



NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

Est. 1961

The NRO is the
best in the world
at providing overhead intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance to more than 500,000 government users—including every member of the Intelligence Community, two dozen domestic agencies, our nation's military, lawmakers, and decision makers.



OUR MISSION

NRO develops and operates the world's most capable and innovative overhead reconnaissance systems to collect intelligence for U.S. national security, and to support disaster relief and humanitarian efforts.

OUR LOCATIONS

Headquartered in Chantilly, Va., NRO maintains ground stations at Buckley Space Force Base, Colo.; Fort Belvoir, Va.; White Sands Missile Range, N.M.; as well as a presence in Australia and the United Kingdom. NRO has launch offices at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Fla., and Vandenberg Space Force Base, Calif.

OUR PEOPLE

NRO consists of ~3,000 personnel, jointly staffed by its own cadre workforce, members of the armed services, DoD civilians, Intelligence Community officers, and independent contractors. The NRO is led by Dr. Chris Scolese, the organization's first Senate-confirmed director.

OUR AUTHORITIES

The NRO director reports to both the director of national intelligence and the secretary of defense, and operates under both Title 10 and Title 50 authorities. NRO receives taskings for its assets from functional managers (e.g. director NSA is the functional manager for Signals Intelligence, director NGA is the functional manager for Geospatial Intelligence). Functional managers—not the NRO—are responsible for setting and prioritizing collection requirements for NRO assets.

OUR HISTORY

The NRO—one of 18 Intelligence Community members—was established in September 1961 as a classified agency in the Department of Defense. The existence of the NRO and its mission were declassified in September 1992.

The first publicly acknowledged NRO satellite launch took place at Vandenberg Space Force Base in December 1996 on a Titan IV rocket. Today, NRO continues to launch from Vandenberg as well as Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, NASA's Wallops Flight Facility, and the Mahia Peninsula in New Zealand.

NRO has declassified several programs and more information is available at NRO.gov.



DID YOU
KNOW?

NROL-111:

- NRO's second launch in 2021
- NRO's second dedicated launch from NASA's Wallops Flight Facility
- NRO's third launch on a Minotaur rocket

Hear more from NRO:

- SmallSat Conference, Aug. 7-12, 2021
- Space Symposium, Aug. 22-26, 2021
- INSA-AFCEA Intelligence & National Security Summit, Sept. 13-14, 2021
- GEOINT Symposium, Oct. 5-8, 2021

Seeking proposals in June 2021:

The Director's Innovation Initiative (DII) seeks novel, low-maturity technology proposals from industry, academia, and U.S. government sources, including small businesses, disadvantaged businesses and non-traditional vendors. The DII program will fund up to \$500k for projects with the potential to mature and integrate into NRO capabilities for future national security needs. For detailed program announcements visit:
<https://acq.westfields.net/>

UPCOMING
ENGAGEMENTS



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