SPACE CYBERSECURITY WEEKLY WATCH

W31, W32, W33, W34

July 28 – August 24, 2026

Timeframe: Weekly

# of news identified: 53

Est. time to read: 90 minutes

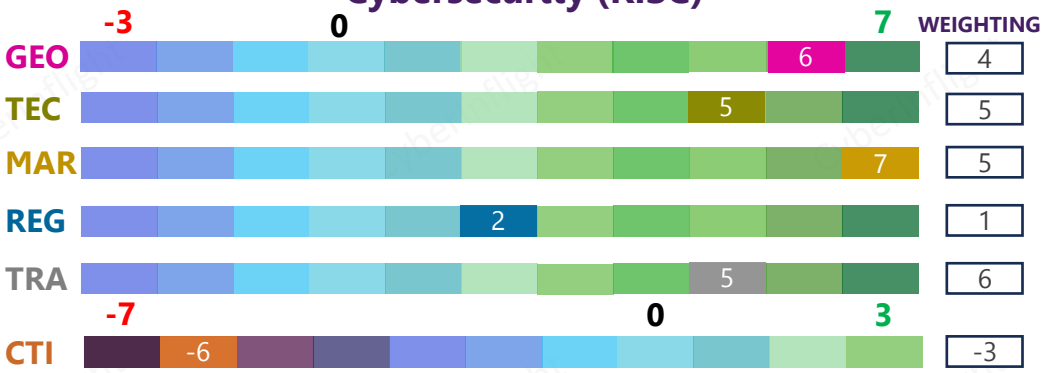
Articles, company's communications, whitepapers, academic works, podcast, and sources not to be missed on the topic of space cybersecurity over a specified timeframe.

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

RISC Score Assessment

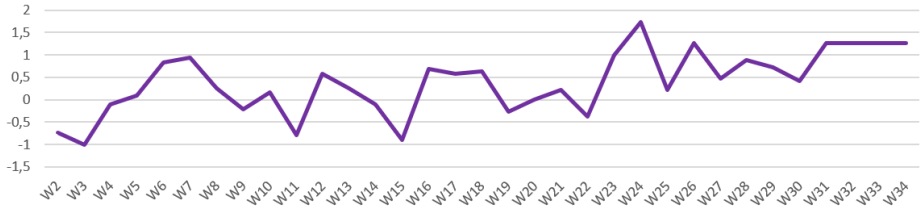


Overview & Resilience Index for Space Cybersecurity (RISC)



The RISC score for this watch is 1.26, an increase of 0.84 from W30, notably due to a strong market environment, and positive geopolitical news and announcements.

RISC Score evolution in 2026



Throughout the month of August, on the geopolitical front**, Gabon aims to advance digital sovereignty** with a national satellite seminar, while the head of U.S. Space Command said that **operations in Iran have shown just how vulnerable ground-based space assets**—particularly missile defense systems—are to attack and called for a more resilient, mobile architecture. On the market side, in Europe, **Airbus has been awarded a contract for the SpainSat NG-III secure communications satellite**, and in the U.S., **Northrop Grumman and Aeronix are investing millions in space-based cryptography**, targeting a fivefold gain in secure data processing. On the threat front, New Zealand's Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) has claimed **Chinese companies are building space facilities in the nation to gather military intelligence.** The allegation was made in the SIS's annual threat environment assessment. In the regulatory field, **SPARTA v4.0** has been released. It extends SPARTA's threat-informed cybersecurity guidance beyond its established space- and link-segment foundation by introducing practical ground segment defense guidance, a complete lifecycle-focused revision of all 90 SPARTA Countermeasures, and a redesigned Impact tactic that more precisely describes the mechanisms adversaries invoke to produce onboard effects. Moreover, a **new Australian guide to space cybersecurity** published by ISACA has also been released. On the technology front, cybersecurity outfit **Atalanta reckons its Argo tool can spot cyber holes** before state-backed hackers turn infrastructure into a smoking crater. Lastly, on the training & education front, **DEFCON was held** at the beginning of the month. Moreover, a **podcast by Secure Business**, featuring Yohann Bauzil, Chief Security Officer at Lookup Space, has been released.

