Intelligence and National Security in a Changing World Conference Schedule

Day 1: Thursday, July 23

10:45 – 11:15	**Registration at Cripps Court, Magdalene College**
11:15 – 11:45	***Welcome Remarks*: Sir David Omand**
11:45 – 12:45	**Keynote 1: *Why Hard Power Still Matters***
	Lt. Gen. (ret) Doug Chalmers in conversation with Prof Brendan Simms
	Chair: Prof Brendan Simms
12:45 – 14:00	***Buffet Lunch***
14:00 – 15:15	**Keynote 2: *Fireside Chat with Lord Jonathan Evans***
	Chair: Prof David Gioe
15:15 – 15:45	***Refreshments***
15:45 – 17:00	**Panel: *Living and Fighting on Russia's Bloody Borders***
	Speakers: Natia Gvenetadze, Dr Yevgeniya Gaber
	Chair: Prof David Gioe
19:00	**Drinks Reception**
	and
19:30	**Conference Dinner at St John's College**



Conference Schedule

Day 2: Friday, July 24

09:00 – 09:30	***Refreshments and Welcome***
09:30 – 10:30	**Panel: *The Iran War and Regional Reverberations***
	Speakers: Dr Renad Mansour, Dr Burcu Ozcelik
	Chair: Prof Mike Goodman
10:30 – 10:45	***Break***
10:45– 12:00	**Panel: *Risks and Opportunities in the Levant, the Sahel, and South Asia***
	Speakers: Dr Dina Rezk, Gala Riani, Dr Sumitha Kutty
	Chair: Dr David Oakley
12:00 – 13:00	***The Intelligence Shift: Leveraging OSINT for Munition & Conflict Tracking***
	Speakers: Taylor Reid, Raphaela Lark
	Chair: Callum MacDonald
13:00 – 14:15	***Buffet Lunch***
14:15 – 15:30	**Panel: *China and Indo-Pacific Security Matters***
	Speakers: Angus Knowles-Cutler, Mark Logan, Dr Philip Shetler-Jones
	Chair: David Ludlow
15:30 – 16:00	**Refreshments**
16:00 – 17:15	**Panel: *Hybrid Threats in an Age of Geopolitical Crisis***
	Speakers: Belen Carrasco Rodiguez, Charlie Edwards, Dr Louise Hurel
	Chair: Dr Thomas Maguire
17:15 – 17:30	***Closing Remarks:* Prof David Gioe, Prof Michael Goodman**

Speakers

Belén Carrasco Rodríguez

Belén Carrasco Rodríguez is Programme Director at the Centre for Information Resilience, where she directs projects on influence operations and threats to national security. She is also Director of Intelligence at corporate intelligence firm True North and advises European and Latin American governments on hybrid threats and hostile activity below the threshold of armed conflict. She also lectures on Nebrija University's MA in Intelligence and Cyberintelligence in Madrid.

From 2022 to 2025, Belén ran CIR's Eyes on Russia project, supporting dozens of war crimes prosecutions with Ukraine's Office of the Prosecutor General. Before joining CIR, she served at the NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence and was Associate Director at the open-source intelligence consultancy Neon Century.

Lt Gen (ret) Doug Chalmers

Doug Chalmers became the Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge on 1 October 2021. He came to the College from Whitehall where, as a Lieutenant General, he had been the Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Military Strategy and Operations) for the Ministry of Defence. An appointment that completed a period of Army service that began in 1984 when he enlisted as a Private Soldier in the infantry. Over those years he witnessed the end of the Cold War, the breakup of Yugoslavia, a UN mission in Cambodia, 9/11 and its aftermath, the rise and fall of ISIS and a pandemic.

In addition to serving as the Master of Emmanuel College, Doug holds the positions of Chair of the Ethics and Integrity Commission and Chair of the Management Committee for the University's Centre for Geopolitics.

