NEGATIVE BRIEF: SPACE COOPERATION WITH CHINA

By “Coach Vance” Trefethen

***"Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reform its transportation policy."***

The Affirmative plan revokes the current ban on US/China cooperation on space flight. Space flight is a form of transportation according to the US National Space Transportation Policy, so as far out as this case sounds, you’re probably not going to win on topicality.

Instead, the main arguments against it are solvency and disadvantages. Cooperating with China won’t work because they have nothing to offer us (their technology is a generation behind ours) and they don’t want to cooperate anyway. And it would be bad because they are a likely adversary out to dominate space to our detriment. Sharing technology with them will only hurt US national interests.

There’s also a counterplan that denies the resolution and does the opposite of the AFF plan, if you feel motivated to run it and are comfortable with Counterplans. It increases funding for NASA and hardens US resistance to cooperation with China and gets our allies on board with opposing China’s rising threat of space dominance, without changing US transportation policies. It has specific advocacy saying that we should do these steps instead of increasing US/China cooperation.

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NEGATIVE BRIEF: SPACE COOPERATION WITH CHINA

COUNTERPLAN

1. US increases funding for NASA and the military from general federal revenues to more effectively defeat China’s aggressive activities in space.
2. The US leads an international meeting of allies to warn them of Chinese space threats and begin joint preparations for countermeasures.  
     
   Note that neither of these is a substantial change in US transportation policy, so the Negative team is still denying the resolution. Mandate 1 is increased funding for existing policies. Mandate 2 is a foreign policy on national defense, not a transportation policy.

China is a big threat in space: They’re determined to neutralize US space capabilities

Dr. Ashley Tellis 2014 (PhD; Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; formerly served as Senior Adviser at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, and in 2003, he also served on the National Security Council staff as Special Assistant to the President )28 Jan 2014 testimony before the House Armed Services Subcommittees on Strategic Forces and Seapower and Projection Forces “Does China Threaten the United States in Space?” <http://carnegieendowment.org/2014/01/28/does-china-threaten-united-states-in-space>

Irrespective of what specific provocation may spark a wider conflict, Chinese defense planners are deeply consumed by the necessity of preparing for an armed confrontation with the United States, which they clearly recognize as a superior military power. Given their assessment that American superiority derives fundamentally from its ability to leverage its space systems to produce the information dominance necessary to deliver decisive warfighting advantages, Chinese strategists are by necessity drawn to the idea of attempting to neutralize American space capabilities.

Protecting US dominance is essential: Congress should increase funding to defeat China’s counterspace initiatives

Dr. Ashley Tellis 2014 (PhD; Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; formerly served as Senior Adviser at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, and in 2003, he also served on the National Security Council staff as Special Assistant to the President )28 Jan 2014 testimony before the House Armed Services Subcommittees on Strategic Forces and Seapower and Projection Forces “Does China Threaten the United States in Space?” <http://carnegieendowment.org/2014/01/28/does-china-threaten-united-states-in-space>

Since I have outlined broadly the technical measures required in these areas in my article cited earlier—“China’s Military Space Strategy”—I will not repeat them here. Suffice it to say that because protecting U.S. information dominance is vital not only to securing success in war but also to procuring that victory at the lowest cost in terms of lives and effort expended, both the administration and the Congress should not stint in funding all the mitigation efforts required to defeat China’s counterspace initiatives—the term “defeat” in this context understood as enabling the U.S. military to successfully complete its missions despite opposition.

Specific Exclusivity Advocacy: We should increase funding for NASA and NOT cooperate with China. Funding alone would solve

Dean Cheng 2009 (Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, Heritage Foundation) 30 Oct 2009 U.S.-China Space Cooperation: More Costs Than Benefits <http://www.heritage.org/space-policy/report/us-china-space-cooperation-more-costs-benefits>

These are the high costs of cooperation with the Chinese on manned space flight. Covering funding shortfalls seems to be the only tangible motivation for the U.S., and even that prospect is not promising. If U.S. decision-makers conclude that a manned-space capacity is important to American interests, they should find a way to properly fund it -- and not rely on the one country in the world likely to emerge as a peer competitor for global influence.

