

# Russia launched anti-satellite weapon capable of attacking other space probes, US claims

Russia may have launched a satellite that is capable of inspecting and attacking other space probes, US officials claimed.

The Soyuz rocket was launched from Plesetsk on May 16 with a low-Earth orbit on at least nine satellites — including the COSMOS 2576, an “inspector” spacecraft that stateside authorities previously slammed for displaying poor space behavior, the US Space Command announced.

“We have observed nominal activity and assess it is likely a counterspace weapon presumably capable of attacking other satellites in low-Earth orbit,” a US Space Command spokesperson said in a statement.

“Russia deployed this new counterspace weapon into the same orbit as a U.S. government satellite,” the statement warned.

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