WE FIND REAL-WORLD ANSWERS TO HARD QUESTIONS

The National Security Institute (NSI) at George Mason University’s Antonin Scalia Law School is dedicated to finding practical answers to national security law and policy questions.
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NSI’s Leaders, Staff, Faculty, and Scholars
MESSAGE
FROM THE FOUNDER

The National Security Institute (NSI) was founded four years ago with the goal of bringing together a diverse group of strategic leaders and thinkers who shared a vision for America and its leading role in the global community.

To that end, we have built an amazing group of practitioners who focus on the toughest national security questions facing our government and our allies to develop real-world, practical answers to those questions, educating both policymakers and the future national security and technology leaders of our nation.

We have succeeded in this effort well-beyond our hopes and aspirations. In just a few short years, we have come to be regarded as one of the premier national security centers in Washington, D.C. and as an organization that bats well above its pay grade. We do so by leveraging our small core staff and our amazing, all-volunteer group of esteemed Advisory Board members and scholars to develop compelling policy recommendations and materials, as well as innovative educational content.

The past year and a half has brought with it a new set of challenges, but despite a changing and uncertain national security climate and an ongoing pandemic, I am proud to report that NSI continues to implement our vision by educating students from both here at home and, increasingly, from around the globe on these issues and by contributing practical answers to key national security policy issues that impact our everyday life.

Since our last Impact Report in 2019, NSI has given ourselves the “privilege of focus” and undertaken deep dives on countering the rise of China and on critical issues sitting at the intersection between innovation, technology, and national security. We also successfully pivoted to focus on Congressional engagement – engaging directly with members and their staffs on the key national security and technology issues. As we move into the new year and beyond, these issues will become increasingly intertwined, and our team of national security practitioners, industry leaders, and scholars are ready to face them head-on.

JAMIL N. JAFFER
Assistant Professor of Law,
NSI Founder & Executive Director, and Director,
National Security Law & Policy Program
Not only have we made a measurable impact on Capitol Hill by conveying the expertise and knowledge of our experts through briefings, Congressional testimony, policy papers, and events, but we have also gotten our message out to the American public through an extensive array of media engagements, such as hosting three podcasts – Fault Lines, NSI Live, and Iron Butterfly in partnership with the Amazing Women in the Intelligence Community – and through high-profile public events, including a series on technology companies and the implications of antitrust policies, and civics engagement as a national security imperative with U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Neil M. Gorsuch.

A key component of NSI’s mission is educating the next generation of national security leaders and I’m proud to announce that in the 2020-2021 academic year, we successfully graduated the inaugural formal class of our first-of-its kind Cyber, Intelligence and National Security Law LL.M. and we expect to expand the program in coming years. Notwithstanding the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we were also able to continue to host our unique National Security Summer Program with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Neil M. Gorsuch exclusively for Scalia Law students over the past two years, including most recently in Reykjavík, Iceland, alongside a series of amazing special guests, including Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan. We have also begun to expand our new academic programs to create future national security and technology leaders not just at the Scalia Law School, but alongside partner institutions and organizations, as we seek to diversify the communities we serve.

In addition to supporting our educational mission, we also spent significant time over the past year and a half building our NSI tribe. In addition to our speaker series hosted exclusively for our internal team, which featured leading speakers like former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, we also held internal policy brainstorming sessions wherein our own team – Advisory Board members, faculty, and fellows – worked together to develop innovative new policy constructs, and we provided new outlets for our experts to put their views into the world, including through the launch of our new blog, The SCIF. We also convened a series of internal conversations around major events that had an impact on the national security community and our nation writ large, and put out statements and analysis around them, including: the killing of George Floyd; the January 6th insurrection at the U.S. Capito; the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan; the ongoing cyber assault on nation by significant threat actors; and the continued efforts of repressive regimes around the globe to expand their spheres of influence and malign activities.

Both our country and the national security community were put to the test over this past year and a half, and the events that have taken place since the publication of our last Impact Report exemplify more than ever the need for a robust national security posture, strong and courageous American foreign policy leadership abroad, and a powerful defense capability at home—and the importance of NSI continuing to lean forward on these issues.

Over the next year, NSI will continue to shape the discussion on these critical national security matters, and as you look through these pages, I hope that you will be inspired by the core values we hold so close; we look forward to the future with you by our side as we work towards a stronger, more unified, and more secure America!

JAMIL N. JAFFER

MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER
NSI’s Mission

NSI aims to be the intellectual powerhouse supporting a robust American national security posture—dedicated to incorporating a realistic assessment of the threats facing the United States and finding real-world answers to hard national security questions and providing them to policymakers in a way they can easily consume.

We strive to educate future leaders and to shape the debate on critical issues by providing balance to the public discourse and identifying solutions that both enable a robust national defense and safeguard our constitutional liberties.

NSI’s Approach

NSI draws on the expertise of an all-volunteer group of experts who have held senior positions in the intelligence, defense, technology, and law sectors to produce research and actionable policy proposals.

We are different than other think tanks - our experts have the diversity of experience, knowledge, and skills necessary to respond to the developing national security threat landscape, ensuring that our work is timely, fact-based, and geared towards informing and impacting policymakers in a way that works for them.

Antonin Scalia Law School

The Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University is defined by three words: Learn. Challenge. Lead. Students receive an outstanding legal education (Learn), are taught to critically evaluate prevailing orthodoxy and pursue new ideas (Challenge), and, ultimately, are well prepared to distinguish themselves in their chosen fields (Lead). Scalia’s curriculum emphasizes the role of economic analysis in the law and develops outstanding legal, writing, and research skills through a two-year rigorous writing course. In close proximity to our nation’s capital, Scalia Law School gives students unparalleled access to the best legal minds, organizations, and job opportunities that the nation has to offer.