We need to get allies on board to help deal with challenges in space coming from China

Dr. Ashley Tellis 2014 (PhD; Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; formerly served as Senior Adviser at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, and in 2003, he also served on the National Security Council staff as Special Assistant to the President )28 Jan 2014 testimony before the House Armed Services Subcommittees on Strategic Forces and Seapower and Projection Forces “Does China Threaten the United States in Space?” <http://carnegieendowment.org/2014/01/28/does-china-threaten-united-states-in-space>

Given this fact, the United States must prepare to cope with China’s counterspace programs principally through unilateral investments in developing the appropriate antidotes. It should initiate a discussion with all spacefaring powers about the nature of emerging threats to security in space and it should certainly engage in consultation with its friends and allies, especially in Asia—including Japan, South Korea, India, and Australia, among others—about the challenges posed by China’s counterspace program.

INHERENCY

1. New technology avoids space debris problem

New satellites can be put into lower orbits over the next 20-40 years to avoid space junk

Journalist Leonard David quoting Johns Hopkins University space debris expert Marshall Kaplan 2011 (orbital debris expert within the Space Department at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory) 9 May 2011 “Ugly Truth of Space Junk: Orbital Debris Problem to Triple by 2030” quoted by Leonard David, columnist with Space Insider at SPACE.com <http://www.space.com/11607-space-junk-rising-orbital-debris-levels-2030.html> (ellipses in original)

"There is a good chance that we may have to eventually abandon all active satellites in currently used orbits," Kaplan said. "One possible scenario for the future is that we may phase out this generation of spacecraft while replacing them with a brand-new infrastructure of low-orbiting constellations of small satellites, each of which partially contributes to collecting desired data or making communications links." These constellations could be placed below 370 miles (600 km), thus avoiding the debris issue. "Such a new infrastructure could be developed over the next 20, 30 or 40 years," Kaplan said. "We should have plenty of time to make the transition, so let's use it wisely. We all caused this problem … there is no doubt about that. And, nobody will claim somebody else did it."

2. China already participates in International Space Station

INH: China already participates in the ISS

SOLV: China could never be invited to be an official member because of the other nations and treaties involved

Frank Morring 2014 (journalist) 16 Jan 2014 “NASA, China Meet On Possible Cooperation” AVIATION WEEK <http://aviationweek.com/space/nasa-china-meet-possible-cooperation> (brackets added)

[NASA Administrator Charles] Bolden noted that China is already among the 80-plus nations that “participate” in International Space Station activities, including the cutting-edge science program represented by the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer. Launched on the final space shuttle mission, the AMS uses Chinese superconducting magnets as part of its search for evidence of dark matter from its perch atop the ISS starboard truss. However, it is unlikely that China — which is working toward assembly of its own Mir-class space station in 2018-22 — will be invited to join the ISS partnership of NASA and the space agencies of Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe. Nor will India or other spacefaring nations not already in the partnership become ISS partners. None of the existing station partners wants to reopen the treaties that set up the partnership to allow new members in, according to Bolden. Drafting them was “painful,” the NASA administrator said, and “nobody wants to do that again.” However, “each member organization is encouraged to reach out and involve other nations as participants,” he told reporters.

