



## ASPI Grey zone and Disinformation Masterclass

**Thursday 13 May 2021**

## Hotel Realm, Canberra

## Welcome remarks

0900-0910

**Fergus Hanson**, Director, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute

## Analysing disinformation: In Conversation with ASPI's International Cyber Policy Centre

*In this session ASPI's disinformation team will discuss how they analyse disinformation campaigns and information operations at scale, the evolution of the China's covert information operations, and the outsourcing of disinformation through the influence-for-hire shadow economy.*

0910-1000

- **Dr Jacob Wallis**, Senior Analyst, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute
- **Ariel Bogle**, Analyst, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute
- **Albert Zhang**, Researcher, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute

**Chair: Fergus Hanson**, Director, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute

## Diplomacy versus disinformation

*This session will explore how the diplomacy of liberal democracies can better use public diplomacy and strategic communications to counter combinations of overt and covert disinformation by authoritarian states.*

1000-1100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Renee DiResta</b>, Technical Research Manager, Stanford Internet Observatory (video)</li> <li>• <b>Katherine Mansted</b>, Senior Adviser Public Policy, ANU National Security College</li> <li>• <b>Jenny Grant-Curnow</b>, Director, Counter-disinformation taskforce, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair: Ariel Bogle</b>, Analyst, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute</p>
1100-1130	Morning tea
<b>Tackling cyber-enabled foreign interference in elections and referendums</b>	
<i>This session will explore how liberal democracies can mitigate the risk of cyber-enabled foreign interference while retaining their capacity for open political discourse and free elections.</i>	
1130-1220	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Clint Watts</b>, Distinguished Research Fellow, Foreign Policy Research Institute (video)</li> <li>• <b>Anastasia Kapetas</b>, National Security Editor, <i>The Strategist</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Chair: Dr Jacob Wallis</b>, Senior Analyst, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute</p>
<b>Coalitions and alliances – tackling shared challenges, structures and capabilities</b>	
<i>This session will explore how democratic states can work together to develop collective defence and deterrence to grey zone threats, including but not limited to, cyber, disinformation operations and dark money networks.</i>	
1220-1315	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alicia Wanless</b>, Director, Partnership for Countering Influence Operations, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (video)</li> <li>• <b>Elisabeth Braw</b>, Resident Fellow, American Enterprise Institute (video)</li> <li>• <b>Dr Elizabeth Buchanan</b>, Lecturer of Strategic Studies (DSSC), Australian War College and Fellow, Modern War Institute at West Point</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair: Tom Uren</b>, Senior Analyst, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute</p>
1315-1345	Lunch
<b>Security in space: The challenges of private and public sector activity in the space domain</b>	

<p><i>This session will focus on the implications of commercial space activity, and how both state and non-state competition over space resource utilisation demands updated space law and space regulation to better manage such competition and to reduce the risk of insecurity.</i></p>	
1345-1445	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Cassandra Steer</b>, Mission Specialist, ANU Institute of Space (InSpace), Senior Lecturer, ANU College of Law</li> <li>• <b>Dr Brian Weeden</b>, Director of Program Planning, Secure World Foundation (video)</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair: Dr Malcolm Davis</b>, Senior Analyst, Australian Strategic Policy Institute</p>
<p><b>China's tactics and techniques in information operations: Views from the region</b></p>	
<p><i>This session will explore China's evolving tactics and techniques in information operations, and perspectives from the region in countering these operations.</i></p>	
1445-1545	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tim Niven</b>, Research Scientist, Doublethink Lab (video)</li> <li>• <b>Dr Ketty W. Chen</b>, Vice-President, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (video)</li> <li>• <b>Alex Joske</b>, Consultant</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair: Danielle Cave</b>, Deputy Director, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute</p>
1545-1615	Afternoon tea
<p><b>Vulnerabilities at home and in the region</b></p>	
<p><i>In this session, speakers will discuss vulnerabilities in Australia and in the region, including media literacy and democratic vulnerabilities.</i></p>	
1615-1655	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Ross Tapsell</b>, Senior Lecturer, Gender, Media and Culture Program; Director, ANU Malaysia Institute</li> <li>• <b>Dr Nicole Curato</b>, Associate Professor, Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance, University of Canberra</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair: Dr Jacob Wallis</b>, Senior Analyst, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute</p>
<p><b>Concluding remarks and next steps</b></p>	
1655-1700	<p><b>Fergus Hanson</b>, Director, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute</p>