Angus Knowles-Cutler

Angus is a trustee of the Cambridge Security Initiative and served for six years as chairman of Deloitte's London offices. He is a Cambridge history graduate and also chaired Deloitte's China-Europe practice where he worked with a number of major Chinese clients and senior policymakers. He is now a writer and his debut spy novel SHOCK THERAPY, written under a pseudonym, was recently picked by The Times as its 'Thriller of the Month'.

His current projects include the SPY CITIES podcast. Produced by Chatterbox Audio, he co-hosts with David Ludlow. A weekly on-location exploration of the world's greatest centres of espionage in fact and fiction, the show features a number of CSi veterans.

Sir Richard Dearlove

Sir Richard Dearlove is the former Master of Pembroke College Cambridge. He served as Chief (known as 'C') of the British Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) from August 1999 until his retirement in July 2004. For the preceding five years he was Director of Operations and, from 1998, Assistant Chief. As Director of Finance, Administration and Personnel he also oversaw the move of SIS into its Headquarter Building at Vauxhall Cross in 1994. He is a career intelligence officer of thirty-

eight years standing and has served in Nairobi, Prague, Paris, Geneva and Washington as well as in a number of key London-based posts.

Charlie Edwards

Charlie Edwards is a national security expert specialising in strategic risk, hybrid warfare and civil defence. His research explores the growing role of proxies, influence operations and emerging technologies in international security. He has worked as a government strategist and in intelligence assessment. He is the host of The Assessment – a new IISS podcast examining the geopolitical questions that matter most.

Jonathan Evans (Lord Evans of Weardale)

Jonathan Evans served as Director General of MI5 from 2007 to 2013, leading the UK's domestic intelligence service through a period marked by evolving terrorist threats and the growing challenge of hostile state activity. He joined MI5 in 1980 and held a range of senior operational and leadership roles, including Director of International and Director General Strategy, before becoming Director General. Following his public service career, he has held senior roles in the private and charitable sectors, including as Chair of the Committee on Standards in Public Life and Chair of the HALO Trust. He was educated at the University of Bristol.

Dr Yevgeniya Gaber

Dr. Yevgeniya Gaber is a Ukrainian foreign policy expert, Professor of National Security at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, and a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council.

An expert in European and Black Sea security, she focuses on geopolitical dynamics in the wider Black Sea region, with particular emphasis on Ukraine, Russia, and Türkiye. Her current research examines Russia's way of war and cognitive warfare against Ukraine and the West.

Yevgeniya's professional experience spans academia, diplomacy, and the think-tank community. She has served as a foreign policy advisor to the Prime Minister of Ukraine, Deputy Director of the Diplomatic Academy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, and a diplomat at the Embassy of Ukraine in Ankara.

Prof David Gioe

David Gioe is a Visiting Professor of Intelligence and International Security in the Department of War Studies and was formerly Associate Professor of History at the US Military Academy at West Point, where he also served as History Fellow for the Army Cyber Institute. David is Director of Studies for the Cambridge Security Initiative and co-convener of its International Security and Intelligence program. He holds an MA from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and a PhD from the University of Cambridge. Professor Gioe's national security career has spanned a quarter century of military and civilian intelligence service. He is a former CIA analyst and operations officer and a US Navy veteran.

PROF MICHAEL GOODMAN

Michael S. Goodman, PhD, FRHistS, FAcSS, is Professor of 'Intelligence and International Affairs' and the Director of the King's Centre for the Study of Intelligence. He is a former Head of the Department of War Studies, King's College London. He is currently Visiting Professor at the Norwegian Intelligence School and at Sciences Po in Paris, and is a Senior Fellow at RAND. He has published widely in the field of intelligence history, sits on the Editorial Bords of all the main intelligence journals, and is series editor for 'Intelligence, Surveillance and Secret Warfare' for Edinburgh University Press. He has spent many years on secondment to the Cabinet Office, where he has been the Official Historian of the Joint Intelligence Committee: Volume II will be published in 2027. He is a British army reservist and currently on secondment to the FCDO.

