Space Watch

2026-W48 · 23 Nov – 29 Nov 2026
Makani Lab · Space Watch
Orbital Warfare · SATCOM · SDA · PNT · Satellite Control · Missile Warning · ISR · EW

BLUF — Rule-based issue (the AI curation stage has not run for this week). Items below are the highest-scoring open-source reports from the last seven days, one section per mission area.

LAST 7 DAYS BY MISSION AREA · 228 ITEMS



- Orbital Warfare 12
- SATCOM 17
- Space Domain Awareness 21
- PNT / Navwar 6
- Missile Warning 19
- ISR 16
- Electronic Warfare 3
- Space Enterprise 134

RISING TERMS · 7D VS PRIOR

Iran		17 (+11.5)
Blue Origin		14 (+7)
debris		11 (+5.8)
budget		16 (+4.7)

BY THE NUMBERS · 7D

Orbital launches 4 (2 PRC, 2 US, 0 failed) · max Kp 5
GPS NANUs 2 (2 unusable) · reentries 21 (16 payloads)
Conjunctions < 1 km, next 7 d: 10,439 (7924 active pairs)
Space-Track emergency-reportable CDMs 34, TIP reentries 14 (0 high-interest)

COUNTERSPACE SPOTLIGHT — COSMOS 2553 / NUCLEAR ASAT · Russia · Cosmos 2553 (launched Feb 2022, 2,000 km 'radiation' orbit)

WHY NOW
Assessed platform for a nuclear ASAT capability that would indiscriminately disable LEO satellites; a 2024 UN resolution reaffirming the Outer Space Treaty was vetoed by Russia

CAPABILITIES / TTPS
—

IMPLICATIONS
—

MENTIONS, 30D · PACOM RELEVANCE

2 this week.

Orbital Warfare

Counterspace threats and space superiority: ASAT tests and weapons, co-orbital a

Tossing Fireworks from Cloud to Cloud

NASA news releases · 2026-11-16

For many astronauts, the spectacular sight of lightning stands out when looking back at Earth from the International Space Station.

PACOM · SPACECOM · AI & autonomy · Counterspace threat · CASC / CASIC (PRC state industry)

Russia and China grow space weapons arsenal, says ex-chief

UK Defence Journal · via TJFSCC Daily · 2026-11-22

Russia and China have increased their counterspace arsenals by 70% since 2021, the former head of UK Space Command told MPs and peers, calling Russia an irrational actor. The…

EUCOM · PACOM · Counterspace threat · Budget & policy

Missile Warning

Missile warning and tracking from space and ground: SBIRS and Next-Gen OPIR, res

Air Force Fires Minuteman III ICBM in Test Launch

Air & Space Forces Magazine · 2026-11-18

Air Force Global Strike Command launched an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile from Vandenberg Space Force Base, Calif., late Nov. 17, its first such test…

STRATCOM · PACOM · Nuclear & NC3 · Missile launches & tests

US launched unarmed ICBM test hours before Trump's Air Force One landed in China

South China Morning Post (China) · via TJFSCC Daily · 2026-11-18

The United States conducted an intercontinental ballistic missile test less than two hours before President Donald Trump landed in China on Wednesday for the Apec summit and a…

PACOM · STRATCOM · Missile launches & tests · Launch

Space Domain Awareness

Knowing what is on orbit and what the environment is doing: space surveillance a

European Hardware Takes Center Stage at Space Tech Expo

Payload · 2026-11-19

Europe is a region chock full of builders. At least, that's the vibe we got this week watching the news wire from Space Tech Expo in Bremen, Germany.

EUCOM · SPACECOM · Industrial base & supply chain · Debris & reentry

China's Growing Ambitions in Very Low Earth Orbit

War on the Rocks · 2026-11-22

A new front in the U.S.-Chinese space race is emerging in the lowest reaches of space: very low Earth orbit, the untapped orbital regime below 320 kilometers. There, China is…

PACOM · SPACECOM · Debris & reentry · Nuclear & NC3

ISR

Space-based intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance: tactical ISR from spa

Finland's Iceye bids €2 billion for Italian rocket maker Avio

Defense News (Space) · 2026-11-17

Finnish satellite operator Iceye made a €2 billion ($2.2 billion) cash offer for Italian rocket maker Avio on Tuesday, with the goal of creating an integrated European space and…

EUCOM · PACOM · Commercial integration · Launch

Space Enterprise

The service and the enterprise behind the mission areas: force design and organi

Space industrial base stretched thin amid low-orbit satellite constellation shift, GAO says

DefenseScoop · 2026-11-17

A new report recommends the Defense Department set up enterprise-wide management of its space acquisition industrial base.

SPACECOM · PACOM · Industrial base & supply chain · Organization & people · Protected Tactical (PTS/PTW/PTE)

Coons sees limits on Democrats' spending leverage, eyes Starshield hearing

Inside Defense · via TJFSCC Daily · 2026-11-20

HALIFAX, NS -- Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) said today that Democrats would use their new congressional majorities to try to constrain President Trump's foreign policy but warned the…

PACOM · EUCOM · Budget & policy · Proliferated LEO · Starlink / Starshield

Nothing significant this week: SATCOM · PNT / Navwar · Satellite Control · Electronic Warfare