George Mason University

George Mason University, initially founded as a branch of the University of Virginia in 1957, became an independent in 1972. Today, it has grown to become Virginia’s largest public research university with 34,000 students from all 50 states and 130 countries. Sitting in one of the most important political, economic, and intellectual centers in the world, GMU encourages its students to serve others and to contribute to solving some of the most complex global problems of our time.
A CRITICAL MISSION

The National Security Institute is dedicated to finding real-world, practical answers to hard national security law and policy questions.
SHAPING LAW AND POLICY

NSI’s Advisory Board, faculty, and fellows use their real-world experience to incorporate a realistic assessment of the threats facing the United States and to identify legal and policy solutions to hard national security questions that both enable a robust national defense and respect fundamental freedoms and principles of limited government.
CONGRESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

In 2021, NSI began a strategic pivot to engage with Congressional policymakers.

NSI developed a targeted outreach strategy aimed at engaging with committees with relevant jurisdictions such as foreign affairs, intelligence, homeland security, and armed services, including committee members and their staffs, and other notable members of Congress. Over the last year, NSI staffers have built strong relationships with these key lawmakers, regularly support members and their staffers on issues they care about, and gather insight on current and future legislative issues to better inform our work.

NSI offers Congressional members and their staffs their expertise in a variety of ways.

► TESTIMONY
NSI experts share their expertise and insight with policymakers by regularly testifying in Congressional hearings on critical and timely policy issues.

► BRIEFINGS
NSI staff and experts frequently host off-the-record briefings to provide nonpartisan analysis to members of Congress and their staffs, as well as Congressional leadership, on a wide range of pressing national security topics.

► LEGISLATIVE FEEDBACK
Congressional offices routinely reach out to NSI to seek their feedback on their legislative efforts and NSI experts provide nonpartisan comments on both the language and possible impact of potential and existing legislation.

► WRITTEN MATERIALS
NSI develops written materials directed at informing and providing policy analysis to Congressional policymakers.

► NETWORKING AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS
NSI hosts in-person events on Capitol Hill to connect the NSI team, including our senior national security experts, with Congressional staffs, and to enable these staffers to meet their Hill colleagues working on similar issues.
Over the last year, NSI has shared expertise with Congressional lawmakers on critical national security topics ranging from TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION POLICY ISSUES to a diverse spectrum of GLOBAL SECURITY CHALLENGES.
At the start of 2021, NSI tech experts were called upon to examine and provide insight into the SolarStorm/Holiday Bear intrusions, which likely constituted the most significant and far-reaching cyberespionage campaign in U.S. history. These intrusions, and the later Microsoft Exchange intrusion, demonstrated that Russia continues its brazen and aggressive activity in the cyber domain as it seeks to advance its national level goals.

NSI experts briefed several Congressional offices from both Chambers, as well as Senate and House committees, on ongoing developments related to the attacks and provided balanced policy recommendations on how the U.S. could respond.

Issues Analyzed and Recommendations On:

- Developing an appropriate and measured response;
- Crafting a strong U.S. declaratory policy and response capability; and
- Establishing a joint collaborative environment in the U.S. to effectuate a stronger defensive posture.

SolarWinds and Beyond: Improving the Cybersecurity of Software Supply Chains
NSI Visiting Fellow Katie Moussouris
House Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee Investigations and Oversight
May 24 and 25, 2021
The U.S. continues to face frequent and increasingly sophisticated malicious cyber campaigns that threaten both the public and private sectors, and American citizens’ privacy and security are routinely impacted. Members of Congress and their staffs turned to NSI to gain insight on how to strengthen our country’s cybersecurity infrastructure and how to protect our systems from attack.

**BRIEFINGS AND ANALYSIS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS**

NSI experts briefed Congressional offices on the important debate surrounding offensive versus defensive cyber operations, as well as provided Congressional staff their nonpartisan analysis of existing and potential legislation such as the Homeland and Cyber Threat Act and the Fourth Amendment Isn’t for Sale Act.

**TESTIMONY PROVIDED TO CONGRESS**

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<th>Assessing Cyber Threats and Building Resilience</th>
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<th>Strengthening the Cybersecurity Posture of America’s Small Business Community</th>
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<td>NSI Advisory Board member Dmitri Alperovitch</td>
<td>NSI Visiting Fellow Megan Stifel</td>
<td>NSI Visiting Fellow Kiersten Todt</td>
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<td>February 2, 2021</td>
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Unmanned aerial system (UAS) technology has evolved and use of UAS continues to grow in use and in scope, both within the United States’ military arsenal – offering benefits for our national security and economy - as well as within those of our enemies. Adversaries can use UAS technology for illicit surveillance; chemical, biological, and radiological attacks; and attacks against government and private facilities, installations, and personnel.

Semiconductors are the bedrock of nearly all modern industrial activities and the building blocks of advanced technologies; they are used in everything from cell phones and cars to military equipment and weapons. Faced with a global chip shortage, the United States’ lack of domestic production presents a national security threat.

**BRIEFINGS AND ANALYSIS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS**

NSI experts met with Congressional offices to share insight into how these technologies pose unique challenges to defense capabilities and briefed policymakers on how the U.S. may work with our Middle East partners and allied countries, some of which are threatened by unmanned aerial systems, to create a regional defensive capability against Iranian drones.

**WRITTEN MATERIALS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS**

Issues Analyzed and Recommendations On:

- Existing and future legislation impacting our supply chain security;
- Lowering regulatory barriers to semiconductor manufacturing; and
- Increasing federal investment in basic and applied R&D.
Iran is a significant strategic threat to the U.S. as demonstrated by their support of terrorism and other malign activities in the region and across the globe. With the Biden Administration indicating that it wants to reenter the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), it is a critical time for NSI experts to weigh in on new ways Congress can deal with Iran.

After twenty years of sustained U.S. troop presence in Afghanistan, the United States withdrew all military, intelligence, and diplomatic personnel from the country, leaving behind thousands of U.S. citizens, and Afghan and NATO allies who have assisted U.S. counterterrorism and diplomatic missions.

**WRITTEN MATERIALS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS**

**Issues Analyzed and Recommendations On:**

- The President’s proposed counterterrorism strategy; and
- Key areas of consideration for a new AUMF, including core authorities, geographical limits, tactical limitations, etc.