NATIA GVENETADZE

Natia Gvenetadze is a security policy professional with over twenty years of experience in Georgian security sector. She served in a range of leading positions at the Ministry of Defence of Georgia and the Office of the National Security Council of Georgia. Her professional work has focused on defence and security policy, elaboration of national strategic-level documents, NATO-Georgia cooperation, professional military education, and institutional development. Following the Georgian government's decision to suspend progress toward European Union accession, she left public service. Currently she is an Assistant Professor at the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA) and Visiting Professor at various universities in Tbilisi. She holds a Master's degree in International Security and Strategy from King's College London and is pursuing her PhD in Political Science at the University of Georgia. Ms. Gvenetadze has also completed a Senior Strategic Leadership Course in International Affairs, Security and Strategy at the Royal College of Defense Studies (RCDS) and has acquired an international qualification in Learning and Development (L&D) from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD).

DR LOUISE HUREL

Dr Louise Marie Hurel is a Senior Research Fellow at RUSI's Cyber and Tech team, where her work focuses on responsible cyber behaviour, cyber diplomacy and non-governmental actors' engagement in cyber security. Prior to joining RUSI, she led Igarapé Institute's Digital Security Program, coordinating efforts to connect national, regional and international cyber policy discussions and worked as a consultant for the United Nations on cyber and data security. She is a Senior Research Associate at Virtual Routes and an advisory board member of the Global Forum of Cyber Expertise (GFCE), Carnegie Endowment's Partnership for Countering Influence Operations (PCIO) and the Centre for Information Resilience (CIR). In 2024, Louise was appointed as civil society expert in Brazil's inaugural National Cyber Committee and, in 2022, she founded the Latin American Cybersecurity Research Network (LA/CS Net). She holds a PhD on Data, Networks and Society and a MSc in Media and Communications from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

DR SUMITHA KUTTY

Dr Sumitha Narayanan Kutty is a geopolitics and international security expert passionate about strategic decision-making in a contested world. She has over 15 years' experience working with

government, think-tanks, academia and media across the UK, Singapore, US and India. She is currently a senior analyst at a digital risk advisory firm based in London and affiliated with the Centre for Statecraft and National Security (formerly Centre for Grand Strategy) at King's College London, where she also teaches in the War Studies and Defence Studies departments.

Sumitha was a Leverhulme Doctoral and Post-doctoral Fellow at KCL War Studies from 2020-25 and a research fellow at RSIS Singapore before that. Her academic work focuses on security, foreign policy and rising powers with an empirical lens on India, the Middle East and wider Indo-Pacific, including extensive fieldwork. Her PhD investigated Indian military interventionism through the lens of experiential learning—governmental, organisational and leadership—using elite interviews and archival research. She has published in peer-reviewed journals such as International Studies Quarterly, International Politics, The Washington Quarterly and Asia Policy, is co-editor of India and Japan: Assessing the Strategic Partnership and her expert commentary featured on Bloomberg, Lawfare, Channel News Asia, 9DashLine, The Diplomat, South Asian Voices, The Hindu and Hindustan Times. Sumitha holds multiple degrees in journalism from India and a master's degree in security studies from Georgetown University, USA.

Raphaela Lark

Raphaela Lark manages METIS, Fenix Insight's open-source intelligence system, which provides verified intelligence on conflict, post-conflict, and instability contexts. She combines OSINT and research expertise with field experience in Lao PDR, Peru, Lebanon, Cambodia, Abkhazia, Somaliland, Somalia, and Nagorno-Karabakh, including previous work with The HALO Trust and an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Level 3 certificate. Her research for organisations including the United Nations Development Programme and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining focuses on translating complex conflict data into practical insights for mine action, humanitarian, defence, and policy audiences. In this panel, she will discuss how verified conflict data can support clearance prioritisation, civilian harm analysis, and preparedness for future conflicts.

Mark Logan

Mark Logan is a former British Member of Parliament for Bolton North East (2019–2024), he served under Johnson, Truss, Sunak as Parliamentary Private Secretary for the Northern Ireland Office and Dept for Work and Pensions.