3.A/T “Learn Chinese Intentions”

We already know China’s intentions: They want to militarize space

Gary Feuerberg 2015 (journalist) 22 Feb 2015 “China’s Space Program Dominated by Chinese Military” <http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/1258447-chinas-space-program-dominated-by-chinese-military/>

In contrast to the Chinese program, the U.S. space program has been primarily civilian in nature. The United States’ Apollo mission ranks as the most successful noncombatant space program. It was carried out by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Conceived as a civilian project, the aim was to contribute to science and space exploration. “While China pursues a growing commercial, deep space and space science agenda, the foundation of its space program remains the pursuit of military advantage for the People’s Liberation Army (PLA),” said Richard Fisher, senior fellow, Asian Military Affairs International Assessment and Strategy Center. Fisher was advising the U.S. Economic and Security Review Commission in a hearing on Feb. 18. “China’s space endeavors are subordinate to the PLA,” he added.

SOLVENCY

1. No National Security Benefit

China does not have anything in space that would benefit US national security

Michael Listner 2014 (attorney and the founder and principal of Space Law and Policy Solutions, a think tank and consultation firm that concentrates on legal and policy matters relating to space security and development.) “Commentary | Two Perspectives on U.S.-China Space Cooperation” 14 July 2014 SPACE NEWS <http://spacenews.com/41256two-perspectives-on-us-china-space-cooperation/>

When states, including geopolitical competitors, cooperate, there is always an unspoken premise that aside from the stated political goal each participant will have the unstated goals of reaping short- and long-term benefits of resources belonging to the other. In terms of cooperation between China and the United States, any stated goal of cooperation would implicate technology, intellectual property, scientific methodologies and funding. Given this presupposition, does China possess an advantage in any of these areas that would benefit the national security interests of the United States in a partnership? The answer is to both questions is cumulatively no.

2. No commercial benefit

Space exploration is transitioning to the private sector, and they don’t want to work with China

Michael Listner 2014 (attorney and the founder and principal of Space Law and Policy Solutions, a think tank and consultation firm that concentrates on legal and policy matters relating to space security and development.) “Commentary | Two Perspectives on U.S.-China Space Cooperation” 14 July 2014 SPACE NEWS <http://spacenews.com/41256two-perspectives-on-us-china-space-cooperation/>

China brings no tangible benefits to the table, and with the paradigm shift toward commercial space activities by the United States, any cooperative arrangements with China would be met with resistance by private operators who would have concerns of their own regarding technology and the ability to operate in the outer space environment.

3. AFF won’t solve space debris

International space debris cooperation won’t happen. Even if it did, we don’t have the technology or the funding

Marshall Kaplan 2011 (orbital debris expert within the Space Department at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory) 9 May 2011 “Ugly Truth of Space Junk: Orbital Debris Problem to Triple by 2030” quoted by Leonard David, columnist with Space Insider at SPACE.com <http://www.space.com/11607-space-junk-rising-orbital-debris-levels-2030.html>

"The proliferation is irreversible. Any cleanup would be too expensive. Given this insight, it is unlikely spacefaring nations are going to do anything significant about cleaning up space," Kaplan said. "The fact is that we really can't do anything. We can't afford it. We don't have the technology. We don't have the cooperation. Nobody wants to pay for it. Space debris cleanup is a 'growth industry,' but there are no customers. In addition, it is politically untenable."

China doesn’t know or care about space debris

Gary Feuerberg 2015 (journalist) 22 Feb 2015 “China’s Space Program Dominated by Chinese Military” <http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/1258447-chinas-space-program-dominated-by-chinese-military/>

Several experts referred to the China military’s unawareness or indifference to their contribution to orbital debris. In January 2007, China tested a ground-launched anti-satellite system and destroyed an obsolete weather satellite that resulted in “one of the worst debris generating events in space history,” said Cheng. China lacked programs for disposing of obsolete satellites and spacecraft, reflecting a lack of priority, testified Professor Roger Handberg, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Fla.

No technology exists that could clean up space debris

Marshall Kaplan 2011 (orbital debris expert within the Space Department at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory) 9 May 2011 “Ugly Truth of Space Junk: Orbital Debris Problem to Triple by 2030” quoted by Leonard David, columnist with Space Insider at SPACE.com <http://www.space.com/11607-space-junk-rising-orbital-debris-levels-2030.html>

"Barring the discovery of a disruptive technology within the next decade or so, there will be no practical removal solution," Kaplan added. "We simply lack the technology to economically clean up space."

