

Announcing: “Space Policies for the New Space Age: Competing in the Final Economic Frontier”

In “Space Policies for the New Space Age: Competing in the Final Economic Frontier,” by Bruce Cahan (Stanford Lecturer) and Mir Sadat (former White House Official) study how to transform existing and emerging U.S. space policies, legislation, and strategies into action plans that will ensure U.S. strategic leadership in space for the 2040-2060 timeframe.

In support of rolling out this Report, NewSpace New Mexico will host five webinars to delve into the substance of this study:

Webinar 1: The Great Game of Economics Afoot in Space (14 January 2021, 13:30-1500 EST)

In 2020, the COVID-19 Pandemic unleashed economic shockwaves that required and will require significant government stimulus and budget reallocations. Space has become a “critical infrastructure” to be built over numerous Presidential Administrations as a bipartisan priority. U.S. economic policies, federal programs using space assets and services and US competitive status need to delineate and pursue a wide range of economic, financial and other policies that will be persistent to establish global security and leadership for U.S. companies and the nation as a whole, through 2060. For comparison, China and its One-Belt-One-Road economic policies organize its national economic, political and national security activities to play for the long game. While the U.S. need not and should not become China or focus merely on competing with China, the Report describes the Great Game of Economic Systems illustrated in outer space competition.

Webinar 2: Positioning the US Companies to Compete in the Economic Great Game of Space (21 January 2021, 13:30-1500 EST)

The Report highlights strategies that the U.S. has developed for terrestrial purposes – such as inter-agency coordinating bodies, infrastructure finance and commodities exchanges – that can be adapted and used for space. Since the Industrial Age, the Transcontinental Railroad, the Interstate Highway System, the Internet and numerous other critical infrastructures were designed, built, financed and augmented through market-based mechanisms and public-private partnerships that served to spur U.S. ingenuity and innovators, and to fund those efforts with the goal of enhancing private ownership and investments, while diversifying the required risk-taking. This Webinar will review the Report’s numerous findings and recommendations that recall and extend such national strategies so that space assets can be designed, built, financed and serve immediate terrestrial users and prospective commercial and national security business models and government missions in Earth, cislunar, lunar and other orbits.

Webinar 3: Educating and Retraining Human Talent to Compete in the Economic Great Game of Space (28 January 2021, 13:30-1500 EST)

Just as the Digital Age is transforming the jobs required for the terrestrial industries and business processes of the 19th and 20th centuries, space and our reliance on space-based assets are changing daily life and the jobs tomorrow will require or inspire. STEM: Science Technology, Engineering and Math is foundational to filling the tens of thousands of jobs that the nation’s corporate, government and research activities will rely on to design, operate and use space assets and services. Numerous terrestrial jobs, such as

logistics, medicine, mining and telecommunications will need to retrain workers so that they can join in the growing space economy. Lags in U.S. STEM education, especially with Black, Hispanic, Indigenous, Disabled and other Under-represented persons (BHID&UR), need to be addressed so that the U.S. talent pool is competitive with the human capital being grown abroad.

Webinar 4: Innovation is a critical capability in great power competition. (4 February 2021, 13:30-1500 EST)

Innovators look at existing products, services and markets with an eye on disrupting access, cost, quality or a mixture of them. Innovators are creating the commercial space sector for dual use, and thereby grow the space sector's capabilities, and in turn, change preconceived procurement, license and government processes. The lag time between how fast innovators version their designs and business models, and how slow government can respond represent an opportunity for government. Reducing delay and uncertainty of government procurements and growing the pools of capital and funding can improve the success of innovators, while attracting talent to the space sector.

Webinar 5: Pragmatic Space Engagements with China for U.S. and its Allies and Key Partners (February 11, 2021, 13:30-15:00 EST)

Should the U.S. and its international Allies and Key Partners, demand that China level the playing field before we engage with them in space exploration and commercial activities? Should Chinese commitments to improve human rights (Uighurs, HK pro-democracy movement and supply chain concerns), restore ecosystem damage, and abide trade treaties be a factor in space collaboration? How do national space economic, scientific and national security goals help US and Allied policymakers transparently expose Chinese misbehavior so that China can be trusted as a collaborator? Can the U.S. credibly engage with Chinese in space, without losing its moral high ground on environmental and human rights and trade policy concerns?

Background Annually, the federal government assesses the State of the Industrial Base (SIB) relating to commercial and national security interests in outer space. For three days in May, 2020, government, industry, research and other leaders considered SIB issues, and generated a major report on their findings [available here](#). Significant findings and recommendations for specific policy and finance issues were developed in May by a smaller SIB working group and amplified in a Report researched and written over the past six months by Bruce Cahan of Stanford University and Mir Sadat, former Policy Director at the National Security Council. As the new Biden/Harris Administration takes up space policy and finance issues, Cahan and Sadat will present a summary of their Report and invite panelists and the general public to consider the timeliness, urgency and creativity of the Report's perspectives and recommendations.
