SPACE CYBERSECURITY WEEKLY WATCH

W39

September 22 – September 28, 2026

Timeframe: Weekly
# of news 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

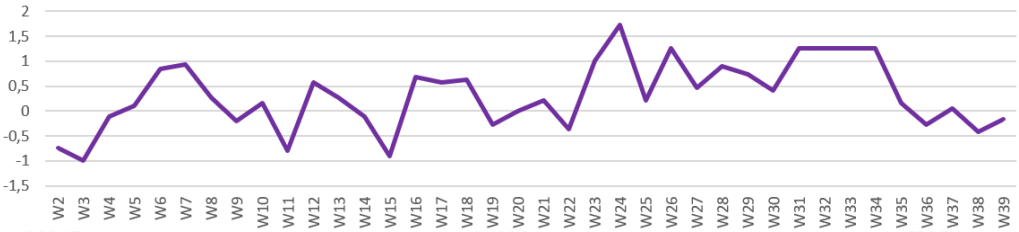
RISC Score Assessment



Overview & Resilience Index for Space Cybersecurity (RISC)



RISC Score evolution in 2026



The RISC score for this watch is -0.16, an increase of 0.26 since last week. This increase is due to a slightly more active and positive geopolitical and technological environment.

This week in the U.S., **NATO's new HALO initiative** was launched **to network 8 allies' sovereign military satellites into a unified mega-constellation for enhanced defense capabilities**. On the market side, **CybExer, an Estonian cybersecurity company, is to play a key role in helping keep the EU's future secure satellite connectivity system, IRIS², secure**. It will lead a ten-company European consortium developing an end-to-end capability to test and validate protected satellite communications linked to IRIS². On the regulation front, **the U.S. Senate passes 2 satellite defense and cybersecurity bills**: the Secure Space Act (S 1962) and the Satellite Cybersecurity Act (S 3404). Found out more about their content! On the threat side, **the U.K. has launched a special space unit** amid growing concerns about the threats in orbit posed by Russia and other adversaries. Meanwhile, on the technological front, ESA announced that for 2 hours on Wednesday, 16 September, **5 operational Galileo satellites broadcasting over Europe transmitted a new encrypted signal** for testing, under spoofing conditions. Lastly, the **latest episode of the podcast T-Minus has been released**, featuring Milenko Starcevic, cybersecurity lead at Vision Space, and Andrzej "Andy" Olchawa, a space-focused offensive security professional, about the broader space cybersecurity attack surface.

GEOPOLITICS

[redacted]



America's absence from NATO's latest space initiative, HALO



Akash Shah analyses the necessity of HALO for NATO's integration of space architecture. Here, he suggests that President Trump's push for European self-reliance, data sovereignty, and technical challenges could all explain the U.S. absence from this initiative. **#HALO #NATO**

Source: The Loop

MARKET & COMPETITION

Estonian company CybExer to play key role in testing IRIS² security



CybExer, an Estonian cybersecurity company, is to play a key role in helping keep the EU's future secure satellite connectivity system, IRIS², secure. It will lead a ten-company European consortium developing an end-to-end capability to test and validate protected satellite communications linked to IRIS². CybExer made the announcement last week. **#CybExer #IRIS2**

Source: ViaSatellite

[redacted]



[redacted]



[redacted]



REGULATION

[redacted]



Senate passes satellite defense, cybersecurity bills (Sep 25, 2026)



The Secure Space Act (S 1962), which was sponsored by Sens. Deb Fischer (R., Neb.) and Ben Ray Luján (D., N.M.), the respective chair and ranking member of the telecommunications and media subcommittee, passed the Senate by unanimous consent. The Senate also approved by unanimous consent the Satellite Cybersecurity Act (S 3404), which was sponsored by Sens. Gary Peters (D., Mich.) and John Cornyn (R., Texas). **#SpaceCybersecurity #Frameworks**

Sources: Congress.gov, VitalLaw

THREAT INTELLIGENCE

UK military jamming other nations' satellites to defend itself, BBC told

The U.K. has launched a special space unit amid growing concerns about the threats in orbit posed by Russia and other adversaries. In announcing the Royal Air Force's (RAF) Number 3 Space Effects Squadron, U.K. Air Chief Marshal Sir Harv Smyth warned of "serious questions about Russia's intent in space. **#UK #SpaceWeapons**

Sources: BBC, Euractiv, Euro News, Newsweek

Russia has proposed destroying Starlink along with its satellites

Electronic warfare as a strategic advantage for the United States

How china-linked hackers are targeting U.S. aerospace firms and NGOs

Space Communications records interference from a "neighboring state."

Poland brands Starlink station fire sabotage as Denmark sounds alarm over Russian hybrid warfare

Satellites: The next cyber frontier?

China launches its first commercial radio tracking satellites in electronic warfare leap

THREAT INTELLIGENCE

[redacted]

TECHNOLOGY

[redacted]

Galileo's first civil authenticated position fix under spoofing conditions

For 2 hours on the afternoon of Wednesday, 16 September, five operational Galileo satellites broadcasting over Europe transmitted a new encrypted signal for testing. On the ground in Andøya, Norway, and at ESA's navigation laboratory at ESTEC, in the Netherlands, receivers successfully established their location using these encrypted signals, marking the first real-world positioning using Galileo's upcoming Signal Authentication Service (SAS). **#Galileo #Encryption**

Source: ESA, Hackaday

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TRAINING & EDUCATION

Space cybersecurity starts on the ground

Host Maria Varmazis speaks with Milenk Starcevic, cybersecurity lead at Vision Space, and Andrzej "Andy" Olchawa, a space-focused offensive security professional, about the broader space cybersecurity attack surface. By considering all aspects of a space mission, both in orbit and on the ground, cybersecurity professionals can better understand where vulnerabilities exist and what measures can be taken to reduce risk. **#Podcast #TMinus**

Source: N2KCyberwire

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 research, and cybersecurity awareness training.
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