

**CASIS 2023 Annual Symposium:  
The Future of Intelligence in a Post-Truth World**

Canadian War Museum, Barney Danson Theatre  
Friday, November 3, 2023, 9:00 - 16:30 EST

\*Provisional program, subject to change.

Time (EST)	Session	Speaker/Panelists
8:15 - 8:50	Registration	
9:00 - 9:15	Opening remarks	<b>Jessica Davis</b> , CASIS President & <b>Tim Sayle</b> , CASIS Vice President  MC: <b>Akshay Singh</b>
9:15 - 10:15	Keynote address	<b>Chris Poulter</b> , President and Founder, OSINT Combine
10:15 - 10:30	Networking break	
10:30 - 11:30	Panel 1: AI, Intelligence, and “Truth”	<b>Daniel Araya</b> , Senior Fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI)  <b>Susan Aaronson</b> , Full Professor, The George Washington University  <b>Brad Boyd</b> , Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution & Senior Lecturer, Stanford University  <b>Nestor Maslej</b> , Research Manager, Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI) at Stanford University  Moderator: <b>Julia Johnston</b> , CASIS
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch	

12:30 - 13:00	Presentation: CASIS Essay Competition Winners	<p><b>Michael Shirley</b>, University of Toronto</p> <p><b>Matthew Kieffer</b>, University of Toronto</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Tim Sayle</b>, CASIS Vice President</p>
13:00 - 14:00	Panel 2: From Social Media to Satellite Imagery: Defining the Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) Landscape for Collection and Analysis	<p><b>Thomas Juneau</b>, Associate Professor, GSPIA, University of Ottawa</p> <p><b>Leah West</b>, Associate Professor, NPSIA, Carleton University, Ottawa</p> <p><b>Meghan Conroy</b>, Research Fellow, Digital Forensic Research Lab</p> <p><b>Micah Clarke</b>, OSINT Product Director, Tadaweb</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Yvonne Stys</b>, Director, Intelligence, Preventive Security and Intelligence Branch, Correctional Service Canada</p>
14:00 - 14:20	Networking break	
14:20 - 15:20	Panel 3: Hearts, Minds, and Misinformation	<p><b>Stephanie Carvin</b>, Associate Professor, NPSIA, Carleton University</p> <p><b>Bessma Momani</b>, Full Professor, University of Waterloo</p> <p><b>Cherie Wong</b>, Executive Director, Alliance Canada Hong Kong</p> <p><b>Shelly Ghai Bajaj</b>, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Waterloo</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Jessica Davis</b>, CASIS President</p>
15:20 - 16:05	Panel 4: Covert Action, Direct Action, and	<b>Joanna Chiu</b> , Journalist and

	Foreign Interference	<p>author of <i>China Unbound</i></p> <p><b>Benjamin Fung</b>, Canada            Research Chair in Data Mining for            Cybersecurity and Professor,            McGill University</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Bob Gordon</b>, CASIS</p>
16:05 - 16:15	Closing Remarks	<b>Jessica Davis</b> , CASIS President

## Symposium Program

- 8:00 - 8:50     **Registration**
- 9:00 - 9:15     **Opening Remarks**  
 Jessica Davis, CASIS President  
 Tim Sayle, CASIS Vice President
- 9:15 - 10:15    **Keynote Address by**  
  
 The keynote address will be followed by a moderated question and answer period
- 10:15 - 10:30   **Networking Break**
- 10:30 - 11:30   **Panel 1: AI, Intelligence and “Truth”**  
  
 As an all-purpose technology, AI tools, such as ChatGPT may not only revolutionize how digital content is developed, it could make bounds in science research, healthcare, and general technological advancement. unprecedented capabilities to gather and analyze vast amounts of data in near real-time. But whose capabilities will AI bolster?
- As AI continues to evolve, it could play an increasingly important role in intelligence gathering and analysis, providing valuable insights and supporting more informed decision-making. With rapid advancements in technology comes a host of challenges and ethical considerations that must be addressed. This panel brings together experts in AI governance, data, and geopolitics to explore the opportunities and challenges of AI for security and defence.
- Panelists: Daniel Araya, Susan Aaronson  
 Moderator: Julia Johnston
- 11:30 - 12:30   **Lunch**  
 A boxed lunch is provided to all guests
- 12:30 - 13:00   **Presentation by CASIS Essay Competition Winners**  
  
 Speakers: Michael Shirley, Matthew Kieffer  
 Moderator: Tim Sayle
- 13:00- 14:00    **Panel 2: From Social Media to Satellite Imagery: Defining the OSINT**

## **Landscape for Collection and Analysis**

In an age of technological revolution, with newer and faster threats, data, and demands from clients of intelligence, espionage and analysis are no longer exclusively for spy agencies. Open source intelligence (OSINT) represents both challenges and opportunities as a critical tool for intelligence gathering and analysis. It can allow departments to access and analyze vast amounts of publicly available information to uncover insights and identify potential threats. This also poses privacy risks, as well as risks from foreign adversaries. For instance, an unprecedented amount of intelligence about the war in Ukraine is being made public and OSINT has featured prominently in this discussion. Further, China has an estimated 100,000 open source analysts tasked with scouring scientific and technical developments globally.

Given the saturation of public data and information, how can western governments make OSINT a priority? How should we define OSINT? How can the intelligence community ensure the reliability and accuracy of open source information? What are the ethical considerations surrounding the use of OSINT, particularly in terms of privacy and data protection?

Panelists: Thomas Juneau, Leah West, Meghan Conroy, Micah Clarke  
Moderator: Jessica Davis

14:00 - 14:20 **Networking Break**

14:20 - 15:20 **Panel 3: Hearts, Minds, and Misinformation: What Role can Intel Agencies Play in Countering False Narratives?**

With an overwhelming amount of information and data online, and a variety of new disinformation actors, how can intelligence agencies counter mis and disinformation and increase transparency? Foreign states, not all of whom are adversaries, increasingly employ mis and disinformation to shape the information environment. How can government agencies work effectively with other stakeholders to promote greater trust and accuracy in public discourse, particularly at a time where many people increasingly distrust governments? What role can technology play in enhancing government transparency, accountability, and diversity, and what are the potential risks and benefits associated with greater use of technology in these areas?

Panelists: Stephanie Carvin, Bessma Momani, Cherie Wong, Shelly Ghai Bajaj

15:20 - 16:20 **Panel 4: Covert Action, Direct Action, and Foreign Interference**

Foreign interference in elections, research institutions, and cyber-enabled operations targeting individuals, is a growing concern in Canada. For example, online targeting of diaspora communities is now part of the Chinese Communist Party’s toolkit of digital transnational repression and methods to manipulate public debates. This panel examines foreign interference from ballot boxes to research labs, and the role of intelligence, and governments in a whole-of-society approach to combat it. It also examines lessons learned from Russian electoral interference, seven years on.

Panelists: Joanna Chiu, Benjamin Fung  
Moderator: Bob Gordon

16:20 - 16:30 **Closing Remarks**  
Jessica Davis, CASIS President

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