

CASIS Symposium 2022: Speaker Biographies

Keynote Speaker: Nina Jankowicz



Nina Jankowicz is an internationally-recognized expert on disinformation and democratization. Her debut book, *How to Lose the Information War* (Bloomsbury 2020), was named a *New Statesman* 2020 book of the year. Her second book, *How to Be A Woman Online* (Bloomsbury 2022), an examination of online abuse and disinformation and tips for fighting back, was deemed “essential” by *Publisher’s Weekly*.

Jankowicz’s expertise spans the public, private, and academic sectors. She has advised governments, international organizations, and tech companies; testified before the United States Congress, UK Parliament, and European Parliament; and led accessible, actionable research about the effects of disinformation on women, minorities, democratic activists, and freedom of expression around the world.

Since 2017, Jankowicz has held fellowships at the Wilson Center, where she has been affiliated with the Kennan Institute and the Science and Technology Innovation Program. In 2016-17, she advised the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry on disinformation and strategic communications under the auspices of a Fulbright-Clinton Public Policy Fellowship. Prior to her Fulbright grant, she managed democracy assistance programs to Russia and Belarus at the National Democratic Institute.

Panel 1: Financial Wars: New Economic Warfare

Rachel Ziemba



Rachel Ziemba is an expert on the economic and market impact of coercive policies like sanctions and government-led investment. For almost two decades she has advised government, investor and corporate clients on the country risk and resilience of emerging and frontier markets, especially energy-rich countries and China, most recently via her economic consultancy Ziemba Insights.

Her policy work centers around the Center for a New American Security (CNAS) where she is an adjunct senior fellow in the Energy Economics and Security Program, studying the economic and political impacts of coercive economic policies such as financial sanctions, export

controls, trade and investment restrictions as well as the role of state-owned investors in the global and regional economies. In that capacity, Rachel has briefed Congress and government bodies in the U.S. Canada and EU on topics ranging from impacts of economic sanctions on Iran, Venezuela, Russia, GCC sovereign funds and Chinese economic coercion.

She is also senior advisor, sanctions for Horizon Client Access, tracking developments in sanctions policy across China, Russia, Iran and other countries and is on the advisory board of Enquire.AI, the Harriman Foreign Service Fellowships, the Energy and Growth program and the Middle East Institute. She has taught at New York University's Center for Global Affairs.

She previously served as head of emerging and frontier markets and co-head of research at Roubini Global Economics, a macro strategy and country risk firm. Rachel began her career with the Canadian International Development Agency in Cairo, Egypt, and the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa, Canada.

Michael-John Almon

Michael-John Almon leads the Strategic Intelligence, Research and Analytics unit of the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), Canada's administrative financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing (AML/ATF) regulator. He oversees FINTRAC's strategic intelligence and research efforts to reveal trends and developments in the area of money laundering and the financing of terrorist activities in order to inform members of Canada's AML/ATF regime, as well as the public, on its nature and extent and to enhance public awareness and understanding of matters related to money laundering and the financing of terrorist activities. A career public servant, Michael-John holds an M.A. in Economics and has a background in quantitative research and analysis.

Mario Cosby



Mario Cosby is a Blockchain Intelligence Expert at TRM Labs and manages a threat intelligence team focused on targeting illicit actors exploiting financial blockchain products. Mario has over a decade of investigative experience serving in multiple capacities within the public and private sector. His experience includes involvement with United States Army intelligence operations combating terrorism, providing analytical support to FBI financial investigations, and establishing a Financial Intelligence Unit at Meta

Moderator: Jessica Davis



Jessica Davis is a former senior strategic intelligence analyst with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. She now works as an international consultant on counterterrorism, terrorist financing and women in terrorism. She is the president of Insight Threat Intelligence and the Canadian Association for Security and Intelligence Studies, a visiting senior associate fellow at the Soufan Center, and an associate fellow at the Royal United Services' Institute's Centre for Financial Crime and Security Studies and the Global Network on Extremism and Technology. She is also the author of “Women in Modern Terrorism: from liberation wars to global jihad and the Islamic State” (Rowman &

Littlefield, 2017) and “Illicit Money: Financing Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century” (Lynne Rienner, 2021).

