

IAF BUSINESS INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (E6)  
Strategic Risk Management for Successful Space & Defence Programmes (4)

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RISKS LINKED TO THE MILITARIZATION OF SPACE: CAN WE AVOID A SPACE POLICE?

**Abstract**

Space is entering a new era where unprecedented numbers of players, of assets, of applications are raising dramatic questions:

- How growing commercialization of space will impact future space conflicts?
- Will enhanced Space domain awareness (SDA) be enough in a more and more congested, contested and competitive space?
- Is future sustainable use of space compatible with unpunishment of objectionable, aggressive or hostile behavior?
- Which threats to worldwide economy and peace are the consequences of a cascading Kessler syndrome in space? and how to avoid crossing the red line?
- What mitigation measures can be put in place without putting at stake the different nations' sovereignty?

When, in the past centuries, such concerns did occur on ground, oceans and airspace fields, nations did put in place dedicated bodies in charge to enforce application of local laws.

Space is per se an international domain in which very few laws are applicable; nevertheless some States have such level of interest in Space that they could decide to develop their own Space Police.

This paper will look at the above questions and will try to demonstrate how international cooperation in space law can help space to remain a peaceful place of cooperation.