

USSPACECOM Commander speaks to USAWC students about the importance of space in multi-domain warfare

By Elena Patton, Public Affairs Office 27 January 2022



Gen. James Dickinson, the USSPACECOM commander, spoke with USAWC students virtually about the importance of space and how it supports the military working in the land-sea domains, Jan. 25.

The Army War College educates future senior leaders to remain at the forefront of multi-domain warfare, ensuring students engage with leaders from each domain. The USSPACECOM commander talked with students virtually about the importance of space and how it supports the military working in the land-sea domains, Jan. 25.

Gen. James Dickinson, a 2005 USAWC graduate, assumed command in 2020 of the nation's most recently established unified combatant command. His presentation centered on two themes: the role of space in everyday life and the importance of the whole-of-government approach when dealing with space and its national security implications.

Space impacts all instruments of power—defense, information, military, and economics. Many of our daily activities are enabled by satellites, such

as getting gas at the pump, maintaining money out of the ATM, and operating our smart devices. Dickinson made it clear that everything that USSPACECOM does in space supports Soldiers and service members in other domains, land, sea, air, and cyber. Space supports joint, global operations.

There are 16 spacefaring nations, but, as in other domains, China and Russia remain the U.S.'s greatest competitors using electronic warfare capabilities with lasers and jammers. He discussed current events and their implications, China launching their space station, and the memorandum of understanding between Russia and China about lunar space exploration. Protecting space requires using every instrument of power.

Like the Army, the Space Force focuses on talent management, explained Dickinson. A focus on STEM expertise and putting the right people in the right jobs at the right time will allow the U.S. to leverage its instruments of power and remain a leader in the space domain, he noted.