Executive Order 14369

Ensuring American Space Superiority

December 18, 2025

Overview

The Trump Administration released Executive Order 14369: Ensuring American Space Superiority on December 18, 2025. The Executive Order directs the federal government to pursue an integrated strategy that advanced exploration, strengthening of national defense, and acceleration of the commercial space industry. The order establishes three major milestones: returning Americans to the Moon by 2028, demonstrating next-generation missile defense by 2028, and establishing lunar outpost and nuclear power capabilities by 2030.

Key Policy Priorities

Exploration and Human Presence:

- Return Americans to the Moon by 2028 via NASA's Artemis Program to reinforce leadership and lay groundwork for Mars missions
- Establish a permanent lunar outpost by 2030 to maintain a sustained human presence on the moon
- Encourage sustainable, cost-effective launch and exploration infrastructure including partnership with commercial launch providers

Security and Defense:

- Develop and deploy next-generation missile defense prototypes by 2028, building on the "Iron Dome for American" directives
- Enhance capabilities to detect, characterize, and counter threats across low-Earth orbit through cislunar space, including possible nuclear placements
- Create an adaptive national security space architecture, reform acquisition processes to integrate commercial tech and involve new entrants
- Strengthening alliance and partner contributions through increased defense spending, cooperation, and joint infrastructure efforts

Commercial Space Economy:

- Attract at least **$50 B** in private investment by 2028
- Accelerate the pace of launches and re-entries supported by upgraded facilities and regulatory reforms
- Push for a commercial replacement of the International Space Station by 2030

Advanced Technologies and Infrastructure:

- Optimize R&D investments to support near-term objectives and maintain long-term technological leadership
- Deploy space nuclear power, including a reactor on the Moon and in orbit, with a lunar reactor launch ready by 2030
- Improve weather, climate, PNT (positioning, navigation, and timing) services via private-sector models
- Build necessary ground, orbital, and lunar infrastructure to support the growing space economy

Timeline

Deadline	Directives
Within 60 Days (2/16/26):	• **NASA**: Submit a detailed roadmap for returning American to the Moon by 2028 and establishing a lunar outpost by 2030. • **Commerce and NASA**: Conduct a joint review of major space program to identify budgetary and schedule risks, ensuring alignment with EO priorities • **Department of War:** Complete an assessment of defense and supply chain gaps related to space security, including vulnerabilities in satellite systems and launch infrastructure
Within 90 days (3/18/26):	• **All Agencies:** Must reform the acquisition process to accelerate integration of commercial technologies and reduce bureaucratic delays. • **Commerce and The Assistant to the President for Economic Policy: APDP, and heads of relevant agencies:** To assert spectrum leadership, which shall include considering opportunities for reapportioning and sharing spectrum • **APST:** To finalize and publish the updated Space Transportation Policy, incorporating feedback from industry and defense stakeholders.
Within 120 Days (4/17/26):	• **All Agencies:** Must reform the acquisition process to accelerate integration of commercial technologies and reduce bureaucratic delays. • **Commerce and The Assistant to the President for Economic Policy: APDP, and heads of relevant agencies:** To assert spectrum leadership, which shall include considering opportunities for reapportioning and sharing spectrum • **APST:** To finalize and publish the updated Space Transportation Policy, incorporating feedback from industry and defense stakeholders.
Within 180 Days (6/16/26):	• **DOW and National Security Agencies:** Implement a comprehensive space security strategy, including threat detection and countermeasure protocols • **DOW and State Department:** Strengthen alliance and international cooperation agreements, focusing on shared infrastructure and defense commitment • **Commerce and NASA:** Both agencies must reform their respective agency's space acquisition process to support the space priorities from this order, and to further support Executive Order 14271

What Does this Mean for Government?

For federal departments, mission agencies, and oversight bodies, this EO is a clear directive to accelerate coordination, decision-making, and implementation across all space-related missions

Key Takeaways for government agencies:

- **Faster Interagency Execution with Fewer Structural Bottleneck:** The EO revokes the National Space Council and consolidates implementations under OSTP
- **Commercial-First Strategy:** Agencies are expected to utilize commercial services rather than relying on government-built systems
- **Support the Growing Space Economy:** Agencies must follow an enabler mindset. As they must help enable increase launch cadences, oversee spectrum leadership, and prepare for the Commercial replacement of the ISS by 2030

The Executive Order pushes the federal government to act faster and embrace commercial solutions to best support the government commitment to space superiority through its 2028-2030 timeline

What Does This Mean for Industry?

For launch providers, satellite manufacturers, station developers, AI/data firms, and integrators supporting space programs, this EO provides the green light to move forward with faster scoping, proposals, and buildouts across LEO cislunar, and lunar surface missions.

Key takeaways for vendors:

- **Faster Contracting and Fewer Bottlenecks:** Agencies are explicitly directed to speed up acquisition processes and lean on commercial solutions
- **More Federal Demand and Capital Flow:** The EO targets at least $50B in new private investment by 2028, expanding market opportunities for hardware, software, launch, sensors, and in-space services
- **Acceleration of Launch, Reentry, and Infrastructure Projects:** With mandates to increase cadence and upgrade facilities, vendors can expect quicker approvals and more predictable windows
- **New Opportunities in Lunar Surface Systems:** The Push for a lunar outpost and nuclear power capability by 2030 creates openings for robotics, power systems, structures, and advanced materials
- **Commercial Space Station will Replace ISS by 2030:** Vendors are invited to contribute modules, platforms, life-support system, and LEO servicing for the new International Space Station.

The Executive Order removes friction, accelerates government buying cycles, and signals-long-term federal commitment to high-growth space infrastructure, rewarding vendors able to deliver fast, secure, and scalable solutions aligned with the 2028-2030 milestones.

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