**BRIEFINGS AND ANALYSIS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS**

NSI experts briefed Congressional staffs and House policy staff on the threat Iran continues to pose, as well as their options for future Congressional and executive action.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE**

The Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) was passed in the wake of 9/11, authorizing the use of military force against those who “planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks.” Since its passage, Congress has not successfully taken action to modify or fully reaffirm the 9/11 AUMF authority.
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<td><strong>Issues Analyzed and Recommendations On:</strong></td>
<td><strong>NSI experts provided nonpartisan analysis on the potential creation of a commission to review the U.S.’ twenty year engagement in Afghanistan, as well as how to strengthen engagement with the executive branch regarding the U.S. Agency for International Development’s ongoing Mission in Afghanistan.</strong></td>
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<td>• Requiring the State Department and Department of Defense to undertake all efforts necessary to enable private non-profit evacuation efforts;</td>
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<td>• Providing legal protection for private non-profits supporting evacuation efforts; and</td>
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<td>• Establishing matching federal funds to support private evacuation efforts.</td>
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<td><strong>Issues Analyzed and Recommendations On:</strong></td>
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With China, the U.S. faces an economic, military, and ideological competitor unlike any other that it has faced before. Congressional offices sought NSI’s expertise on how to address this growing global superpower, as well as for policy ideas on how the United States can continue to outpace China in technological development and innovation.

OPPRESSION OF UYGHURS

For decades, China has been engaging in systematic human rights abuses against its minority Uyghur population, as well as against other religious and ethnic minorities.

TESTIMONY PROVIDED TO CONGRESS

U.S.-China Relations in 2021: Emerging Risks
NSI Visiting Fellow
Giovanna Cinelli
NSI Visiting Fellow
David Hanke
U.S. – China Economic and Security Review Commission
September 8, 2021

WRITTEN MATERIALS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS

Issues Analyzed and Recommendations On:
- Enforcing existing sanctions or imposing new or modified sanctions;
- Implementing new economic or financial tools;
- Highlighting American corporate involvement in China; and
- Setting conditions for athlete involvement in the Beijing 2022 Olympics.
THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

China’s increased domination South China Sea (SCS), a critical economic artery, poses a regional and U.S. national security threat.

BRIEFINGS AND ANALYSIS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS

To help inform Congressional decisionmakers, NSI experts hosted briefings on China’s increasingly aggressive posture in the SCS and its threat to U.S. and allied interests and security in the region.

Further, as tensions build over Taiwan, NSI experts sought to inform Congress on the possibilities of a potential invasion of Taiwan and the range of U.S. responses.

LOOKING FORWARD

Looking to the future, NSI is excited to continue to engage with Congressional decisionmakers and provide nonpartisan analysis and research to help inform them on timely and important national security topics.

Starting in 2022, NSI will also begin hosting virtual and in-person programming tailored for Congressional staffers on topics of interest to the Hill. Based on feedback from Hill offices, NSI will launch, Finding the Next High Ground – Developing the Next Generation of Space Policy Experts, a project that seeks to educate Congressional staffers on the ever-increasing importance of the space domain in formulating national security policy.

NSI will also produce a multi-series workshop, Harnessing the Disruption: Embracing Cryptocurrencies to Secure U.S. Interests, to help inform staffers on cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology, as well as make the case that the U.S. should embrace and encourage the development of the crypto industry as a beneficial and transformative innovation that is critical to our economic and national security.
NSI 2020-1 is a multi-year project designed at targeting two of the most urgent national security issues of our time: the rise of China and preserving U.S. technology innovation leadership.

NSI’s papers, events, policy engagements, and media efforts on these topics, informed by the research and expertise of our experts, serve to both drive the policy debate and offer real-life solutions to these pressing issues.
China’s Rise targets China’s strategic ambitions to counter U.S. global leadership, including through rapidly modernizing its military and leveraging its economic power to strengthen its influence across the world. NSI experts seek to identify policy paths the United States can take to counter to these growing threats to U.S. interests and leadership.

The following pages are NSI’s events, papers, media efforts, and policy engagements addressing the following questions.


2. Chinese Economic Power and Statecraft: How Should the U.S. Respond?

3. How can the U.S. Combat the Modernization of China’s Military?


China is committed to challenging the existing world order with its efforts to attain hegemony over its regional neighbors, its commitment to civil-military fusion and state-support of critical technologies, and its ideological devotion to authoritarian control. How can the U.S. compete?

EVENTS

CONFRONTING CHINA’S CHALLENGE TO THE WORLD ORDER
NSI kicked off China’s Rise with a fireside chat featuring Michèle Flournoy, former Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense, and Ali Velshi, anchor and correspondent at MSNBC.

GEOPOLITICAL COMPETITION IN THE INDO-PACIFIC
NSI hosted a fireside chat on geopolitical competition in the Indo-Pacific featuring Randall G. Schriver, former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, Department of Defense, and Bethany Allen-Ebrahimian, China reporter at Axios.

THE FUTURE OF U.S. POWER AT HOME AND ABROAD
As part of NSI’s NatSec Nightcap series, NSI hosted a conversation on China and Great Power Competition that featured Gen. David H. Petraeus (Ret.), former Director of the CIA, and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director.

PAPERS

NSI BACKGROUNDER
A HISTORY OF U.S. RELATIONS WITH CHINA
By Christopher J. Bright
NSI Visiting Fellow

NSI BACKGROUNDER
CHINA AND ARCTIC SECURITY
By James P. Danoy
NSI Visiting Fellow

NSI BACKGROUNDER
CHINA’S INFLUENCE IN U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION
By Daniel. G. Currell
NSI Visiting Fellow
Amb. Atul Keshap, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs joined to discuss how the United States should be responding to the challenge of China.

The Fault Lines crew discussed Secretary of State Antony Blinken and National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan’s March 2021 meeting with their Chinese counterparts in Alaska.