4. No clear Chinese counterpart to cooperate with

Chinese structure is confusing and there could be rogue operators. It’s unclear who we’re supposed to cooperate with

Dean Cheng 2014 (Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, Heritage Foundation) 18 Feb 2014 Hearing on China’s Space and Counterspace Programs <http://origin.www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/transcripts/February%2018%2C%202015_Transcript.pdf> (brackets added; Joan Johnson-Freese is a source who advocates the AFF plan)

Let me first note I don't think anyone is claiming that we can stop China's space program. Although I do find it intriguing that Joan [Johnson-Freese] at the same time argues that no one can stop the Chinese space program from progressing, however they're going to progress, which is certainly true, but that somehow by offering cooperation, we can create stakeholders within the Chinese system if they aren't stakeholders already. And let me note here that when we are talking about stakeholders, this goes to a fundamental question about cooperation, which is who exactly is it we are cooperating with? As of right now, here we are eight years after the Chinese ASAT test of 2007. I'm not sure anyone can tell us who actually made that decision. Walk us through. We know who ultimately fired these systems. And let me note here that at the time there were some fascinating arguments being made, including by some “realists,” that this may have been evidence of a “rogue PLA.” The PLA just did it on its own. Maybe there weren't even, you know, the political authorities didn't know. Why? Because the Foreign Ministry didn't know except, of course, within the Chinese political structure, the Foreign Ministry is actually largely irrelevant, which makes them very different from our National Security Council foreign policymaking structure or even the old Soviet Politburo.

5. Fundamental space policy disagreements

US/China space arms control process isn’t going to happen due to fundamental space policy disagreements

Dr. Ashley Tellis 2014 (PhD; Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; formerly served as Senior Adviser at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, and in 2003, he also served on the National Security Council staff as Special Assistant to the President )28 Jan 2014 testimony before the House Armed Services Subcommittees on Strategic Forces and Seapower and Projection Forces “Does China Threaten the United States in Space?” <http://carnegieendowment.org/2014/01/28/does-china-threaten-united-states-in-space>

Let me end by offering a few concluding thoughts on the policy responses the United States should pursue in regards to responding to China’s counterspace programs. Unfortunately for both the United States and the international community, there is no arms control solution available to limit the dangers posed by China’s counterspace activities. There are already deep and abiding disagreements universally about what constitutes weaponization in space, which instruments ought to be considered space weapons, and whether and how U.S. space policies have contributed to space competition. All these controversies ensure that a useful space arms control regime capable of restraining counterspace activities by any state, including China, is very far away, if it is at all possible.

6. The real problem is money

The US has clearly the best space technology – we just don’t have the will to fund space programs

CNN 2015. “Race to the Stars” <http://www.cnn.com/interactive/2015/05/world/china-space/>

U.S. space technology is still "hands down the best in the world," says Joan Johnson-Freese, a professor at the U.S. Naval War College, but she says the U.S. lacks the political will to fund an ambitious manned spaceflight program, China's is the pride of the nation. "It would cost the US $140 billion for a true moon and Mars exploration mission but sticker shock would kill it instantly," she says.

7. More study needed

Numerous issues need to be studied and resolved before exploring US/China space cooperation. Example: espionage

Christopher Stone 2013 (former member of the National Space Society Board of Directors; senior space professional and Flight Commander with the 222nd Command and Control Squadron supporting National Security Space Operations. In his civilian capacity he is Senior Space Analyst (Policy Integration) with the DoD Executive Agent for Space Staff, Pentagon, through Falcon Research, Inc, a space strategic consulting company) 25 Feb 2013 THE SPACE REVIEW “US cooperation with China in space: Some thoughts to consider for space advocates and policy makers” <http://www.thespacereview.com/article/2246/1>

Over the last decade, several reports by commissions and US government agencies have identified many policy issues that need to be debated and resolved before serious consideration can be given to space cooperation between China and the United States. If the debates and discussions lead toward a conclusion that space cooperation is in the US’s best interest, through its diplomatic impacts or economic leverage, then cooperation could be explored. What are some of these issues? Reports in the press throughout 2012 highlighted an aggressive espionage campaign by China with regards to American space technologies. This refers to knowledge, equipment, and components.

