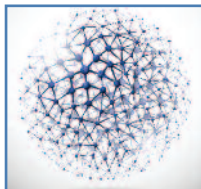# Security Lancaster
Security Futures

We have established Security Futures as a think tank within Security Lancaster in order to develop and identify the problem space facing large and small organisations from across multiple sectors. By using an interdisciplinary group of researchers we can help identify the future issues that develop at the interface between society, government and technology in a rapidly changing world.

Providing insight and debate on the future of global security issues.

Collaborative Research and Consultancy

We believe that the diversity of research at Lancaster University's Security Lancaster creates a unique opportunity for different people to think through the security/technology problems of a rapidly changing world. The centre reflects the diversity of a university that is developing innovative cross-disciplinary research on a broad range of interests.

While Security Futures is a space of academic research, we think it is vital to collaborate with people outside of the university, not simply to aid our research but to enable researchers to work with different people and organizations on their own emerging problems and challenges.

We are developing three broad areas through which to structure research:

Cities

We examine the emerging technological, social, economic and political problems of the smart, networked city. From emerging shadow economies that use technologies such as 3D printing, vulnerabilities in the networks of financial power, to new forms of drug use, our focus on cities ranges from the city as a vital space in the global economy through to the changing techniques for managing the everyday circulation of people and products in the contemporary city.

Borders

We examine the emerging technological, legal, ethical and political aspects of border control. From the rapidly evolving technologies of smart borders, to the use of new architectures and technologies of border surveillance to the everyday policing practices that seek to manage mobility and circulation, we create a space to examine the future of border control around the planet.

Conflict Zones

We examine the emerging problems confronted by states and populations in situations of natural disaster and political conflict where digital technologies open up new forms of conflict, communication and control. From the use of mobile phones and social networking in response to complex emergencies, the digital aspects of civil wars, to the use of new forms of global surveillance in conflict zones, we examine the emerging ethical/legal/technical dilemmas in a rapidly changing space.

Access Expertise

- Accidents in a network society
- Borders, control and technology
- Conflict resolution and digital geopolitics
- Complexity sciences and security
- Cyber security and shadow economies
- Ecological/energy aspects of digital economies
- Emerging threats
- Ethical/legal/social dimensions of the 'transparent society'
- Finance and cyber security
- Global unrest in a digital age
- Insurance and cyber security
- New geographies of cyber insecurity
- Scenario planning and global security
- Smart cities and insecurity
- Social cohesion and network society
- UAVs and the future of war

www.security-centre.lancs.ac.uk/security-futures

GCHQ   Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research

EPSRC
Pioneering research and skills

Working in Partnership

Security Futures can help develop the debate around problems that you or your customers may be facing, or enable you to engage in wider public debate. We can draw together an interdisciplinary team that is able to approach your problem through multiple disciplinary lenses. This approach enables us to tackle your problem in innovative and creative ways to ensure that the issue under discussion has been fully addressed. We can do this as an internal exercise for your business or as mechanism for your customers to help reflect what the best approach is for them. We can also utilise our approach to help you engage with the wider public debate through the co-delivery of a public workshop.

As part of Security Lancaster, our ability to draw on the expertise of academics from across the faculties of the university allows us to bring a wide range of disciplines to bear on security and protection issues. The combination of academic disciplines from Psychology, Computing and Communications, Social Science, Management, Politics, Sociology or Engineering enables Security Lancaster to innovate in flexible and pioneering ways.

Partnership Examples

- **The Future of Digital Troublemakers** – the workshop brought together a digital agency Bold Creative, Sanitas Data Security and the Security Futures team. The workshop explored the dual-use dilemma i.e. that people also take new technology and explore how they could use it for negative purposes, e.g. people using mobile devices to coordinate the London riots and focussed on the future of digital troublemakers by examining what it will mean to be a troublemaker in the future. The group considered the potential security issues that society may face in 2019 around taxation and cloud computing and how current and emergent technology facilitates trouble making

- **Mobilising Emergency Response** – the workshop explored aspects of mobilizing emergency/disaster response such as how social technologies are shaping disaster responses and how mobile technology can inform organisational change.

It featured representatives from the Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) Germany, one of the largest civil protection agencies in the world, the Centre for Mobilities Research, Department of Sociology Lancaster University, intelligent mobile technology company YRfree Technologies, business psychologists and the Security Futures team who explored the opportunities and challenges from different academic, industrial, information communication technologies and design perspectives

Benefits of Collaboration

- Gain expertise for foresight into emerging and future issues around smart cities, border control and conflict zones
- Consider the security problems of the future and develop new security protection processes, services and products
- Gain an external fresh view and develop the debate around problems that you or your customers may be facing
- Engage in wider public debate on security issues that matter to you

Dr Mark Lacy, Associate Director of Security Lancaster, Security Futures Lead

Security Futures Lead

Dr Mark Lacy is an Associate Director of Security Lancaster, who leads the Security Futures stream. He holds a PhD in International Relations and prior to his work on Security Lancaster he was part of a team that set up an interdisciplinary theme year in the Institute of Advanced Studies on "New Sciences of Protection: Designing Safe Living" (2007-2008). New Sciences of Protection brought together designers, technologists and social sciences to collaborate in various ways on emerging security problems and their social, economic and political impacts. His aim for Security Futures is to create dialogue and collaboration on the future of cyber security in an age of 'digital geopolitics' bringing together people from business, academia and the protection industries to create new perspectives on security and global politics.

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