SPACE CYBERSECURITY WEEKLY WATCH

W20

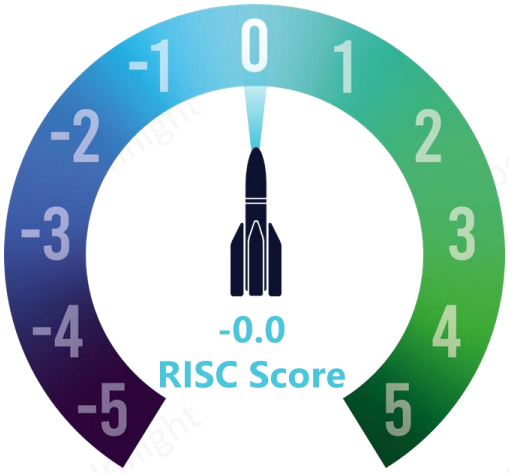
May 12 – May 18, 2026

Timeframe: Weekly
# of articles identified: 22
Est. time to read: 40 minutes

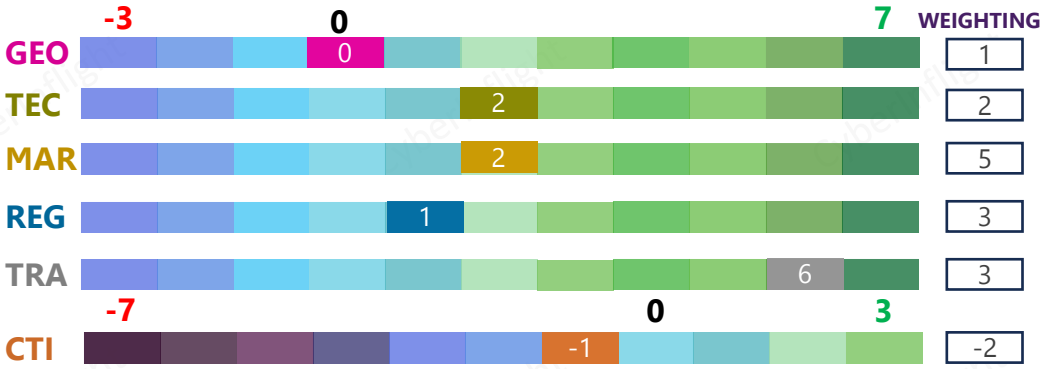
Articles, company's communications, whitepapers, academic works, podcast, and sources not to be missed on the topic of space cybersecurity over a specified timeframe.

GEOPOLITICS
TECHNOLOGY
MARKET & COMPETITION
REGULATION
TRAINING & EDUCATION
THREAT INTELLIGENCE
IMPORTANT NEWS

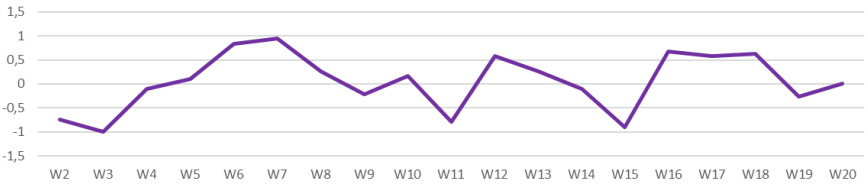
RISC Score Assessment



Overview & Resilience Index for Space Cybersecurity (RISC)



RISC Score evolution in 2026



The RISC score for this watch is 0.0, up 0.27 from last week. This neutral score is due to very little news this week, except for Training, which brings the score up a bit compared to last week.

