



## Provisional programme

### **Operating in space: current multilateral policy issues and challenges (GRULAC region)**

1500-1700 GMT 20/22/24 July 2020 | WP1794

To be held by Zoom videoconference

#### **Context and objectives**

As technology continues to advance and costs fall, the use of space is growing more widespread internationally, both within government and the commercial sectors. Increased use brings increased risk associated with congestion and competition. These risks need to be managed to realise the significant security and prosperity opportunities space offers. Keeping space safe depends on good communication be it directly, through explaining intent and as demonstrated by behaviours.

Improving transparency and communication of space activities and other confidence building measures are key to reducing emerging risks. Growth in real and perceived threats to space systems necessitate clear communication or established norms of behaviour. Multilateral mechanisms and procedures are already in place which facilitate a degree of communication and which could be leveraged or expanded upon. Their development should acknowledge the importance of the space industry, which would likely develop best practice behaviours and norms independent of states, as well as capacity building for less technologically advanced states, including on communication.

This Wilton Park dialogue builds on the outputs of the April 2019 Wilton Park event “Operating in space: towards developing protocols on the norms of behaviour” and follows the first of this series of events which was held with Asian nations in Singapore in January 2020. It will include a demonstration of space activity, explore threats and current arrangements for governing operations in space. It will build off a framework of Earth-based and space-based threat to space operations, collaborative actions to reduce the perception of threat from space-based operations and from earth-based operations, and communications or other transparency measures to clarify intentions in space.

Participants will share perspectives on communications to facilitate the sustainable use of space, to inform the event aim of identifying improved forms of communication and steps to realise them.

**Organised in partnership with:**



## Monday 20 July – 120 minutes 1500-1700 GMT (Please check your local time)

	Raising awareness of what is happening in space, clarify the distinction between peaceful uses and security issues. What are the risks and what are the threats?
1450 GMT	Participants join Zoom ( <b>Please join at your local time</b> )
1500-1540	<b>Welcome, introduction and opening remarks</b> <b>Rich Roberts</b> Programme Director, Wilton Park <b>Keynote address (via pre-recorded video): Robert Wood</b> US Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, US Mission to International Organizations, Geneva <b>Speaker from the Region TBC</b>
1540-1610	<b>1. Interactive demonstration; space object behaviour</b> Discussion of the view from the ground [what we can see] <b>Robert Hall</b> Director, ComSpOC Operations, Analytical Graphics Inc. (AGI)
1610-1620	Break
1620-1650	<b>2. Counterspace risks and threats [what we know publicly]</b> Discussion of the pre-issued Secure World Foundation report <b>Victoria Samson</b> Washington Office Director, Secure World Foundation
1650-1700	<b>3. Set up pre-Day Two activity</b>

## Wednesday 22 July – 120 minutes 1500-1700 GMT (Please check your local time)

1450 GMT	Participants join Zoom ( <b>Please join at your local time</b> )
1500-1520	<b>4. Reflections</b> Recap from Day One discussions, reflections and questions
1520-1550	<b>5. Wilton Park outcomes [a policy intro].</b> Brief introduction to policy <b>Eric Desautels</b> Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Emerging Security Challenges and Defense Policy in the Arms Control, Verification and Compliance Bureau, United States Department of State, Washington DC <b>Speaker from the Region TBC</b> Regional perspective and capacity building
1550-1635	<b>6. Breakout groups on the importance of a variety of communications</b>

Considering launch, conjunction, debris and proximity operations as a framework for understanding the importance of communication about space behaviours.

Participants will split into 4 groups and focus on one of the questions below:

1. What Earth-based or space-based threat to space operations do you think is the most pressing and why?
2. What collaborative measures and actions would reduce the perception of threat from space-based and Earth-based activities/operations?
3. What communications or other transparency measures would serve to clarify our intentions before we act in space?

1635-1640

Break

1640-1655

## 7. Feedback from breakout groups

Participants to provide feedback from their groups.

1655-1700

## 8. Set up for Pre-Day Three activity

Sharing reflections and posing questions.

1700-1730

## Open chat and networking

Provides an opportunity for participants to meet other participants informally.

## Friday 24 July – 120 minutes 1500-1700 GMT (Please check your local time)

1450 GMT

Participants join Zoom (**Please join at your local time**)

1500-1520 GMT

## 9. Reflections

Recap from Day Two discussions, reflections and questions

1520-1540 GMT

## 10. COPUOS perspectives

Perspectives from COPUOS, followed by discussion in plenary

### André Rypl

Alternate Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Vienna

1540-1610 GMT

## 11. Personal reflections on the long-term sustainability guidelines

Reflections from the former chair of the working group for the long-term sustainability guidelines

### Peter Martinez

Executive Director, Secure World Foundation

1610-1615 GMT

Break

1615-1635 GMT

## 12. Responsible behaviours

Presentation and consideration of new UN approach followed by plenary discussion

### David Edmondson

Policy Head, Space Security and Advanced Threats, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; UK Head of delegation to UN COPUOS

1635-1700 GMT

### 13. Concluding session: summary and next steps

Participant opportunity for final remarks

Summary of possible multilateral next steps

**Eric Desautels**

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Emerging Security Challenges and Defense Policy in the Arms Control, Verification and Compliance Bureau, United States Department of State, Washington DC

**This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.**

**This is an invitation only conference.**

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