Fault Lines turned what the Biden Administration should be thinking strategically about. U.S.-China tensions.

NSI experts provided their perspectives on the China Commission’s report’s findings and recommendations.

“The question remains whether rhetoric will be matched with concrete and targeted actions.”

“[I]ncreasing U.S. investments in space programs provides a unique opportunity to outpace our adversaries while stimulating the U.S. economy.”

“[T]he conventional wisdom has been that China’s rise to the world’s top economic power was not a question of if, but when... What if this assumption was all wrong?”
Chinese Economic Power and Statecraft: How Should the U.S. Effectively Respond?

China leverages its economic power to extend its influence around the world, including coercing regional neighbors to cave to Chinese policy and using access to its market as leverage to gain proprietary information to undercut competition or to silence party oppression and military aggression. How can the U.S. counter China’s growing economic leverage?

 EVENTS

CHINESE ECONOMIC POWER AND STATECRAFT: HOW SHOULD THE U.S. RESPOND?
NSI hosted an event on how the Biden Administration can counter China’s economic statecraft featuring: Ryan Hass, former National Security Council Director for China, Taiwan, and Mongolia; Kurt Tong, former U.S. Ambassador for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation; and Kylie Atwood, National Security Correspondent, CNN, moderated.

DOING BUSINESS WITH CHINA: HOW TO PROTECT U.S. INTERESTS
NSI hosted a discussion on how the U.S. can protect our national interests while doing business with China featuring Patrick Jenevein, CEO of Pointe Bello, and Jessie Liu, NSI Visiting Fellow and former U.S. Attorney for D.C.

CYBERSECURITY, CYBERCRIMES, AND COMBATING CHINA’S GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY THEFT
As part of NSI’s NatSec Nightcap series, NSI hosted a conversation about China’s evolving cybersecurity threat featuring John Demers, Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, Department of Justice, and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director.

 PAPERS

NSI BACKGROUNDER
CHINA’S ONE BELT ONE ROAD: NEW WORLD ORDER?
By Bryan Smith
NSI Senior Fellow

NSI LAW AND POLICY PAPER
THE RACE TO 5G: SECURING THE WIN
By Andy Keiser
NSI Senior Fellow
PODCASTS

CHINA AND TRADE WITH DAVID DOLLAR (EP. 42)
David Dollar, Senior Fellow in the John L. Thornton China Center at the Brookings Institution, joined to discuss the challenging economic questions China poses.

SUDAN COUP AND SOLARWINDS REDUX (EP. 104)
Fault Lines explored the coup in Sudan and what it means for not only the U.S., but for China, which has steadily increased its engagement across the African continent.

THE SCIF

CHINA AND THE STRATEGIC COMPETITION ACT — A PATH FORWARD
By Paula Doyle, NSI Visiting Fellow
“China’s espionage, cyber theft, and PII holdings arm it with traditional and novel ways to harm U.S. national and economic security.”

FOREIGN VENTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENT SCREENING: A SHARPER TOOL UNDER BIDEN
By Cameron Burks, NSI Visiting Fellow
“CFIUS will likely remain a centerpiece of the new administration’s strategy to curb Beijing’s efforts to acquire cutting-edge U.S. technology.”

“The United States doesn’t need to be in a rush to reset the relationship with China; what it needs to be doing is working to restore leverage for dealing with China.”
— RYAN HASS, Former National Security Council Director for China, Taiwan, and Mongolia
How can the U.S. Combat the Modernization of China’s Military?

Beijing has undertaken a massive effort to grow and modernize the People’s Liberation Army investing in a range of military programs and weapons systems, including those designed to improve power projection. How should the U.S. plan to counter China’s enhanced military capabilities across all domains and how can the U.S. strengthen the military capacities of partners and allies in the region?
Fault Lines welcomed Admiral James Stavridis and Elliot Ackerman, Co-authors of 2034: A Novel of the Next World Order, to answer whether we should expect a war with China and how emerging technologies would play a role in any future conflict.

Fault Lines predicts whether the United States would come to Taiwan’s aid in the event of a Chinese invasion.

Michael Krepon joined to talk nuclear arms control and how the U.S. can address China’s nuclear capabilities.

By Dr. Christopher Ford, NSI Advisory Board member
“We need, in other words, to turn Mao Zedong’s theories of ‘People’s War’ back against the People’s Republic of China (PRC).”

By Matthew Ferraro, NSI Visiting Fellow
“The United States should stand squarely with Bhutan and not let Beijing’s probing go unchecked, lest it invite more aggression across Asia.”

By Cameron Burks, NSI Visiting Fellow
“Beijing presents an unprecedented challenge to the U.S. — economically, militarily, politically, and technologically — and is an ‘unparalleled priority’ for the IC.”
What Does a New U.S. Grand Strategy Towards China Look Like?

For years, China has focused its economic, military, and diplomatic efforts on weakening U.S. influence and replacing it as leader of a new world order that is shaped in conformity with the worldview of the Chinese Communist Party. How can the U.S. and its allies design a sustained effort to both counter China’s threat while also maintaining the necessary diplomatic and economic ties to establish a new paradigm for U.S.-China relations?

CHINA’S RISE – COMPETITION IN CYBERSPACE
NSI hosted an event on China’s increasingly advanced military and technological capabilities featuring Vice Admiral TJ White, NSI Advisory Board member and former Commander, Fleet Cyber Command, US Tenth Fleet, and Jennifer Griffin, National Security Correspondent, FOX News.

NATIONAL SECURITY INNOVATION BASE: CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND GREAT POWER COMPETITION
NSI hosted an event on the U.S.-China tech competition featuring Michael Brown, Director of the Defense Innovation Unit, Department of Defense, and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director.

OUR HARDEST TEST: NAVIGATING U.S. CHINA RELATIONS IN A NEW ADMINISTRATION
NSI hosted an event analyzing the Trump and Biden Administrations’ approaches to U.S.-China relations featuring Josh Rogin, journalist, Washington Post, and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director.