Not ready for full cooperation yet: We need to “go slow” and just work on basic information exchange

Dean Cheng 2014 (Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, Heritage Foundation) 9 Apr 2014 Prospects for U.S.-China Space Cooperation <http://www.heritage.org/testimony/prospects-us-china-space-cooperation>

It is possible that the Chinese could be induced to be more transparent when it comes to space, although the unwillingness of Beijing to engage in substantive discussions on space during the last several Strategic and Economic Dialogues (S&ED) would cast doubt on this. But this would argue for a “go-slow” approach, at best. There is room for greater interaction, especially in the sharing of already collected data, such as geodesy information. As both sides set their sights on the moon, exchanges of data about lunar conditions and the lunar surface and composition all might help create a pattern of interaction that might lower some of the barriers to information exchange. Even there, however, concerns on both sides about information security and electronic espionage, etc., is likely to raise serious doubts about how freely one should incorporate data provided by the other side.

8. China won’t cooperate

History of failed joint ventures leaves China not very interested in space cooperation – they prefer to go it alone

Dean Cheng 2014 (Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, Heritage Foundation) 9 Apr 2014 Prospects for U.S.-China Space Cooperation <http://www.heritage.org/testimony/prospects-us-china-space-cooperation>

China’s past experience of major high-technology cooperative ventures (Sino–Soviet cooperation in the 1950s, U.S.–China cooperation in the 1980s until Tiananmen, and Sino–European space cooperation on the Galileo satellite program) is an unhappy one, at best. The failure of the joint Russian–Chinese Phobos–Grunt mission is likely seen in Beijing as further evidence that a “go-it-alone” approach is preferable. Nor is it clear that, bureaucratically, there is significant interest from key players such as the PLA or the military industrial complex in expanding cooperation. Moreover, as long as China’s economy continues to expand, and the top political leadership values space efforts, there is little prospect of a reduction in space expenditures—making international cooperation far less urgent for the PRC than most other spacefaring states.

DISADVANTAGES

1. Strengthens China’s space & military programs, leading to Chinese space dominance and loss of US power

Link: China is deceiving the world about space goals. Its real objective is to promote its own strength at US expense

Christopher Stone 2013 (former member of the National Space Society Board of Directors; senior space professional and Flight Commander with the 222nd Command and Control Squadron supporting National Security Space Operations. In his civilian capacity he is Senior Space Analyst (Policy Integration) with the DoD Executive Agent for Space Staff, Pentagon, through Falcon Research, Inc, a space strategic consulting company) 25 Feb 2013 THE SPACE REVIEW “US cooperation with China in space: Some thoughts to consider for space advocates and policy makers” <http://www.thespacereview.com/article/2246/1>

In a widely quoted remark, Chinese Premier Wen Jaibao argued in a 2005 speech that ‘science and technology are the decisive factors in the competition of comprehensive national strength.’” What is the reason for China’s apparent denial of these goals for “comprehensive national strength” and “securing their rightful place” in the global pecking order of space leadership? According to an American Enterprise Institute (AEI) analysis, “Beijing seeks to constrict America’s presence, alliances, access and influence in Asia and to limit the autonomy of Asian democracies.” The bottom line, according to the AEI analysts, is this: “China is committed to a strategic deception campaign that masks Beijing’s ambition to restore what its leaders see as their country’s rightful place at the apex of an Asian and possibly a global hierarchy.” In short, there is more to China’s space program than just the glory and prestige of exploring space or having the capability to launch people into orbit. This is part of a grand strategy that seeks to not only lead the world in science and technology but also prevent US diplomatic influence in the Asia-Pacific region and even globally in various arenas, including economic development, national survival, as well as energy resources and control.