A specialist in UK-China relations, he previously served as Head of Communications at the British Consulate-General in Shanghai and is fluent in Mandarin. He holds degrees from Queen's University Belfast, LSE, the University of Oxford, and Peking University.

Logan was Vice-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on China, Japan and Chair of the Afghanistan group.

He has spoken at high-level forums on geopolitics, national security, and international affairs, throughout Asia and Europe, including previous Cambridge Security Initiative events.

David Ludlow

David Ludlow is a former diplomat and investment banker whose career has focused on Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and the Middle East. His diplomatic roles included serving in Moscow at the end of the Soviet era, and spending two years as a member of the international peace

negotiation team on the former Yugoslavia. After a switch in career paths, he advised a wide range of governments on privatisations and capital raising. He co-authored *British Foreign Policy after Brexit* (2017) and has recently become a trustee of the Cambridge Security Initiative.

Dr Thomas Maguire

Dr Thomas Maguire is an Assistant Professor of Intelligence and Security in the Institute of Security and Global Affairs, Leiden University, and Visiting Fellow with the King's Intelligence and Security Group in the Department of War Studies, King's College London. Dr Maguire's research streams are two-fold. Firstly, he is interested in interactions between intelligence and propaganda in international politics, especially examining covert influence and intelligence disclosures as policy tools. This forms the basis for a recent article on intelligence disclosures during the Russia-Ukraine Crisis and a forthcoming book with Oxford University Press, *The Intelligence-Propaganda Nexus: British and American Covert Influence in Cold War Southeast Asia*. Secondly, Dr Maguire is interested in the politics and impacts of international security cooperation, in particular exploring post-colonial security relationships between states in Africa and Asia and the United Kingdom during the Cold War and the so-called Global War on Terror.

Dr Renad Mansour

Dr Renad Mansour is a senior research fellow and project director of the Iraq Initiative at Chatham House. He is also a senior research fellow at the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani, and a research fellow at the Cambridge Security Initiative. Renad was previously a lecturer at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE), where he taught the international relations of the Middle East and, from 2013, he held positions as lecturer of international studies and supervisor at the Faculty of Politics, also at Cambridge. He was previously a senior research fellow at the Iraq Institute for Strategic Studies in Beirut and was adviser to the Kurdistan Regional Government Civil Society Ministry between 2008 and 2010. He received his PhD from the University of Cambridge.

Dr David Oakley

Dr. David P. Oakley: Dave is the Academic Director at the University of South Florida's Global and National Security Institute. He served in the U.S. Army as a field artillery officer and strategist, in the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) National Clandestine Service/Directorate of Operations as a Staff Operations Officer (SOO), and as a contractor at the U.S. National Counterterrorism Center. His last assignment in the U.S. Army was as an assistant professor at the College of International Security Affairs. Prior to GNSI, he was an associate professor at the U.S. Special Operations Command's Joint Special Operations University (JSOU) in Tampa.

Prof Sir David Omand GCB

Sir David Omand is a Visiting Professor in the Department of War Studies, King's College London. He was Director of GCHQ, Permanent Secretary of the UK Home Office, Permanent Secretary in the Cabinet Office as UK Security and Intelligence Coordinator. He also served in the MOD as Deputy Under Secretary of State for Policy and was Principal Private Secretary to the

Secretary of State for Defence during the Falklands conflict. He served for three years with the Diplomatic Service as the UK Defence Counsellor in NATO, Brussels. He served for seven years on the UK Joint intelligence Committee. For many years he was the Senior Independent Director of the Babcock International Group. Among other publications, he is the author of How to Survive a Crisis: Lessons in Resilience and Avoiding Disaster (Penguin Viking, 2023), How Spies Think: 10 Lessons in Intelligence (Penguin Viking, 2020), Principled Spying: The Ethics of Secret Intelligence (with Professor Mark Pythian) (Oxford University Press, 2018) and Securing the State (Hurst, 2010).

