

Benjamin M. Staats

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Research Interests	Space Policy, Strategy, and Security; International Relations; International Security; Deterrence in Space; Space Weapons; Grand Strategy; Military Strategy; Military Effectiveness and Innovation; Causes and Prevention of War; Science and Technology Policy
Education	<i>University of Pittsburgh</i>, Pittsburgh, PA: Ph.D. in International Affairs (in-progress), 2028 - expected <i>George Washington University</i>, Washington D.C.: M.A. in International Science and Technology Policy, 2022 Space Policy <i>Air Command and Staff College, Air University</i>, Montgomery, AL: M.A. in Operational Art and Science, Air University, 2020 Schriever Space Scholar Program <i>Columbus State University</i>, Columbus, GA: M.S. in Organizational Leadership, 2014 <i>James Madison University</i>, Harrisonburg, VA: B.S. with Honors in Health Sciences, 2009
Peer-Reviewed Publications	“Space Weaponization: Reexamining the Historical Air Analogy to Space,” <i>Æther: A Journal of Strategic Airpower & Spacepower</i> 2, Special Edition (2023): 31-44. “Mind the Gap: Space Resiliency Advantages of High-Altitude Capabilities,” <i>Joint Force Quarterly</i> 109 (2023): 74-84. “Mitigating Security Risks and Potential Threats of Emerging Rendezvous and Proximity Operations,” <i>Astropolitics</i>, 20, no. 1 (2022): 64-92. “The Adaptable Emphasis Leadership Model: A More Full Range of Leadership,” <i>Servant Leadership: Theory and Practice</i> 2, no. 2 (2015): 12-26.
Other Writing	“Enduring Challenge: U.S. Allies Must Learn to Operate in a Congested Space Debris Environment,” <i>Apogee</i> 2, no. 3 (2025): 16-19.

“Want Competitive Endurance? Focus on Maneuver in Space,” *Breaking Defense*, February 12, 2025.

“Exotic Space Warfare: Military Importance of Sustained Maneuver,” *The Aerospace Corporation Center for Space Policy and Strategy*, December 12, 2024. (with Katherine Melbourne and Thomas G. Roberts)

“There’s No Perfect Space Traffic Management Framework,” *SpaceNews*, June 23, 2022.

“Economic Research Working Paper No. 71: Innovations in the Exploration of Outer Space,” *UN World Intellectual Property Organization* (WIPO), April 1, 2022. (with Henry Hertzfeld and George Leaua)

“Don’t Wait for a Disaster: Industry-Led Space Traffic Management,” *SpaceNews*, December 15, 2021.

“Lessons Learned for a Tank Company at Joint Readiness Training Center,” *Armor: Mounted Maneuver Journal*, October 1, 2016.

**Conference
Presentations
& Invited
Talks**

“Debating National Security Space on Exotic Space Warfare: Military Importance of Sustained Maneuver.” George Washington University Space Policy Institute and the Aerospace Corporation, August 29, 2024.

“Aether: The Podcast - Season 2 Ep. 1. Space Weaponization: Reexamining the Historical Air Analogy to Space.” Air University Public Affairs, February 9, 2024.

“Defense Technology Seminar.” MIT Lincoln Labs nominative classified conference, April 2023.

“Space: The Final Frontier.” Education for Public Inquiry and International Citizenship (EPIIC) International Symposium hosted by Tufts University Institute for Global Leadership, April 1, 2022.

**Professional
Experience**

United States Space Command
Aide-de-Camp/Military Advisor to the Deputy Commander, January 2024 – June 2025
Chief, Campaigning and Assessments, June 2022 – January 2024

United States Army 1st Space Brigade
Army Space Support Team Leader, June 2018 – June 2019

United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command
Executive Officer, Operations, July 2017 – June 2018

United States Army 1st Armored Division
Company Commander, January 2016 – July 2017
Operations Officer & Operations Planner, January 2015 – January 2016

United States Army 316th Cavalry Regiment
Plans Officer, April 2013 – December 2013

United States Army 3rd Infantry Division
Platoon Leader and Brigade Adjutant, July 2012 – March 2013
Executive Officer, June 2011 – June 2012
Platoon Leader, January 2010 – June 2011

Awards and Honors

Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Department of Defense, 2025
Command Innovation Award, United States Space Command, 2022
Thacher Prize for Outstanding Publication in Space Policy, Runner-Up, 2022
Schriever Space Scholar Graduate, United States Space Force, 2020
Meritorious Service Medal, United States Army, 2017
German Armed Forces Badge of Proficiency in Bronze, 2012
Distinguished Military Graduate, United States Army, 2009
Madison Scholar, James Madison University, 2006 – 2007
Dean's List, James Madison University, 2005 – 2009

Service

Volunteer, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, 2015-2019

Professional Associations

Member, Association of the United States Army (AUSA)