This week, on the geopolitical front, **U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) is reportedly testing the web-based platform launched by Texas startup SkyFi**, which would provide operators with real-time satellite imagery through integrated commercial satellite networks. On the regulatory side, **the Gibbons Institute of Law, Science & Technology hosted the Workshop on Cybersecurity on Earth and in Space** as an open forum for scholars to present their research in this field and receive peer feedback. On the market front, the **project COSMOS-SECURE represents one of the most strategically forward-looking investments the European Union has made into Slovak deep tech in recent years**. Discover it! On the threat side, **a paper about space hacktivism and the Russo–Ukrainian war has been published**. This paper analyzes primary sources released by NB65, a Ukrainian hacktivist group affiliated with Anonymous, to present a likely kill chain that enabled the claimed intrusion into a ROSCOSMOS ground segment. Building on previously published findings, it proposes a space policy directive to secure space systems from cyberattacks, informed by this analysis, with the aim of enhancing international technical standards for space system cybersecurity. In the technology category, **Surrey Research Park and UK Space Agency strengthen resilience across the UK space supply chain,** as part of proactive action to bolster resilience against threats targeting UK space and space-related companies. Lastly, in the training section, the **SmallSat Europe 2026 Defense Agenda (May 26–28)** brings together military leaders, startup founders, and industry executives for 3 days of keynotes, panels, and tech briefs spanning launch access, resilient communications, AI, missile defense, and the evolving orbital threat environment.

GEOPOLITICS

[redacted]

The Pentagon is transforming U.S. commercial satellites into tactical battlefield infrastructure

For special operations forces (SOF) operating in hostile environments, access to up-to-date geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) can dramatically shape operational decision-making and mission success. The U.S. military is now addressing this challenge. U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) is reportedly testing the web-based platform launched by Texas startup SkyFi, which would provide operators with real-time satellite imagery through integrated commercial satellite networks. **#Pentagon #Battlefield**

Source: FDD

REGULATION

Workshop on space law and emerging cybersecurity challenges

The Gibbons Institute of Law, Science & Technology at the school hosted the Workshop on Cybersecurity on Earth and in Space on April 16, 2026, as an open forum for scholars to present their research in this field and to receive peer feedback. **#Workshop #SpaceLaw**

Source: SetonHall

MARKET & COMPETITION

COSMOS-SECURE: Decent cybersecurity leads Europe's push for quantum-safe voice communication in space

The project, formally titled "Bezpečná komunikácia vo vesmírnom výskume" or in English "Secure Communication in Space Research", represents one of the most strategically forward-looking investments the European Union has made into Slovak deep tech in recent years. With total eligible costs of more than €4m and a requested EU contribution of €2m, COSMOS-SECURE will run from January 2026 through December 2029 and is co-financed by the European Union through Program Slovensko 2021 to 2027 and the European Regional Development Fund. **#COSMOS-SECURE #DecentCybersecurity**

Source: HealSecurity

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THREAT INTELLIGENCE

[redacted]

THREAT INTELLIGENCE

[redacted]

[redacted]

Space hacktivism and the Russo–Ukrainian war: an open source space security analysis

In March of 2022, Network Battalion-65 (NB65), a hacktivist group affiliated with Anonymous, claimed responsibility for breaching a ROSCOSMOS ground segment in retaliation for Russia's invasion of Ukraine. NB65 released several primary sources to support its claims, alleging it had disabled ROSCOSMOS's vehicle monitoring system and exposed sensitive proprietary documents. This paper analyzes the primary sources released by NB65 to present the likely kill chain that enabled the claimed intrusion of a ROSCOSMOS ground segment. Building on previously published findings, it proposes a space policy directive for securing space systems from cyberattacks, informed by the results of this analysis, with the aim of enhancing international technical standards for space system cybersecurity. **#Hacktivism #SpaceSecurity**

Source: Oxford Academic

TECHNOLOGY

[redacted]

Surrey Research Park and UK Space Agency strengthen resilience across the UK space supply chain

Surrey Research Park was delighted to welcome experts from the UK Space Agency's National Security team at the end of April as part of proactive action to bolster resilience against threats targeting UK space and space-related companies. **#UKSpaceAgency #SurreyResearchPark**

Source: University of Surrey

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TRAINING & EDUCATION

[redacted]

TRAINING & EDUCATION

Conferences of the SmallSat Europe Event

The SmallSat Europe 2026 Defense Agenda (May 26–28), curated by SpaceNews, brings together military leaders, startup founders, and industry executives for 3 days of keynotes, panels, and tech briefs spanning launch access, resilient communications, AI, missile defense, and the evolving orbital threat environment. **#SmallSatEUROPE #Conference**

Source: SmallSatEUROPE

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