GEOPOLITICS

UK space cyber security: Why stronger collaboration is essential for national resilience



Space cybersecurity: A trust prerequisite for the digital economy

Gabon advances digital sovereignty with national satellite seminar



According to the ministry, the initiative reflects the government's commitment to positioning satellite technology as a key driver of digital sovereignty, resilient critical infrastructure, and economic development. **#DigitalSovereignty #Resilience**

Source: TechAfrica News

Why cybersecurity is becoming a core requirement in military embedded systems

Star Wars – China harbors military ambitions in space



SPACECOM wants to proliferate ground stations—and counter adversary proliferation



The head of U.S. Space Command said that operations in Iran have shown just how vulnerable ground-based space assets—particularly missile defense systems—are to attack and called for a more resilient, mobile architecture.
#Military #Resilience

Sources: Air&Space Forces, EurasianTimes, DefenseOne, CYSAT

Space Forces in Europe – Space Forces Africa change of command



Race in Orbit – The new mission of the German Armed Forces Space Command



Space war 2040: SPACECOM preps for attacks on ground segments, eyes cislunar ops



MARKET & COMPETITION

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Airbus awarded contract for SpainSat NG-III secure communications satellite

Airbus Defence and Space has been awarded a contract by Hisdesat to act as prime contractor for the development and construction of SpainSat NG-III, Europe's most advanced secure communications satellite. Building on the design and implementation of its predecessors, the satellite introduces technological enhancements, delivering greater operational agility, expanded bandwidth, and superior protection against jamming and electronic threats. **#SpainSatNG-III #Airbus**



Source: Airbus

Northrop Grumman and Aeronix invest millions in space-based cryptography, targeting fivefold gain in secure data processing

Northrop Grumman and Aeronix have launched a multimillion-dollar partnership to develop space-based cryptographic systems for classified defence communications. The companies are targeting a fivefold increase in the performance of secure data processing and transmission across space and multi-domain military networks.
#NorthropGrumman #Aeronix



Sources: Defence Industry Europe, MilitaryEmbeddedSystems

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MARKET & COMPETITION

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THREAT INTELLIGENCE

New Zealand says China tried using space investments to spy on local affairs



New Zealand's Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) has claimed Chinese companies are building space facilities in the nation to gather military intelligence. The allegation was made in the SIS's annual threat environment assessment. **#NewZealand #Espionage**

Sources: ThreatCluster, The Register, Indo-Pacific Defense Forum, NZSIS

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THREAT INTELLIGENCE

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REGULATION

SPARTA v4.0 — Breaking new ground

The SPARTA framework continues to evolve, and SPARTA v4.0 represents one of its most substantial expansions to date. This release extends SPARTA's threat-informed cybersecurity guidance beyond its established space- and link-segment foundation by introducing practical ground segment defense guidance, a complete lifecycle-focused revision of all 90 SPARTA Countermeasures, and a redesigned Impact tactic that more precisely describes the mechanisms adversaries invoke to produce onboard effects. **#U.S. #SPARTA**

Source: Medium

New ISACA Sydney Paper launched: An Australian guide to space cybersecurity

This paper provides a practical Australian guide for boards, executives, risk leaders and security practitioners, including a system-of-systems view of space cyber risk, an Australian guiding framework for space cyber security, 8 governance domains, a 12-recommendation action plan, and practical questions for boards and risk leaders. **#ISACA #Guide**

Sources: ISACA Sydney Chapter, PDF

TECHNOLOGY

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Argo plugs satellite cyber holes



Atalanta reckons its Argo tool can spot cyber holes before state-backed hackers turn infrastructure into a smoking crater. Russia's satellite hack on the day it invaded Ukraine in 2022 knocked out thousands of modems across Ukraine and Europe. Now, cybersecurity outfit Atalanta has released Argo, an AI-assisted product aimed at closing the gap Moscow gleefully exploited. **#Interoperability #Software**

Sources: Fudzilla, APNews

TRAINING & EDUCATION

Aerospace at DEFCON: From 'SPACE 101' to live hacking competitions

DEF CON has wrapped and Aerospace experts are enthusiastic about how this security-focused event made for a perfect crossover with new cyber-focused space capabilities. "We had all types of people come up to talk, from our customers, actual hackers, to those just interested in space. It definitely sparked a lot of interesting discussions," said Aerospace's Randi Tinney. "We got to teach people about space cyber, a capability that's mostly unknown and way over-assumed. We also got to give a lot of 'Space 101' lessons and talk to enthusiasts about how they can get more involved."
#Aerospace #DEFCON

Source: Aerospace

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In the mind of a Space CISO

In this episode of Secure Business, the host is joined by Yohann Bauzil, Chief Security Officer at Lookup Space, a scale-up specializing in space surveillance. With 20 years of experience in the industry—first at Airbus, then with the OneWeb constellation—he shares a vision of the field that is both technical and pragmatic. **#Podcast #LookUp**

Source: Secure Your Business Podcast

TRAINING & EDUCATION



CyberInflight is a Market Intelligence company dedicated to the topic of Space Cybersecurity. The company provides strategic market and research reports, bespoke consulting, market watch & OSINT researches and cybersecurity awareness training.
Contact us at: research@cyberinflight.com