|  |
| --- |
| *“The Coming Space Race: Implication for International Security,” In ISA 2018, San Francisco 4-8 April 2018* |

*Stefania Paladini*

Looking at the last two-three years, nobody would doubt that we are probably at the beginning of a new phase in space adventures. Not only there have been substantial scientific achievements and discoveries (ESA Rosetta Mission; Dawn spacecraft missions to the Asteroid Belt; New Horizons and the mapping of Pluto) but new actors have joined the race, in government-led missions (India with his MOM mission to Mars; China and the Yutu Mission to the Moon) and private endeavours (Space X and Blue Origin in their race to manufacture reusable rockets). Together with the opportunities, however, come the risks of these missions, especially in terms of a comprehensive security framework specifically thought for them. It is not a novelty that the countries’ legislations about space and international treaties (like the Outer Space Treaty of 1967) are scant and not suitable in a scenario with multiple actors and different, often competing interests. This paper aims at mapping the security implications - mainly, but not exclusively, in terms of NTSI - of the ongoing space race, outlining the inherent risks and presenting possible scenarios.