



**American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics**  
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## Aerospace News

January 26, 2017  
[www.aiaahouston.org/iac/#news](http://www.aiaahouston.org/iac/#news)

AIAA Houston Section International Activities Committee (IAC) mirrors the AIAA IAC.

## Sister Sections since 2007

l'Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France (3AF)  
3AF MP ([www.3af-mp.fr](http://www.3af-mp.fr)) *Philippe Maïret*  
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[*AIAA Industry News*, 25 January 2017]

Defense One reports that “China is moving boldly ahead” with space exploration efforts, planning its most-ever launches this year and laying out an ambitious agenda for decades to come. The country has scheduled 30 launches this year, surpassing the 21 it conducted last year. According to a quinquennial report from the China National Space Administration (CNSA), this year alone the country plans to launch “its first-ever cargo spacecraft” and “land a rover [on] the far side of the moon.” In 2020, China plans to land a rover on Mars, and “**Chinese space officials have said they would put astronauts on the moon by the mid-2030s.**” Wu Yanhua, deputy chief of the CNSA, said, “Our overall goal is that, by around 2030, China will be among the major space powers of the world.” According to analysts, the program is currently **about a decade behind those of the US and Russia, and about on par with Europe’s.** [*More from Defense One...*]

Image *credits*: Wikipedia. **Panda**: By *Chen Wu* from Shanghai, China. **Map**: A 2009 population density map of the People's Republic of China. The eastern coastal provinces are much more densely populated than the western interior.

## The Space Program of China

AIAA Houston Section and the SAS (Shanghai Astronautical Society) of the CSA (Chinese Society of Astronautics) became sister sections in 1987 thanks in large part to the work of the late NASA/JSC leader James C. McLane, Jr. Chris Taylor and Marlo Graves later joined that work and then moved on. If our NASA/JSC community includes people with interest in carrying on that tradition, please *contact* AIAA Houston Section.

