

JOINT STATEMENT: PARTNERSHIP ON COMBINED SPACE OPERATIONS

Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States have furthered their defense cooperation by establishing a partnership on combined space operations.

This combined space operations partnership among our armed forces enables sharing of space-related information and resources to synchronize space operations among the partners and to provide enhanced awareness of the space environment. In particular, the partnership will allow for more effective and coordinated use of their space capabilities through cooperation on activities such as identifying and understanding what objects are in space, ensuring uninterrupted satellite operations, and avoiding satellite collisions. Such activities will make a significant contribution towards a safer and more secure space environment while also enhancing mutual security.

Countries around the world now depend upon satellites for weather information, navigation, banking transactions, mapping, disaster relief, internet access, and many other functions necessary to a modern economy and lifestyle. Space is also crucial to our respective national securities with space-based capabilities providing our armed forces with the ability to operate and communicate around the globe and unparalleled understanding of the space environment.

The partnership demonstrates the continued dedication and strong commitment of the partners to encouraging the responsible and peaceful use of space for all.