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Space and Nuclear Deterrence

Center on Contemporary Conflict

Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School

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The Center on Contemporary Conflict has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

The CCC's **Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD** is a program planning and implementation office, research center, and intellectual clearinghouse for the execution of future-oriented studies and dialogues for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASC research. For more information, please contact ccc@nps.edu.



Space and Nuclear Deterrence

Performer: The Stimson Center

Project Lead: Michael Krepon

Project Cost: \$85,003

Fiscal Year(s): 2012-2013

Demand:

Analytical product related to space deterrence is sparse and yet U.S. dependency on space assets for national and economic security is growing. Interest and capabilities related to space denial and space deterrence are also growing, particularly in China and Russia.

Objective:

The Stimson Center will lead an in-depth assessment comparing and contrasting space and nuclear deterrence. This project will enlist the participation of top-flight thinkers who have worked on space and deterrence issues within and outside of government, in think tanks, academia, and in military service. Stimson, a thought leader on space policy issues, will convene Distinguished Advisory Group of leading analysts in the field to help produce practical and policy-relevant analysis.

Approach:

The project lead will convene a Distinguished Advisory Group to sharpen and address questions such as: What key elements of nuclear deterrence are most applicable to space deterrence? What key elements are least applicable? Is the concept of extended deterrence also applicable to space? What declaratory, testing, deployment, or diplomatic policies are most likely to strengthen space deterrence?

The project will produce commissioned essays and a monograph highlighting areas of consensus, disagreement, and subjects deserving of additional analytical focus.

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