



National Reconnaissance Office
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NRO Launches Twelfth Proliferated Architecture Mission with NROL-105

1st of approximately a dozen NRO missions in 2026

CHANTILLY, Va. — The National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), in partnership with U.S. Space Force Space Launch Delta 30 and SpaceX, successfully launched the NROL-105 mission aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Space Launch Complex 4 East at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California on January 16, 2026, at 11:39 p.m. EST. The Falcon 9 first stage booster safely returned to Landing Zone 4 after delivering the national security payload to orbit.

Today's mission is the twelfth overall launch of the NRO's proliferated architecture and first of approximately a dozen NRO launches scheduled throughout 2026 consisting of proliferated and national security missions. Having hundreds of NRO satellites on orbit is critical to supporting our nation and its partners. This growing constellation enhances mission resilience and capability through reduced revisit times, improved persistent coverage, and accelerated processing and delivery of critical data.

Through sustained launch activity and accelerated deployment of next-generation systems, NRO fields the most advanced and capable government constellation our nation has ever delivered with hundreds of satellites now on orbit. Additional proliferated launches are planned through 2029, ensuring sustained growth and innovation.

For more than 60 years, the NRO has successfully met the needs of its U.S. intelligence, military, civil, and allied partners. It remains the world's leader in unique intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance systems. The NRO's next-generation systems will help ensure that the right data is delivered to the right user at the right time, faster than ever before.

Additional information on upcoming launches will be available at [NRO.gov/launch/](https://nro.gov/launch/).

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Ever since its inception at the dawn of the space age more than 60 years ago, the NRO has brought the farthest reaches of the planet into our grasp — to see it, hear it, and sense it. Today, the NRO is building on that legacy of innovation, harnessing the limitless potential of space to make our nation even safer and stronger. Learn more at [NRO.gov](https://nro.gov).