EVENTS

EVNS

PAPERS

RESPONDING TO CHINA AT THE UNITED NATIONS
By Vincent J. Vitkowsky NSI Visiting Fellow and Rachida Mecheri

MILITARY IN SPACE: THE NEXT FRONTIER
By Dr. Craig J. Wiener, Kristen R. Hajduk, NSI Visiting Fellows and Gregory S. Witt

ADDRESSING CHINA’S OPPRESSION OF UYGHURS
By NSI Experts

CHINA AND AFRICA
By Lester Munson NSI Senior Fellow and Morgan Vina NSI Visiting Fellow
PODCASTS

CHINESE HACKING AND RANSOMWARE (EP. 89)
NSI Advisory Board member Dmitri Alperotvitch joined Fault Lines to explain how America should respond to Chinese aggression in cyberspace.

EPISODE 100: FUTURE CHALLENGES (EP. 100)
In this special 100th episode, the Fault Lines team looked ahead to hypothesize the future of national security; in particular, what type of challenges will China pose to the United States?

THE NEXT SPACE RACE: HOW INTERNET CONNECTIVITY FROM SPACE IS THE NEXT SINO-U.S. CONTESTED TECHNOLOGY DOMAIN
By Andy Keiser, NSI Fellow
“It’s time for the global policy community to wake up to the threat of a Chinese state-backed global satellite internet constellation.”

THE VALUE OF VALUES: COMPETING WITH CHINA IN AN AI-ENABLED WORLD
By Alexandra Seymour, NSI Visiting Fellow
“[S]ince the U.S. places democratic values at the core of its competition with China, the use of AI in the U.S. must provide a clear contrast to that of authoritarian China.”

PERSONNEL IS POWER: HOW TO COUNTER CHINA AT THE UNITED NATIONS
By Morgan L. Viña, NSI Visiting Fellow
“While the Biden Administration has yet to reveal the steps it plans to take to counter China in international institutions, getting more Americans in leadership positions, and who don’t take orders from Washington, should be a start.”
TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND AMERICAN NATIONAL SECURITY: PRESERVING U.S. LEADERSHIP IN A NEW DECADE

Today, innovation is increasingly driven more by the needs and decisions of the private sector than by government and the military establishment, and thus more than ever, the private sector plays an important role in protecting U.S. national security.

THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE NSI’S EVENTS, PAPERS, MEDIA EFFORTS, AND POLICY ENGAGEMENTS ADDRESSING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

1. Techlash: Is It Harming American Innovation and Undermining our National Security Interests?

2. Tech Competition: How Can the U.S. Maintain Innovation Supremacy?

3. Made in the USA 2030: Does the U.S. Need a National Industrial Technology Policy?

4. Protecting Innovation: How can the Government and the Tech Industry Lead on National Security?
Some of America’s most innovative technology companies have been plagued by public scrutiny and lawsuits, and they face growing calls for restrictive regulation in the U.S. and globally. How can U.S. government address legitimate public concerns regarding these companies’ activities and policies without impairing U.S. innovation, economic growth, and national security?
HOW INTRA-INDUSTRY CONFLICTS SHAPE THE TECHLASH
By Zach Graves, NSI Visiting Fellow

“While lobbying and advocacy activities are not necessarily nefarious, the current lack of transparency surrounding them can support regulatory capture...”

THE APP STORE COMPETITION DEBATE, EXPLAINED
By Zach Graves, NSI Visiting Fellow

“There are good reasons to be skeptical of walled gardens...”
Tech Competition: How Can the U.S. Maintain Innovation Supremacy?

Adversarial nation-states are increasingly important players in the development of critical emerging technologies, and it is imperative to national security that the U.S. remains the leader in innovation, while also promoting democratic and free principles. How can the U.S. maintain its technological edge?

EVENTS

PRESERVING U.S. LEADERSHIP: PROTECTING AMERICA WHILE PROMOTING INNOVATION
NSI hosted a fireside chat to discuss issues facing the Federal Communications Commission featuring Ajit Pai, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, and Emily Chang, Anchor and Executive Director, Bloomberg Technology.

THE AIR FORCE OF THE FUTURE: FROM GEOPOLITICAL COMPETITION TO OUTER SPACE
As part of NatSec Nightcap, NSI hosted a conversation on defense and warfare in outer space featuring Dr. Heather Wilson, former Secretary of the U.S. Airforce, and Lester Munson, NSI Senior Fellow and former Staff Director, Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND NEW FRONTIERS IN INNOVATION
As part of Questions from Quarantine, NSI hosted an event on technological challenges facing the Intelligence Community featuring Dr. Catherine Marsh, Director of Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity, (ODNI), and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director.

THE FOURTH REVOLUTION: A PROSPECTIVE ON BOLSTERING NATIONAL SECURITY THROUGH CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGIES
As part of Questions from Quarantine, NSI hosted a conversation on how emerging technologies can improve national security featuring Christopher Darby, President and CEO, In-Q-Tel, and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director.

PAPERS

NSI LAW AND POLICY PAPER
PROMOTING 5G AND FUTURE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT BY SUPPORTING GLOBAL STANDARDS
By Megan Brown NSI Senior Fellow

NSI BACKGROUNDER
BEYOND GPS: THE FRONTIER OF POSITIONING, NAVIGATION, AND TIMING SERVICES
By Lori Gordon NSI Visiting Fellow and Bryan Smith NSI Senior Fellow
PODCASTS

NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE FCC WITH BRENDAN CARR (EP. 83)
Commission Carr joined to discuss the national security work being done at the FCC and how competition with China may impact tech policy in the next five years.

WHO WRITES TECH STANDARDS - GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE SECTOR? WITH MEGAN BROWN (EP. 54)
NSI Senior Fellow Megan Brown joined to discuss U.S. involvement in setting global technical standards for 5G and other future technologies.

THE SCIF

CHINA’S TOOLKIT: RESPONSES TO THE U.S. INNOVATION & COMPETITION ACT
By Cameron Burks, NSI Visiting Fellow
“U.S. is no stranger to retaliatory measures enacted by Beijing, and time will tell how USICA places further pressure on an already delicate economic relationship.”

