SPACE CYBERSECURITY WEEKLY WATCH

Week 12

March 18 – 24, 2025

Timeframe: Weekly

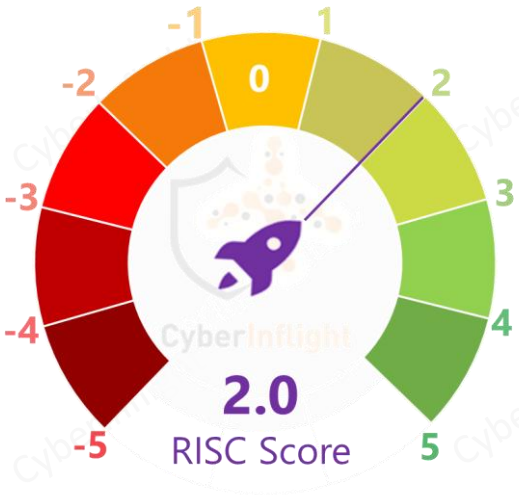
# of articles identified: 27

Est. time to read: 60 minutes

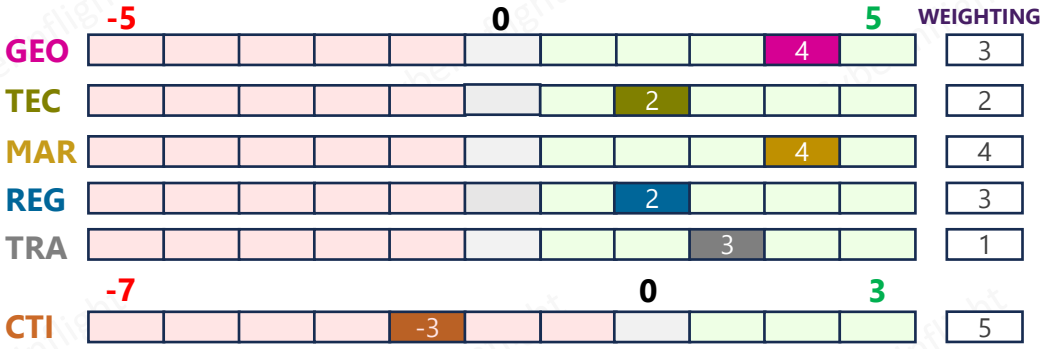
Articles, company's communications, whitepapers, academic works, podcast, and sources not to be missed on the topic of space cybersecurity over a specified timeframe.

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

RISC Score Assesment

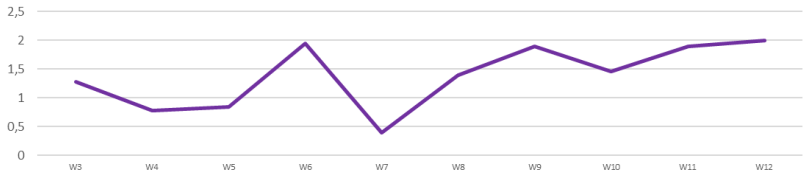


Overview & Resilience Index for Space Cybersecurity (RISC)



The RISC score for this watch is 2.0, a little increase from last week. This score is due to some positive geopolitical strategies, a high amount of news on the market, and few threats.

RISC Score evolution in 2025



This week's geopolitics news includes the 5th edition of the French military space exercise AsterX. Organized by the French Space Command (CDE), the event will bring together 170 French and foreign civilian and military participants at the Centre national d'études spatiales (CNES) in Toulouse from March 17 to 28. On the regulation front, while the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030 strengthens pan-European defense capabilities with new financial means, the White Paper frames a new approach to defense and identifies investment needs. On the market side, Liverpool City Region and Greater Manchester mayors have signed a groundbreaking agreement with Axiom Space, developer of the first commercial space station. On the threat intel side, a hacker group called Lab Dookhtegan said it had disrupted the communication networks of 116 ships belonging to two major Iranian shipping companies in one of the most significant attacks against Iranian maritime operations critical to oil sales. On the technical front, encryption of transmitted data is an ever-growing concern as more critical functions depend on safe and secure data links. Quantum encryption is specifically designed to detect if any third party is even trying to eavesdrop, with any interference automatically detected thanks to fundamental rules of quantum physics. Lastly, a research paper proposes a novel spoofing detection technique for the global navigation satellite system (GNSS), which leverages satellite trajectory information and array antenna-based direction of arrival (DoA) estimation.

GEOPOLITICS

AsterX 2025 : ensemble pour défendre l'espace (*Trad: AsterX 2025 : defending space together*)

From March 17 to 28, the fifth edition of the French military space exercise AsterX takes place. Organized by the French Space Command (CDE), the event will bring together 170 French and foreign civilian and military participants at the Centre national d'études spatiales (CNES) in Toulouse. **#AsterX2025 #CDE**

Link: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/commandement-de-lespace_asterx-ugcPost-7307381720683544577-KBay?rcm=ACoAACVjFHoBnJXMQv4pQkVRLVCw1GWctJMWTvU

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TECHNOLOGY

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Record-breaking quantum encryption link through micro-satellites achieved

Encryption of transmitted data is an ever-growing concern as more critical functions depend on safe and secure data links. In the context of military, diplomatic, or even business data, secure does not only mean ensuring that no one accesses the data but also knowing if any third party is even trying to eavesdrop. This is something that quantum encryption is specifically designed to do, with any interference being automatically detected thanks to fundamental rules of quantum physics. **#Encryption #Microsatellite**

Link: https://www.securities.io/record-breaking-quantum-encryption-link-through-micro-satellites-achieved/

REGULATION

Commission unveils the White Paper for European Defence and the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030

While the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030 strengthens pan-European defense capabilities with new financial means, the White Paper frames a new approach to defense and identifies investment needs. #**WhitePaper #EuropeanDefence**

Link: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_793

MARKET & COMPETITION

Mayors sign space deal to 'unlock billions' for North West

Liverpool City Region Mayor and Greater Manchester Mayor have signed a groundbreaking agreement with Axiom Space, developer of the first commercial space station. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will establish a framework for collaboration on space-based research, development, and manufacturing, helping to position the North West as a global centre for innovation in microgravity science and space technology. **#Collaboration #AxiomSpace**

Link: https://businesscloud.co.uk/news/mayors-sign-space-deal-to-unlock-billions-for-north-west/

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THREAT INTELLIGENCE

Cyber group says it disrupted Iranian shipping communications

A hacker group called Lab Dookhtegan said it has disrupted the communication networks of 116 ships belonging to two major Iranian shipping companies in one of the biggest attacks against Iranian maritime operations, critical to the country's oil sales. Some reports indicate that NITC's fleet relies on VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite technology for offshore coordination. **#LabDookhtegan #VSAT**

Link: https://www.iranintl.com/en/202503182119

TRAINING & EDUCATION

TRAINING & EDUCATION

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Robust GNSS spoofing detection based on prior information of satellite trajectories

In this paper, we propose a novel spoofing detection technique for the global navigation satellite system (GNSS), which leverages trajectory information of satellites and array antenna-based direction of arrival (DoA) estimation.

#Spoofing #Detector

Link: https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10827561

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