

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

Author: Dr. Jessica West  
Project Ploughshares, Canada, JWEST@PLOUGHSHARES.CA

BUILDING ON NORMS: EXPLORING MILITARY RESTRAINTS FOR ENHANCED SECURITY IN  
OUTER SPACE

**Abstract**

How can we achieve strategic stability and security in space? Momentum to support the development of norms of behaviour for military and security activities in outer space as an essential means to reduce risk in the operating environment is growing. But such norms, while enhancing safety and peacetime stability, cannot by themselves produce collective security and strategic risk reduction in a domain subjected to intense power rivalry and warfighting. In other domains of military activity, arms control and other restraints have successfully enhanced the security of all parties. Although space is a unique environment, the interests and actors are not. Building on the lessons learned from previous research to map the existing contours of norms in space, this project will examine best practices and lessons learned from these domains and experiences to inform additional frameworks for security in outer space.