SLOW OUT OF THE GATE
By Margaret Peterlin, NSI Advisory Board member
“If we are to win the digital finance race, it is time to move with intention...”

OPINION PIECES

CRYPTO NEEDS REGULATION, BUT IT DOESN’T NEED NEW RULES
By Brent McIntosh, NSI Advisory Board member
“Innovation is rarely smooth or predictable.” Wall Street Journal
Many of the technologies Americans use are, at least in part, the result of U.S. government-sponsored research. However, federal support and funding for science research and for applied technology development has stagnated even as American companies face challenges by foreign competitors supported by their governments or through stolen U.S. technology. How should the U.S. support strategic technology industries while preserving traditional market principles?

**EVENTS**

**FABRICATING THE FUTURE: THE IMPORTANCE OF SEMICONDUCTORS TO U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY**
NSI hosted an event on the critical importance of the semiconductor supply chain featuring: Ritu Favre, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Semiconductor and Electronics, NI; John Neuffer, President and CEO, Semiconductor Industry Association; Sarah Stewart, NSI Visiting Fellow and Executive Director, Silverado Policy Accelerator; and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director, moderated.

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE FIGHT FOR THE FUTURE**
NSI hosted a conversation on artificial intelligence featuring Mignon Clyburn and Gilman Louie, Commissioners, the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, and Chris Bing, cybersecurity reporter, Reuters, moderated.

**THE SPACE ENTERPRISE: WHY NATIONAL SECURITY AND COMMERCIAL SPACE EFFORTS NEED A UNIFIED THEORY OF EVERYTHING**
In partnership with The Aerospace Corporation, NSI hosted an event on how the space industry is directly linked to national security featuring: Joshua Huminski, NSI Visiting Fellow and Director, Mike Rogers Center for Intelligence & Global Affairs; Karen L. Jones, Senior Project Leader, Center for Space Policy and Strategy, Aerospace Corporation; Dr. Jamie M. Morin, Vice President, Defense Systems Operations, Aerospace Corporation; and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director, moderated.

**BUILDING THE SPACE ECONOMY FOR COMMERCE AND SECURITY**
In partnership with the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress, NSI hosted an event on the role of the private sector in space featuring: Dr. Diane Howard, Chief Counsel for Space Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce; Jeffrey Manber, Chief Executive Officer, NanoRocks; Adrian Mangiuca, Business Development Director for Space Solutions, Made in Space; Victoria Samson, Washington Office Director, Secure World Foundation; and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director, moderated.
THE U.S. DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE: CAN IT COMPETE IN THE NEXT CENTURY?
Report with DUCO Experts

PODCASTS

SUPPLY CHAINS AND RELATIONSHIP STRAINS (EP. 70)
The team explored whether the government should be directly investing in the American tech sector to help maintain U.S. innovative leadership.

THE SCIF

IS IT INEVITABLE THAT CHINA WILL BECOME THE WORLD’S TOP SUPERPOWER?
By Andy Keiser, NSI Fellow
“What if global business and political leaders have been parroting a Chinese Communist Party (CCP) talking point? Haven’t we been largely relying on the data from the CCP to render this consensus conclusion?”

PAPERS

BUILDING TRUSTED GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN ECOSYSTEMS IN A FRACTURED WORLD
By Lori Gordon NSI Visiting Fellow and Dr. Andrea Little Limbago NSI Senior Fellow

THE U.S. DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE: CAN IT COMPETE IN THE NEXT CENTURY?
Report with DUCO Experts
Protecting Innovation: How can the Government and the Tech Industry Lead on National Security

U.S. technology companies bring a myriad of national security and economic benefits to the U.S.; however, these companies increasingly find themselves the target of government scrutiny and potential regulation. How can technology companies work together with the government to assist in national security efforts and the promotion of democratic principles?

EVENTS

THE NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF ANTITRUST SERIES:

NSI hosted a four part-series on the national security implications of antitrust.

The series provided an overview of domestic and international antitrust laws and how these regulations and legal challenges impact U.S. and foreign tech companies, and explored how the U.S. should position itself to preserve its preeminent role in leading technological innovation and to protect vital U.S. security interests.
SHAPING LAW AND POLICY

5G AT THE NEXUS OF IP, ANTITRUST, AND TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP

NSI co-hosted the Eighth Annual Fall Conference with the Center for Intellectual Property x Innovation Policy (C-IP2), which featured a keynote address by Hon. Andrei Iancu, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property, United States Department of Commerce.

SPEAKERS:

- **Asheesh Agarwal**
  Advisor on Antitrust and Economic Policy, American Edge Project
- **Ashley Baker**
  Director of Public Policy, Committee for Justice
- **Oren Cass**
  Executive Director, American Compass
- **Mike Davis**
  Founder and President, Internet Accountability Project
- **Evelyn Farkas**
  Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia
- **Glenn Gerstell**
  Senior Adviser (Non-resident), International Security Program, CSIS
- **Jennifer Huddleston**
  Policy Counsel, NetChoice
- **Jamil N. Jaffer**
  NSI Founder and Executive Director
- **Roselyn Layton**
  Vice President of Strand Consult
- **Prof. Matt Perault**
  University of North Carolina’s School of Information & Library Science
- **Alex Petros**
  Policy Counsel, Public Knowledge
- **Maureen Ohlhausen**
  Former Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission
- **Professor Jan Rybnicek**
  Counsel, Freshfields
- **Dr. Hal Singer**
  Senior Fellow, George Washington Institute of Public Policy
- **Prof. Joshua Wright**
  Executive Director, Global Antitrust Institute

CYBER OFFENSE VS. CYBER DEFENSE: HOW TO BEST PROTECT AGAINST CYBER EXPLOITS

In partnership with Silverado Policy Accelerator, NSI hosted a debate on whether cyber offense or defense is the most effective way to protect against cyber exploits. Ciaran Martin, former CEO, National Cyber Security Centre, and Heather Adkins, Director, Information Security and Privacy, Google, argued in support of cyber defense and Dmitri Alperovitch, NSI Advisory Board member and Executive Chairman, Silverado Policy Accelerator, and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director, argued in support of cyber offense.
INSTEAD OF HARMING U.S. TECHNOLOGY, LET’S HARNESS IT TO TAKE ON CHINA
By Michael Allen, NSI Advisory Board member
“We should accept that American technology companies are part of our strategic competition with China and support the strength of U.S. innovation, not undermine it.”

