

Academy News and Projects

Recent Publications from Reconsidering the Rules of Space Project

The Academy is pleased to announce the publication of two new occasional papers from its project on Reconsidering the Rules of Space. *Russian and Chinese Responses to U.S. Military Plans in Space*, written by Pavel Podvig (Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford

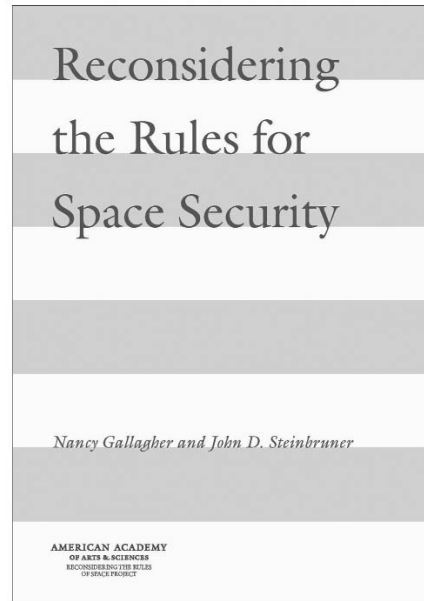
and that both nations are likely to respond to U.S. threats with “asymmetric” countermeasures, including reconsidering commitments to arms control agreements, developing anti-satellite weapons, extending the service life of ballistic missiles, and shifting political alignment. The authors conclude that none of these actions will benefit any nation’s security interests.

Reconsidering the Rules for Space Security, by Nancy Gallagher and John D. Steinbruner (both, Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland and University of Maryland), provides a comprehensive review of U.S. military plans for space, assesses the viability of U.S. policy to achieve “dominance” in space, and explores constructive alternatives. The authors assert the United States

should abandon current policies and instead support international negotiations that build upon the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, which was designed to address the central problems of space security in the twenty-first century. Gallagher presented the paper in April in Geneva at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, an autonomous institute within the United Nations that conducts research on disarmament and security issues.



University) and Hui Zhang (Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University), discusses the implications for Russia and China of current U.S. military plans to develop missile-defense systems and to seek military control of outer space. They argue that Russia and China have much to lose if the United States pursues the space weapons programs laid out in its military documents,



The Academy’s Reconsidering the Rules of Space project examines the implications of U.S. policy in space from a variety of perspectives and considers the international rules and principles needed to ensure a long-term balance of commercial, military, and scientific activities in space. It is developing a series of papers intended to inform public discussion of the legitimate uses of space and to stimulate further examination of U.S. official plans and policies in space. Other papers consider the physical laws governing the pursuit of security in space and challenges posed to the U.S. space program by current policies. ■