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Policy, Legal, Institutional, Economic and Security Aspects of Debris Mitigation, Debris Remediation and
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ORBITAL DEBRIS MITIGATION IMPLEMENTATION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Abstract

The United States has released an orbital debris implementation plan to address the increasing problem of space debris. This paper will explore how the United States plan compares with that of other nations, including those in the European Union. As space becomes increasingly crowded from commercial space activities, how can governments address the orbital debris issue? The paper will look at the response to the White House orbital debris plan from the perspective of the U.S. commercial space sector. It will address potential areas of change in regulations as well as federal policy to support the commercial space sector in reducing the problem of orbital debris. The U.S federal government has many agencies that work in the space sector and the paper will examine the current role of each of these agencies and their options for reducing orbital debris. It will also address how the changes of the White House orbital debris implementation plan will affect the U.S. agencies that operate in space. Lastly, the paper will address how can the U.S. government and commercial space sector include appropriate debris mitigation measures as they engage with the international community. The paper will examine the implications that the orbital debris implementation plan has on international space collaborations, both between the federal government and the international community as well as the U.S. commercial space sector with foreign entities.