Link: Space cooperation would give China technology they could use to build up their space & military programs

Michael Listner 2014 (attorney and the founder and principal of Space Law and Policy Solutions, a think tank and consultation firm that concentrates on legal and policy matters relating to space security and development.) “Commentary | Two Perspectives on U.S.-China Space Cooperation” 14 July 2014 SPACE NEWS <http://spacenews.com/41256two-perspectives-on-us-china-space-cooperation/>

China has made significant strides in its space program, and its accomplishments follow in the footsteps of the outer space activities performed by the United States. China does have the perception of momentum in its space program and uses current technology to facilitate its achievements, but it still lags behind. Cooperation with China would reap no tangible benefits in terms of technology for the United States and in fact would risk exposing outer space technology and methodologies that China could appropriate under the guise of cooperation and incorporate into its own space and military programs.

Link: Space technology leakage to China would compromise US national security and no safeguards would prevent it. Example: European cooperation led to technology leakage

Michael Listner 2014 (attorney and the founder and principal of Space Law and Policy Solutions, a think tank and consultation firm that concentrates on legal and policy matters relating to space security and development.) “Commentary | Two Perspectives on U.S.-China Space Cooperation” 14 July 2014 SPACE NEWS <http://spacenews.com/41256two-perspectives-on-us-china-space-cooperation/>

China’s technical partnership with the European Union on the Galileo project led to its application on China’s indigenous Beidou Phase 2 satellite navigation system. The accuracy of the Beidou signal came as a surprise to its European partners as such accuracy was unlikely to be obtained without taking shortcuts. Thus, what began as a cooperative effort between the European Union and China led to China reaping the technological benefit with the resultant national security implications. Such would be the case with a cooperative effort with the United States. Any effort would expose U.S. technology, and it stands to reason that no matter what safeguards were put in place China would acquire and benefit from that technology. Not only would the United States not benefit from a cooperative effort it would also sacrifice its technological advantage and compromise its national security.

Link: China is building capabilities to destroy US satellites and erode US dominance in space

Jeffrey L. Fiedler 2014 (Commissioner, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission) 18 Feb 2014 Hearing on China’s Space and Counterspace Programs <http://origin.www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/transcripts/February%2018%2C%202015_Transcript.pdf>

Over the last decade, China has rapidly scaled up and improved its civilian and military space platforms, including satellites, ground infrastructure, and rockets. These inherently dual-use platforms help China achieve economic and scientific missions, while supporting expanded PLA operations and military modernization goals. Although China is mostly catching up to the United States in space capabilities, China poses a number of challenges to U.S. activities in space. First and foremost is China’s development of new counterspace technologies that could disable or destroy U.S. satellites and their support architecture. In addition, China’s space exploration and satellite launch plans could erode U.S. dominance in space.

Link: China’s intent is to dominate space militarily and deny access

Kevin Pollpeter 2014 (DEPUTY DIRECTOR, STUDY OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY IN CHINA, INSTITUTE ON GLOBAL CONFLICT AND COOPERATION, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-SAN DIEGO) 18 Feb 2014 Hearing on China’s Space and Counterspace Programs <http://origin.www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/transcripts/February%2018%2C%202015_Transcript.pdf>

Indeed, I would argue that China's space program plays a central role in China's anti-access/area denial plans. China views space as critical to its development of what they call an "informationized force." And, in fact, almost every Chinese source that you do read states that whoever controls space controls the earth. As a result, Chinese military writers conclude that China must achieve space supremacy, which is to control space, to be able to freely use space, and to be able to deny the ability to use space to adversaries.

