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Industrial Policies as Drivers of the Space Economy (3)

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TRADE AND DIPLOMACY AS A MEANS OF INCREASING SPACE INDUSTRY GROWTH

Abstract

Space activities, investments, and technologies are an integral part of the toolkit that governments and industry use to create economic and social benefits. Space products and services have become a key part of the global socioeconomic system. This paper presents the Space Foundation's findings in The Space Report 2013, providing figures and trends for government and industry space-related activity throughout the world during 2012.

Space is becoming an increasingly important element of international trade and development. Advanced spacefaring countries that seek to derive political and economic benefits from their space capabilities are aligning themselves with emerging nations that seek to derive socioeconomic and development benefits from space investment. Space-related exports are a vector for achieving industry growth in developed nations while increasing capacity in developing countries. Examples include the Canadian government's strategy of engaging in international partnerships as a means to develop relationships that lead to exports, and the U.S. government's recent changes to its export control policies. Partnerships can have regional geopolitical implications as well as economic ones, as in the case of Japan's Official Development Assistance support for Vietnamese space-related activities. Although the approaches may differ from country to country, one of the common goals is to support further development of the domestic space industry.

The data and analysis of the space economy provided by the Space Foundation in The Space Report 2013 offers insight by providing revenue and budget figures as well as the growth drivers and underlying trends for space infrastructure, space products and services, and government space budgets. Data is derived from publicly available commercial revenue reports and government budget sources.