

Dr. Gregory Falco, Aerospace Engineering Professor, Cornell University



Dr. Gregory Falco is an assistant professor at Cornell University in the Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the Systems Engineering Program, where he directs the Aerospace ADVERSARY Lab. His research focuses on the security and resilience of space systems and uncrewed aerial systems (UAS). He designs and tests aerospace systems for contested environments, with a focus on vulnerabilities arising from foreign-sourced components, supply chains, and onboard data and communications systems in critical aerospace and defense systems.

Dr. Falco identifies and mitigates risks introduced by components originating from the People's Republic of China (PRC), including data exfiltration, remote access, and system manipulation. He has led and supported research programs with DARPA, the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), the U.S. Space Force, and NASA on space system security and autonomous systems. He has also contributed to U.S. congressional efforts on research security, including support to the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party's investigation into PRC-linked dual-use research infrastructure in the Arctic, including activities in Iceland and Svalbard. He serves as Chair of IEEE's international standard on space system cybersecurity and as NATO Country Director for the HEIST program on hybrid space and subsea cable communications infrastructure.

Prior to joining Cornell, Dr. Falco was an assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University, with a joint appointment at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory. He currently serves as a visiting scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and is a Fellow at NORAD and U.S. Northern Command's Homeland Defense Institute. He is the recipient of the DARPA Young Faculty Award and the DARPA RISER Award, and was recognized in Forbes 30 Under 30 for his work in cybersecurity. Dr. Falco received his Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, his master's degree from Columbia University, and his bachelor's degree from Cornell University.

Dr. Falco has not previously testified before the Commission.