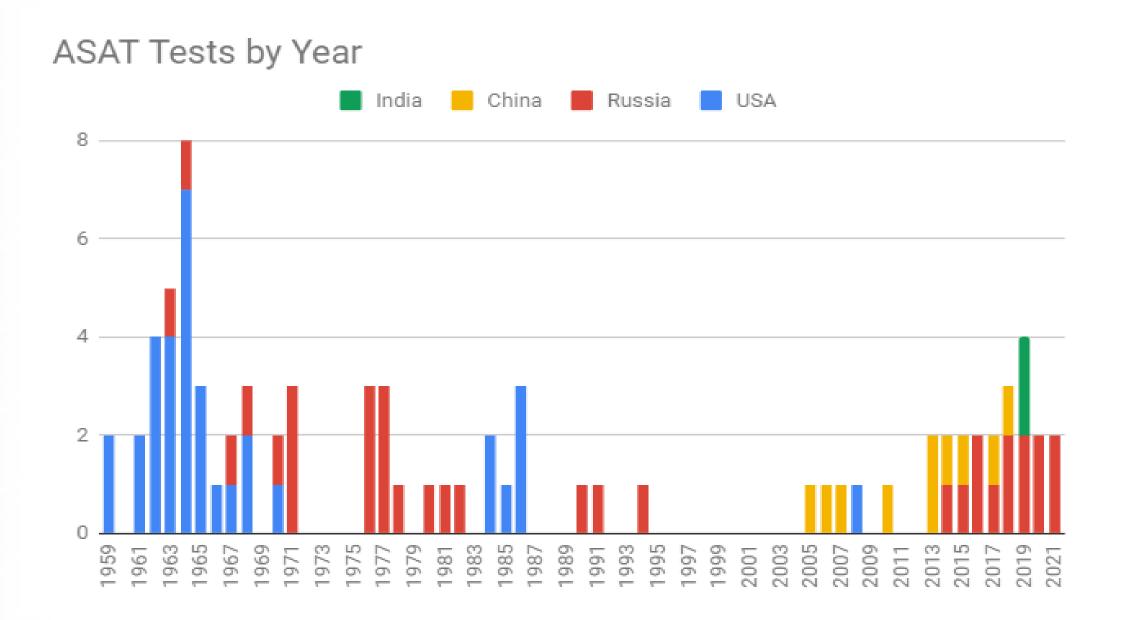


2023 Global Assessment

	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						\bigcirc					
MEO/GEO Direct Ascent				\bigcirc			\bigcirc				
Directed Energy											
Electronic Warfare											
Space Situational Awareness											
		Legend	nd: none 🔵 some 📃		signific	ant 🔺					







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TABLE 5-1 - ORBITAL DEBRIS CREATED BY ASAT TESTS IN SPACE

DATE	COUNTRY	ASAT SYSTEM	TARGET	INTERCEPT ALTITUDE	TRACKED DEBRIS	DEBRIS STILL ON ORBIT	TOTAL DEBRIS LIFESPAN
Oct. 20, 1968	Russia	IS	Cosmos 248		252	79	50+ years
Oct. 23, 1970	Russia	IS	Cosmos 373		147	35	50+ years
Feb. 25, 1971	Russia	IS	Cosmos 394		118	45	50+ years
Dec. 3, 1971	Russia	IS	Cosmos 459		29	0	3.3 years
Dec. 17, 1976	Russia	IS	Cosmos 880		127	57	45+ years
May 19, 1978	Russia	IS-M	Cosmos 970		73	64	40+ years
Apr. 18, 1980	Russia	IS-M	Cosmos 1171		48	6	40+ years
Jun. 18, 1982	Russia	IS-M	Cosmos 1375		64	6 0	35+ years
Sept. 13, 1985	U.S.	ASM-135	Solwind	5 30 km	287	0	18+ years
Sept. 5, 1986	U.S.	Delta 180 PAS	Delta 2 R/B		17	0	< 1 year
Dec. 26, 1994	Russia	Naryad-V?	Unknown		27	24	25+ years
Jan. 11, 2007	China	SC-19	FengYun 1C	880 km	3536	2 78 6	15+ years
Feb. 20, 2008	U.S.	SM-3	USA 193	22 0 km	175	0	1+ year
Mar. 27, 2019	India	PDV- MK II	Microsat-R	300 km	130	1	3+ years
Aug.•Dec. 2019	Russia	Cosmos 2535	Cosmos 2536		30	16	3+ years
Nov. 15, 2021	Russia	Nudol	Cosmos 1408	470 km	1790	300	Unknowr

Total 6850 3472



Thanks.

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