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Will high-altitude long-endurance (HALE) UAVS replace satellites?

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The types, sizes, missions, and capabilities of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) have expanded at increasing speed since the last 10 years and States that the budged of R&D to this technology have been increased. States seek further ways to the mission of satellites especially communication and surveillance due to highly price and difficulty of maintaining satellites. Solar-powered, long-endurance UAVs can remain in the atmosphere for many years. After production of (HALE UAVs), High-Altitude Long-Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, States began to discuss functions which are provided by the satellites. HALE UAVs can perform more cost-effective, moreover, development of anti-satellite missile in the military field revealed the necessity of questioning the security of satellites. No longer had that Satellite become clear target against threats, so states should search for new secure system or provide security of satellites. So, states have begun researching alternatives to space-based platforms. The purpose of this research is especially about usability of the HALE UAVs replace of satellites, interoperability, and about advantages and disadvantages of these systems. Also, it is investigated that which level can be used and can be used in which context and reveals by the SWOT analysis.

Biography

Lt. Abdullah Kaya graduated from Department of Electronic Engineering of Turkish Air Force Academy. During his graduation period, he was assigned to 4th MJB where he became an F-16 pilot, from his 2nd Main Jet Base (MJB). He is a Student Officer in Turkish Air War College in Istanbul. He has published a few papers in local military organizations.

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