“START-UP SECURE – DEFENDING YOUR BUSINESS FROM CYBER ATTACKS”
By Chris Castaldo, NSI Visiting Fellow
“Start-ups are a primary source of novel ideas and technology today, responsible for numerous advances in automotive, life sciences, and cloud technology.”

KEEPING THE HOME COURT ADVANTAGE: SECURING AMERICA’S CYBERSPACE
By Gen. Keith Alexander (Ret.), NSI Advisory Board member, and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director

A STRONG OFFENSE CAN DECREASE CYBERATTACKS ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
By Gen. Michael Hayden (Ret.), NSI Advisory Board member

AMERICA IS BEING HELD RANSOM. IT NEEDS TO FIGHT BACK.
By Dmitri Alperovitch, NSI Advisory Board member

WE COULD USE A PRIVATE-SECTOR-ORIENTED CYBER LEADER
By Paul Rosenzweig, NSI Advisory Board member

THE CYBERLAW PODCAST
NSI Advisory Board member Stewart Baker, along with Jordan Schneider, Pete Jydel, and Michael Weiner, explores how China regulates its tech industry and the downside of empowering government agencies with the ability to choose which companies to cripple.
As NSI looks towards 2022, the rise of China and critical technology and innovation issues will continue to present national security challenges and opportunities.

In the next year, NSI will continue to examine challenges presented by these areas, as well as expand our policy efforts to analyze a wider range of repressive nation states, and new and emerging tech and innovation related challenges. Under the theme of global autocrats, NSI will analyze the expansionist regimes now threatening global stability - such as China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea - and how these countries are exporting novel repressive techniques and technologies beyond their borders. In regard to our tech work, NSI will do deep-dives on issues and policies that currently underpin U.S. national security interests and our innovation base – such as rare earth supply security and a comprehensive space strategy – as well as examine technologies that may prove critical to our future security, such as blockchain and artificial intelligence.
EDUCATING FUTURE LEADERS

NSI is committed to providing our students with a wide range of experiences in the national security arena, from gaining the skills necessary to engage in rigorous analysis of key issues, to providing opportunities to work on legal and policy matters in a variety of settings, from academia to government.
NSI supports the next generation of national security leaders through directing the National Security Law and Policy Concentration and the Cyber, Intelligence, and National Security LL.M., supporting unique student opportunities and organizations, and coordinating NSI’s annual National Security & Separation of Powers summer program for Scalia Law students. Through its diversity initiatives, NSI is also committed to identifying, educating, and empowering a diverse and forward-leaning group of leaders to tackle tomorrow’s national security challenges.
NATIONAL SECURITY LAW AND POLICY CONCENTRATION
The National Security Law & Policy Concentration provides students with an in-depth study of today’s most challenging national security law issues from faculty that are leaders in national security, intelligence, and cyber.

CYBERSECURITY, INTELLIGENCE, AND NATIONAL SECURITY LAW LL.M.
The Cyber, Intelligence and National Security Law LL.M. prepares graduates with the expertise to navigate the emerging policy, legal, and constitutional issues in these key areas.

NSI’S UNIQUE STUDENT BENEFITS

LEARNING FROM EXPERT FACULTY
Students learn from expert faculty who work on core national security missions and build and implement some of the most influential legal and policy frameworks governing our nation’s military and intelligence activities.

NETWORKING WITH DECISION-MAKERS
Through NSI, students can engage with over 180 national security experts that comprise NSI’s Advisory Board, Faculty, and Fellows, including former Directors and General Counsels of the CIA, DIA, NSA, DoD, NGA, and ODNI and leaders and entrepreneurs in private industry.

DEVELOPING TOMORROW’S POLICIES
NSI’s degree programs prepare graduates to work for government agencies, law firms, businesses, and public interest and policy organizations that are addressing the difficult national security challenges facing the United States and its allies.

TAKING INNOVATIVE CLASSES
NSI is continuously examining the legal and policy landscape to develop a cutting-edge curriculum to teach students what they need to know for the future. In AY 2021-22, students are able to take classes on emerging law and policy topics such as national security leaks in the media and blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies.
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

In July 2020, due to COVID-19, NSI hosted its third annual National Security & Separation of Powers summer program in Williamsburg, Virginia, home to the oldest law school in the United States.

Each year, NSI hosts a National Security & Separation of Powers summer program – a two week-long program on the historical roots and the modern application of the separation of powers in the national security context.

Students attend two courses taught by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Neil M. Gorsuch and NSI Founder and Executive Director Jamil N. Jaffer: (1) Separation of Powers; and (2) Interbranch Conflicts in National Security: War, Intelligence, and Negotiations.

In addition to group excursions to Jamestown and Yorktown, over twenty Scalia Law students had the opportunity to participate in informal discussions with prominent leaders in law and national security, including:

- Sue Gordon, NSI Advisory Board member and then Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence
- Judge Patrick J. Bumatay of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- Donald McGahn, former White House Counsel
In July 2021, as COVID restrictions eased, NSI was excited to return to hosting an international program, and we brought eighteen Scalia Law students to Reykjavík, Iceland.

In an exciting development, NSI was also proud to host U.S. Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan during the program; she joined Justice Gorsuch for a class session, as well as led informal coffee sessions with students. Benedikt Bogason, the President of the Supreme Court of Iceland, also led students and Justices Gorsuch and Kagan on a tour of the Icelandic Supreme Court; they were joined on the tour by Icelandic Supreme Court Justices Ingveldur Einarsdóttir, Ólafur Börkur Þorvaldsson, and Ása Ólafsdóttir.