Dr Burcu Ozcelik

Dr Burcu Ozcelik is a Senior Research Fellow for Middle East Security within the International Security department at RUSI. With over 15 years' experience in geopolitical risk analysis, security and threat assessments, and strategic advisory in both the public and private sector, Burcu specialises in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, Turkey and the Eastern Mediterranean. Prior to joining RUSI, Burcu worked as an Associate Director at a London-based consultancy firm leading the MENA practice. She previously worked with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Burcu holds a PhD in Politics and International Studies and an MPhil in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge and subsequently held the Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship at the Department of Politics and International Studies where she taught Conflict, Peacebuilding, and the Politics of the Middle East. She has extensive experience with Turkey, Iraq, Syria, Iran, and Israel.

Taylor Reid

Taylor Reid is a Former Dstl (Defence Science and Technology Laboratory) senior engineer in Threat Evaluation and the current Defence Team Lead at Fenix Insight, a specialist weapons technical intelligence company, which has deployed to Ukraine several times prior to and during the recent conflict. These operations have spanned a variety of locations and involved the recovery, disassembly and exploitation of new and unusual Russian and Ukrainian munitions. Taylor is an open-source intelligence (OSINT) analyst, explosive trials manager and munition breakdown engineer with 8.5 years of experience of working with, handling and evaluating weapons, munitions and explosives.

Dr Dina Rezk

Dr Dina Rezk is Lecturer in Middle Eastern History at the University of Reading. She received her PhD from the University of Cambridge in 2013, where she also completed her undergraduate degree, and subsequently spent two years at the Politics Department at Warwick University in September as a Teaching Fellow in Intelligence and Security.

Gala Riani

Gala is head of S-RM's Strategic Intelligence practice, advising clients on the global (geo)political, security and operating landscape. Gala began her career working for the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) as a political advisor to the KRG's Nordic representative in Stockholm and as an advisor to the Minister of Sports and Youth in Erbil. She subsequently joined IHS Global

Insight as a Middle East and North Africa (MENA) analyst and later managed the company's MENA regional desk. She spent five years with Control Risks, leaving that company as a director in the Global Risk Analysis department. Before joining S-RM in 2020, Gala worked as an independent political risk and due diligence consultant covering MENA and Sub-Saharan Africa. Gala has a BA in Social and Political Sciences from Cambridge University, an MSc in Theory and History of International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science and is a graduate of the United World College of the Atlantic.

PROF BRENDAN SIMMS

Professor Brendan Simms is a Professor of the History of International Relations in the Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Cambridge. Professor Simms lectures on the History of European Geopolitics and supervises MPhil and PhD theses for both POLIS and the Faculty of History, dealing primarily with German and British history in its international context and the history of humanitarian intervention.

DR PHILIP SHELTER-JONES

Dr Philip Shetler-Jones is Senior Research Fellow for Indo-Pacific security in the International Security team at RUSI. His recent work focuses on UK security partnerships with Japan and South Korea, and Taiwan's security and cross-strait relations, specifically in the area of 'Grey Zone' action below the threshold of conventional conflict.

Prior to joining RUSI, Dr Shetler-Jones was coordinator in the project 'Enhancing Security Cooperation in and With Asia' (ESIWA) for the EU and led the international security program at the World Economic Forum. Previously, Dr Shetler-Jones served as an officer in the UK Royal Marine Commandos, held positions at the United Nations and the European Union, and consulted for NATO, the Organisation for Security Cooperation in Europe, the UK Ministry of Defence, and Chatham House.

Dr Shetler-Jones holds a PhD, MA and BA from The University of Sheffield. He has an MA from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University where he studied on a Fulbright Scholarship. He has been a visiting fellow at the Council on Geostrategy and is an Honorary Research Fellow at the School of East Asian Studies at the University of Sheffield, and a fellow of the Strategic Communications Education and Research Unit at the Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Tokyo.