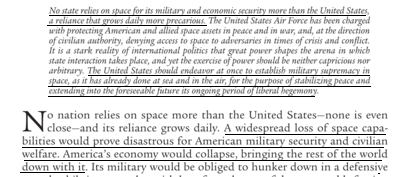
Link: China believes space war is inevitable and they intend to win it

Kevin Pollpeter 2014 (DEPUTY DIRECTOR, STUDY OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY IN CHINA, INSTITUTE ON GLOBAL CONFLICT AND COOPERATION, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-SAN DIEGO) 18 Feb 2014 Hearing on China’s Space and Counterspace Programs <http://origin.www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/transcripts/February%2018%2C%202015_Transcript.pdf>

Indeed, nearly every Chinese source describes space as the “ultimate high ground,” leading many Chinese analysts to assess that space warfare is inevitable. Because of the preeminence of the space battlefield, analysts writing on space argue that it will become the center of gravity in future wars and one that must be seized and controlled. In fact, these analysts argue that the first condition for seizing the initiative is to achieve space supremacy.

Impact: US national security and US and world economies collapse without space dominance

Prof. Everett C. Dolman 2006 (associate prof. of Comparative Military Studies at US Air Force School of Advanced Air and Space Study) SAIS Review vol. XXVI no. 1 (Winter-Spring 2006) US Military Transformation and Weapons in Space <https://muse.jhu.edu/login?auth=0&type=summary&url=/journals/sais_review/v026/26.1dolman.html>



2. Higher federal deficits

Link: Space cooperation with China will inflate the federal deficit

Michael Listner 2014 (attorney and the founder and principal of Space Law and Policy Solutions, a think tank and consultation firm that concentrates on legal and policy matters relating to space security and development.) “Commentary | Two Perspectives on U.S.-China Space Cooperation” 14 July 2014 SPACE NEWS <http://spacenews.com/41256two-perspectives-on-us-china-space-cooperation/>

It is conceivable that China would reap a similar economic benefit to the detriment of the United States in cooperative outer space activities. The likelihood is great that China would insist that any arrangement entered into be funded disproportionately by the United States. This in turn would take away from other programs, inflate the national deficit and even require more borrowing from China, which would have a cumulative effect on the national and economic security of the United States with little or no benefit.

Impact: Every increase in the deficit hurts the economy

Dr William Gale and Benjamin Harris 2011. (Gale - PhD in economics, Stanford Univ.; senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and co-director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center; former assistant professor in the Department of Economics at UCLA, and a senior economist for the Council of Economic Advisers under President George H.W. Bush; Harris - master’s degree in economics from Cornell University and a master’s degree in quantitative methods from Columbia University; senior research associate with the Economics Studies Program at the Brookings Institution) “A VAT for the United States: Part of the Solution” <http://www.taxanalysts.com/www/freefiles.nsf/Files/GALE-HARRIS-5.pdf/$file/GALE-HARRIS-5.pdf>

But even in the absence of a crisis, sustained deficits have deleterious effects, as they translate into lower national savings, higher interest rates, and increased indebtedness to foreign investors, all of which serve to reduce future national income. Gale and Orszag (2004a) estimate that a 1 percent of GDP increase in the deficit will raise interest rates by 25 to 35 basis points and reduce national saving by 0.5 to 0.8 percentage points of GDP.

3.Prolongs Communism

Link: China is simply following the U.S. into space in order to legitimize the Communist Party

Dr. Namrata Goswami 2017 (a MINERVA Grantee, a grant awarded by the Office of the Secretary of Defense MINERVA Initiative supporting her project on exploring great power attitudes towards resource nationalism, territoriality, and expansionism in the space domain) “China’s Space Goals” 19 Jan 2017 <https://www.policyforum.net/chinas-space-goals/>

