

NRO

NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE



ABOVE_{AND} BEYOND

THE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA'S
INTELLIGENCE ADVANTAGE AND
STRENGTH IN SPACE



NRO History

The NRO was founded in 1961 with the goal of leveraging space to enhance America's national security and strategic advantage. It has been at the forefront of innovation ever since.

When the NRO was established at the height of the Cold War, it was tasked with the most challenging national security problem of the time – use satellites to analyze the Soviet Union's military forces and prevent a nuclear war. For its first 30 years, the NRO was a covert organization – it was not publicly acknowledged until 1992.

Today the NRO is part of both the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community. Its systems collect and deliver the world's best space-based intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance information. Cutting-edge technologies provide more information, faster than ever before, so partners can get the vital intelligence they need, right when they need it.

NRO:

Finding better, faster ways to collect and deliver critical information that can only be obtained from the vantage point of space.

Ever since our inception at the dawn of the space age more than 60 years ago, the NRO has developed tools and techniques that bring the farthest reaches of the planet into our grasp – to **see it, to hear it, to 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.

NRO Impact

Millions of people depend on NRO capabilities every day. Satellites and other space-based sensors collect data that provide important national security information to decision makers, policymakers, and warfighters. They are often the only tools able to access hostile territory or rugged terrain, and they can collect critical information without risking human lives or infringing on other nations' territorial sovereignty.

The NRO also serves more than half a million government users, providing data and imagery to two dozen domestic agencies. Scientists have used NRO imagery to predict climate change, assess crop production, map habitats of endangered species, track oil spills, and study wetlands. NRO resources are also used to assess areas affected by natural disasters like wildfires and earthquakes and guide humanitarian relief.

Join Us

The NRO is investing heavily in recruiting and retaining a dynamic team that represents the diversity of our country, while creating a workplace where everyone feels valued and respected.

Diversity of thought and experience has been inherent in the NRO since its founding, and it will continue to be a source of strength, innovation, and resilience in the future.

To learn more about NRO employment opportunities, please visit

[NRO.gov/careers/](https://www.nro.gov/careers/)

For information on starting a business relationship with the NRO, please visit

[NRO.gov/work-with-nro/](https://www.nro.gov/work-with-nro/)



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