

Russia's Middle East Space Offensive

by [Anna Borshchevskaya \(/experts/anna-borshchevskaya\)](/experts/anna-borshchevskaya), [Sabina Henneberg \(/experts/sabina-henneberg\)](/experts/sabina-henneberg)

Sep 24, 2024

Also published in *National Interest*

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Anna Borshchevskaya \(/experts/anna-borshchevskaya\)](/experts/anna-borshchevskaya)

Anna Borshchevskaya is a senior fellow at The Washington Institute, focusing on Russia's policy toward the Middle East.



[Sabina Henneberg \(/experts/sabina-henneberg\)](/experts/sabina-henneberg)

Sabina Henneberg is a 2023-24 Soref Fellow at The Washington Institute and director of the Junior Research Program.



Articles & Testimony

Moscow's space cooperation with Tunisia could complicate U.S. attempts to develop norms for space travel, communication, and exploration.

In the background of Russia's war on Ukraine and continual conflicts across the Middle East, Moscow is quietly expanding space collaboration with the region. Its recent partnership with Tunisia is a small piece of a bigger picture unfolding across the Middle East, where Russia is utilizing all instruments of power to enhance its influence. Although most Western attention focuses on Russia's hard power, Moscow's use of space collaboration as an instrument of slow-moving soft power also merits attention. In 2019, Tunisia signed a deal with two Russian companies, SPUTNIX and GK Launch Services, to launch thirty satellites by 2023. Building on this agreement, in March 2021, Tunisia launched its first satellite, Challenge One, aboard Russia's Soyuz-2 from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan...

[Read the full article on the National Interest website.](#)

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/russia%E2%80%99s-middle-east-space-offensive-212918> ❖

RECOMMENDED



BRIEF ANALYSIS

[New Exposé on Sudani PMO Eavesdropping is Suppressed, but Archived Online](#)

Sep 25, 2024



Michael Knights

[\(/policy-analysis/new-expose-sudani-pmo-eavesdropping-suppressed-archived-online\)](#)



BRIEF ANALYSIS

[Improving Egypt-Israel Relations in the Shadow of Gaza](#)

Sep 24, 2024



David Schenker,

Assaf Orion

[\(/policy-analysis/improving-egypt-israel-relations-shadow-gaza\)](#)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

[Reminder: The Hostages \(or: Why an 'All for All' Deal Doesn't Help Them\)](#)

Sep 24, 2024



David Makovsky

[\(/policy-analysis/reminder-hostages-or-why-all-all-deal-doesnt-help-them\)](#)

TOPICS

[Great Power Competition \(/policy-analysis/great-power-competition\)](#)

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