Panel 2: Bridging the Private-Public Sector Intelligence Divide

Dr. Pierre-Luc Pomerleau



Dr. Pierre-Luc Pomerleau is a Partner at VIDOCQ, responsible for assisting clients in growing their business and innovating while managing risks and protecting their assets. To do this, he applies his years of experience and extensive expertise in cybercrime, investigation, fraud prevention, anti-money laundering, physical security, business administration, technology, and risk management. Before joining VIDOCQ, Pierre-Luc was a Vice

President at the National Bank of Canada, overseeing the Financial Crime and Corporate Security Division, including data analytics and innovation. Pierre-Luc earned a Ph.D. in Business Administration with a specialization in Homeland Security from Northcentral University, an MBA from the Université de Sherbrooke, and a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminology from the Université de Montréal. Dr. Pomerleau also holds various security and financial crime professional certifications, among them CPP, PSP, PCI, CFE, CAMS, CCCI and CFCI certifications. From 2020 to 2021, he was a Postdoctoral Researcher and Research Associate in Cybercrime at Georgia State University. In 2020, he published his book Countering Cyber

Threats to Financial Institutions; A Private and Public Partnership Approach to Critical Infrastructure with Palgrave Macmillan. In 2022, he co-authored the book Evidence-Based Cybersecurity; Foundations, Research, and Practice published with Routledge (Taylor & Francis).

Dr. Maria Robson-Morrow



Dr. Maria Robson-Morrow is the Intelligence Project Program Manager at the Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. She spent four years as a global security intelligence analyst at Nexen Energy in Canada and worked as an independent security intelligence consultant before returning to academia to study public-private intelligence cooperation.

She earned a PhD in Political Science in 2021 from Northeastern University and holds a Master's in Military and Strategic Studies from the University of Calgary and a BA in International Relations, Economics, and History from the University of Toronto.

Maria's research has been published in *Intelligence and National Security*, *Harvard Business Review*, and the *Journal of Intelligence History*. She teaches Research Seminar and Art & Practice of Intelligence in the Intelligence Analysis graduate program at Johns Hopkins University.

Ryan Long



Ryan Long is the Head of Global Intelligence at McDonald's where he helped design and launch the company's intelligence program. Ryan began his professional career in 2003 as a U.S. Army Intelligence Officer and he's held a variety of analyst, advisory, and management positions in both a reserve and active capacity, to include deploying multiple times to both Iraq and Afghanistan where he served with distinction while receiving numerous decorations. Ryan still serves in the Army Reserves where he commands an intelligence organization focused on analytic, counterintelligence, and counterterrorism support to the United States European Command.

Ryan is also an active board member of the Association Of International Risk Intelligence Professionals (AIRIP), where he previously served a two-year term as AIRIP's president. As a Veteran advocate, Ryan is a founding board member of the Veterans Leadership Council, the

foremost business network for the current generation of Veteran leaders. Ryan's latest endeavor is the creation of The Business Of Intelligence, a business podcast focused on dissecting the field of private sector intelligence. Ryan has a bachelor's degree with Honors in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a law degree from the University of Illinois-Chicago School of Law.

Moderator: Charles Dumbrille



Charles Dumbrille is a seasoned, Business Risk Management Analyst with extensive experience supporting organizations in managing country risk and conflict disruptions; building international portfolios; garnering stakeholder support; and strengthening brand reputation. He is currently the Chief Risk Officer for IN-D-TEL International. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Intelligence and International Security from the War Studies Department at King's College London and is a Certified Protection Professional. Before creating IN-D-TEL International in 2010, Charles worked with the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC; the Canadian International Institute of Strategic Studies; CNN's International News Desk; and The Carter

Center. He is the President of the Mining Security Working Group, a Director of the Board for the Canadian International Council, Director of the Board for the Canadian Association of Security and Intelligence Studies in both Ottawa and Vancouver, Chair of the Pacific Coast Analyst Roundtable, and an active member of the Association of Risk and Intelligence Professionals, Threat Intelligence Exchange Roundtable and the Canadian Association of Threat Assessment Professionals.

Panel 3: Disinformation, Misinformation, and Information operations: Implications for Canada and Partners

Marcus Kolga



Marcus Kolga is the founder and director of DisinfoWatch and a senior fellow at the Macdonald-Laurier and CDA institutes. He is a journalist, filmmaker, digital communications developer and human rights activist. He led the Canadian civil society campaign for Magnitsky legislation and continues to advocate for global human rights and democracy activists. Marcus is a regular commentator on international affairs and human rights and his

articles have been published by The Globe and Mail, The Toronto Star, The National Post, The New York Daily Mail, Macleans, The EU Observer and other international publications. He was named to The Kremlin's sanctions blacklist in March 2022.

Dr. Stephanie Carvin



Stephanie Carvin is an Associate Professor at Carleton University in Ottawa. Her research focuses on national and international security, and technology. She holds a PhD from the London School of Economics and her dissertation was published as *Prisoners of America's Wars: From the Early Republic to Guantanamo*.

In 2009 Stephanie was a Visiting Scholar at George Washington University Law School during her sabbatical and also worked as consultant to the US Department of Defense Law of War Working Group and the American Red Cross' Educating International Humanitarian Law Project. From 2014-15, she was a Research Associate,

Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS) at the University of Ottawa. From 2012-2015, she was an analyst with the Government of Canada focusing on national security issues.

