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Assuring a Safe, Secure and Sustainable Space Environment for Space Activities (4)

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ASSESSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE MONITORING OF
SPACE OBJECTS AND EVENTS

Abstract

As the number of space actors increases, the chance for collisions involving spacecraft with other spacecraft or space debris increases correspondingly. To prevent such collisions and resulting generation of further debris, an increasing number of actors are exploring opportunities for collaborative space situational awareness. The resulting cooperation in the monitoring of space objects and accidental events will involve new forms of information sharing between and among governmental and private sector entities. As cooperation advances, it will be increasingly important for partners to ensure the consistency and reliability of information relating to their monitoring of space objects and accidental events in Earth orbit. This paper will examine opportunities and challenges for such international collaborations and will propose a possible framework for further focused analysis.