



(U) Russian Space/Counterspace



U.S. ARMY

(U) This infographic provides information on Russian Space/Counterspace. The Russian General Staff postulates that modern warfare is increasingly reliant on information, particularly from space, because of the expansion of the geographic scope of military action and the information needs of high-precision weapons. Russia has a significant constellation of satellites in orbit. According to Colonel Sergey Marchuk, chief of the Main Test Space Center, Russia has more than 150 civilian and military spacecraft performing communications, navigation, geodetic survey support, meteorological, reconnaissance, and intelligence gathering missions (2019).

Russia's space program is both formidable and in a state of modernizing. Moscow seeks to maintain the health of its current constellations while deploying a next-generation architecture on par with Western space systems. Over the next several years, Russia will prioritize modernization of its existing communications, navigation, and earth observation systems, while reconstituting its electronic intelligence and early warning system constellations. Russia's current systems provide an array of capability including high-resolution imagery, terrestrial and space weather, communications, navigation, missile warning, electronic intelligence, and scientific observations. Russia is currently ranked third in total number of satellites in orbit behind the United States and China. The figure below displays a breakdown of Russia's satellites in orbit.

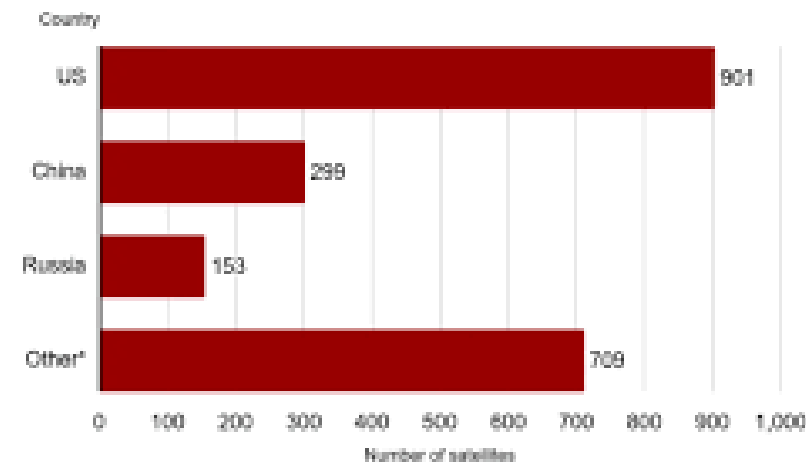


Russia has concluded that gaining and maintaining supremacy in space has a decisive impact on the outcome of future conflicts. According to Russia's 2010 military doctrine, militarization of outer space is a "main external military danger." The 2014 update to Russia's military doctrine calls out Western global strike capability by name. Russia, in military journals, has observed that Western operations have shifted to non-contact operations that rely on long-range, space-supported precision-guided munitions. The Russian General Staff argues for pursuing in wartime such strategies as

disrupting foreign military C2 or information support because they are so critical to the fast-paced, high-technology conflicts characteristic of modern warfare. Russia believes that having the military capabilities to counter space operations will deter aggression by space-enabled adversaries and enable Russia to control escalation of conflict if deterrence fails. Military capabilities for space deterrence include strikes against satellites or ground-based infrastructure supporting space operations.

Who has the most satellites?

2019



* includes satellites operated by multinational groups

Source: Union of Concerned Scientists



On 1 August 2015, Russia created the Russian Federation Aerospace Forces by merging the former Air Force and Aerospace Defense Troops. The change was "prompted by a shift in the center of gravity... towards the aerospace sphere" and as a counter to the U.S. Prompt Global Strike doctrine. This merged force includes Russia's space forces who have the mission of conducting space launches and maintaining the ballistic missile early warning system, the satellite control network, and the space object surveillance and identification network. Russia also reorganized its space industry responsible for space research, design, and production. Russia merged the government-owned United Rocket and Space Corporation (ORKK), which previously absorbed the majority of the space industry corporations in 2013, with the Federal Space Agency. President Putin finalized the dissolution of the Federal Space Agency on 1 January 2016, naming the joint organization the Roscosmos State Corporation.



Source:

https://www.dia.mil/Portals/110/Images/News/Military_Powers_Publications/Russia_Military_Power_Report_2017.pdf