She is the author of *Stand on Guard: Reassessing Threats to Canada's National Security* (University of Toronto Press, 2020) and one of the editors of *Top Secret Canada: Understanding the Canadian Intelligence and National Security Community* (University of Toronto Press, 2020). In November 2014 Cambridge University Press published *Law, Science, Liberalism and the American Way of Warfare: The quest for humanity in conflict*, co-authored with MJ Williams. She is presently working on a co-authored book on the relationship between intelligence and policymaking in Canada with Thomas Juneau.

Marc-André Argentino

Panel 4: Digital Authoritarianism and the Future of Electronic Surveillance

Dr. Leah West



Leah West is an Assistant Professor of International Affairs at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University where she teaches public international law, national security law and counterterrorism. She completed her SJD at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law in 2020 where her research

explored the application of criminal, constitutional and international law to state conduct in cyberspace. She is also the National Administrator of the Canadian National Rounds of the Phillip C Jessup International Law Moot, serves as Counsel with Friedman Mansour LLP, and was an inaugural McCain Institute National Security & Counterterrorism Fellow.

Leah is the co-author with Craig Forcese of *National Security Law* (Irwin Law, 2021, 2d Ed) and co-editor with Thomas Juneau and Amarnath Amarasingam of *Stress Tested: The COVID-19 Pandemic and Canadian National Security* (UCP, 2021). She is also the author of several peer-reviewed articles on legal issues concerning national security and cyber operations, a regular commentator on national security matters for Canadian and international media outlets, and has testified before both the House of Commons and the Senate, and the European Parliament.

Leah previously served as Counsel with the Department of Justice in the National Security Litigation and Advisory Group where she appeared before the Federal Court in designated proceedings and the Security Intelligence Review Committee. Before being called to the Ontario Bar in 2016, Leah clerked for the Honourable Justice Mosley of the Federal Court of Canada. Prior to attending law school, Leah served in the Canadian Armed Forces for ten years as an Armoured Officer; she deployed to Afghanistan in 2010.

Dr. Christopher Parsons



Dr. Christopher Parsons received his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from the University of Guelph, and his Ph.D from the University of Victoria. He is currently a Senior Research Associate at the Citizen Lab, in the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy with the University of Toronto. His research focuses on third-party access to telecommunications data, data privacy, data security, and national security. His work has been recognized by information and privacy commissioners, Canadian political parties, and national and international non-profits as advancing the state of privacy discourse.

Christopher has written policy reports for civil advocacy organizations in Canada, submitted evidence to Parliamentary committees, and is an active member of the Canadian privacy and national security communities. Some of the projects he has been involved in have examined: lawful access legislation, national security and intelligence legislation and practices, government management of computer security vulnerabilities, identity management systems, automatic license plate recognition technologies, network management and surveillance

practices in Western democratic states, technical and policy issues linked to encryption, privacy issues linked to social media services, policy and privacy challenges associated with IMSI Catchers, privacy implications of unmanned aerial vehicles, threats associated with stalkerware, and the geo-strategic policies that are needed to secure and manage critical digital infrastructure.

In addition to publishing in academic journals and presses he routinely presents findings to members of government and the media.

Akshay Singh



Akshay Singh has close to a decade's practical experience in national security and intelligence-related policy matters and research. He has a B.A. and M.A. in Political Science from Simon Fraser University, where he focussed on international security, trade, and Canadian policy issues. Akshay wrote his final M.A. research project on the topic of formulating a pragmatic China policy for Canada, and continues to research and write on this topic today. Akshay also researches the implications of the shift of international power to the Indo-Pacific, with a specific focus on the opportunities and challenges this shift provides Canada.

His work has been featured by Policy Options, the MacDonald-Laurier Institute, the Centre for International Governance Innovation and *The Globe and Mail*. Akshay has

also been consulted as an expert by several media outlets; he has commented on matters relating to foreign policy, espionage, foreign interference and economic security, among others. In addition to the above, Akshay continues to play an active role in the Canadian Association for Security and Intelligence Studies as a member of the Board of Directors.

Moderator: Julia Johnston



Julia Johnston holds an M.A. in International Affairs from Carleton University, and a B.A. in Political Science from Simon Fraser University. She focused her studies and research on security and conflict, including terrorism and news media, election interference, and cyber security. She wrote her Master's research paper on the development of cyber deterrence strategies in European countries. Julia founded the CASIS Ottawa Student Chapter, where she organized career events for students interested in security and defence in the public and private sectors. She has also been actively involved in CASIS, serving as Secretary since 2021.

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