In order to engage Chinese academics, think tanks and policymakers on the subject of China’s long-term goals regarding space resources, I undertook a field visit to China from 5 to 20 November 2016. I consulted with leading Chinese representatives from each of these groups specifically focused on space, and asked them questions about space-based solar power, asteroid and lunar mining and deep space exploration. I enquired as to whether China’s space aspirations were moving from prestige-seeking behaviour toward economic development of the space domain. I discovered that specialists in security studies and international relations tend to be pessimistic about China’s capability to achieve the goals set by its space scientists and policymakers about [space resources](http://thediplomat.com/2016/08/chinas-unique-space-ambitions/). Many argued that China is not a lead innovator in space but a “follower” of the United States’ space activities. Some argue that enhancing national prestige and international status continue to remain the prime motivating factors. At the grand strategic level, Chinese thinkers suggested that outer space investments serve a legitimising function for the Communist Party of China (CPC).

Backup: China will not agree to any cooperation that does not promote the legitimacy of the Communist Party

Dean Cheng 2014 (Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, Heritage Foundation) 9 Apr 2014 Prospects for U.S.-China Space Cooperation <http://www.heritage.org/testimony/prospects-us-china-space-cooperation>

Moreover, in keeping with the Chinese memory of the “Century of Humiliation,” Beijing will want any cooperative venture to be, at a minimum, on a co-equal basis. For the PRC to be treated as anything other than a full member in any program or effort would smack of the “unequal treaties” that marked China’s interactions with the rest of the world between 1839 and 1949. For the same reason, China has generally been reluctant to join any organization or regime in which it was not party to negotiating. For the CCP [Chinese Communist Party], whose political legitimacy rests, in part, on the idea that it has restored Chinese pride and greatness, this is likely to be a significant part of any calculation.

Backup: China uses space program to help the legitimacy of the Communist Party

Dean Cheng 2009 (Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, Heritage Foundation) 30 Oct 2009 U.S.-China Space Cooperation: More Costs Than Benefits <http://www.heritage.org/space-policy/report/us-china-space-cooperation-more-costs-benefits>

Moreover, Beijing is likely to extract a price in exchange for such cooperation. The Chinese leadership has placed a consistent emphasis on developing its space capabilities indigenously. Not only does this ensure that China's space capabilities are not held hostage to foreign pressure, but it also fosters domestic economic development -- thereby promoting innovation within China's scientific and technological communities -- and underscores the political legitimacy of the Chinese Communist Party. Consequently, the PRC will require that any cooperation with the U.S. provides it with substantial benefits that would balance opportunity costs in these areas.

Impact: Human rights violations. The Chinese Communist Party is responsible for widespread rights violations. We should try to weaken it, not strengthen it.

Freedom House 2015. (international human rights advocacy group) The Politburo’s Predicament <https://freedomhouse.org/report/china/politburopredicament>

This sample of incidents over the past two years illustrates the current Chinese government’s determination to impose its will on society and the public resistance it has encountered as it attempts to do so. The Politburo’s Predicament examines the state of the censorship and internal security apparatus inherited by Xi, the evolution of the system since the Communist Party leadership transfer in November 2012, and the impact of institutional and policy changes in practice. It also explores the limitations of the regime’s efforts to suppress dissent, and offers recommendations to the international community on how to respond. Drawing on an analysis of hundreds of official documents, censorship directives, and human rights reports, as well as some 30 expert interviews, the study finds that the overall degree of repression has increased under the new leadership. Of 17 categories of victims assessed, 11 experienced greater restrictions after November 2012. Among the victims are new targets whose activities were previously tolerated, including individuals from the economic elite or with official ties. The methods of repression have also evolved. The current authorities are mounting more coordinated and multipronged campaigns to dominate online discourse, obstruct human rights activism, and preempt public protests. Punishments meted out to dissidents have shifted, with various forms of criminal, administrative, and extralegal detention replacing the abolished “reeducation through labor” camp system. And tactics and terminology reminiscent of the Mao era, such as televised confessions and expansive community monitoring, have regained prominence.

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