FEATURED GUESTS

Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch

Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan

Students also participated in informal discussions with leading legal experts and national security practitioners, including:

- Judge Patrick J. Bumatay of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- Sue Gordon, NSI Advisory Board member and former Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence
- Ellen McCarthy, former Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research
- Donald McGahn, former White House Counsel
- Professor Timothy Meyer, Vanderbilt University Law School
- Justice Jonathan J. Papik of the Nebraska Supreme Court
Student Brown Bags and Career Panels
NSI regularly hosts networking and professional development events for students, including student brown bags and career panels. While COVID-19 caused NSI to temporarily pause programming, in November 2021, NSI was excited to host Sarah Geffroy, NSI Senior Fellow and Assistant Vice President and Senior Legal Counsel at AT&T, for an in person student brown bag lunch where students had the opportunity learn about the practice of national security law and policy in a small group setting.

Mason Veterans and Servicemembers Legal Clinic
The Mason Veterans and Servicemembers (M-VETS) Legal Clinic provides students the opportunity to gain critical hands-on experience by working directly on behalf of armed service veterans, as well as their families, on an array of legal matters.

Research and Externship Opportunities
NSI employs student research assistants to provide important research and programmatic help to support, among many things, the publication of policy papers, the production of NSI’s podcasts, and the execution of NSI’s Congressional engagement. NSI also pairs students with unique student externships and internships across the public and private sector.

Guantanamo Bay Hearings
Students have the opportunity to visit the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station to attend and observe military commission proceedings, which expand student understanding of the role that attorneys can play in counterterrorism efforts.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

• National Security Law Journal
• Mason Intelligence & National Security Law Association
• Military Law Society
• Space Law Society
DIVERSITY INITIATIVES

NSI is committed to bringing more diversity into the national security policymaking community by collaborating with key educational institutions to provide programming and professional and mentorship opportunities for students with diverse backgrounds and viewpoints. Thus far, NSI has been actively seeking partner institutions – including Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other educational institutions that host diverse student populations – and has already begun a formal partnership with Cambridge College.

NSI has also hosted events and conversations examining diversity in the national security policy space.

EVENTS

- **MAKING WAVES IN THE DEFENSE SPACE**
  NSI hosted a private, off-the-record conversation on diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts within the DoD, featuring Bishop Garrison, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense on Human Capital and DEI.

- **SYSTEMIC RACISM AND DIVERSITY IN NATIONAL SECURITY QUESTIONS FROM QUARANTINE**
  NSI hosted a candid, organization-wide discussion on NSI’s role in fighting racism following the death of George Floyd.

- **THE AIR FORCE OF THE FUTURE: FROM GEOPOLITICAL COMPETITION TO OUTER SPACE NATSEC NIGHTCAP**
  Dr. Heather Wilson, former Secretary of the United States Air Force and current President of the University of Texas at El Paso, joined NSI for a discussion on educating the next generation and diversifying the military of the future.

PODCASTS

- **DIVERSITY IN NATIONAL SECURITY WITH DR. LENORA GANT (EP. 77)**
  Dr. Lenora Gant, NSI Advisory Board member and Distinguished Fellow and former Senior National Intelligence Officer within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, discussed the role of historically black colleges and universities in improving diversity in national security.

- **THE SCIF**
  “No More Workforce Studies: Try Real Accountability”
  Dr. Lenora Gant, NSI Advisory Board member and Distinguished Fellow, authored an analysis on the glaring disparities between the employment and retention of minorities, women, and persons with disabilities in the Intelligence Community.
NSI strives to provide timely and thorough analysis on the latest breaking national security news. Our team of Advisory Board members, faculty, and fellows have decades of combined experience in breaking down complex issues and policies and providing informative commentary to wide audiences.
IDENTIFYING LEGAL AND POLICY SOLUTIONS TO HARD NATIONAL SECURITY QUESTIONS

NSI’s experts share their expertise in a multitude of formats and mediums, including via writing on The SCIF, NSI’s expert-driven blog, via participating in high-profile events, and by providing educational programming to industry leaders and policymakers, appearing regularly in print, audio, and video media, and participating in NSI’s three podcasts covering important national security and foreign policy issues.
**The Strategic Value of Small Wins in Syria**  
By NSI Visiting Fellow Jennifer Cafarella  

“The U.S.’s habitual all-or-nothing framing of the war has handicapped our policy far more than conditions on the ground.”

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**President Marshall Idriss Déby — “The Marshall of Chad”: A Legacy of Regime Insecurity**  
By NSI Advisory Board member Amb. Cindy Courville  

“For Déby, the survival of the regime and the stability of the state superseded any moral consciousness or considerations.”

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**No More Workforce Studies: Try Real Accountability**  
By NSI Advisory Board member Dr. Lenora Peters Gant  

“It’s time for groundbreaking and fair systemic approaches to ensure equitable career progression for all IC employees.”

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**North Korea’s Nuclear Ambitions and a Reaction to ODNI’s Assessment**  
By NSI Visiting Fellow David Lasseter  

“Kim Jong Un sees his adversaries as distracted and he will continue to seize on this as an opportunity to mature his burgeoning offensive weapons capabilities.”

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**The Transatlantic Odd Couple**  
By NSI Visiting Fellow Martha Miller  

“Exciting isn’t a word typically used when describing German politics or elections. This year could be different however…”

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**Big Problems in Bishkek**  
By NSI Visiting Fellow Scott Cullinane  

“Sadly, Kyrgyzstan’s halting journey toward democracy has gone into reverse over the past six months.”

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**The SCIF**  
In a world that is always changing, NSI experts offer insight on critical stories in the news.

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**Talking Points**  
NSI experts share their “talking points,” which are aimed at breaking down critical national security issues to the matter-of-facts.
The SCIF is NSI’s new blog that features insightful analysis from NSI experts on topics ranging from the rise of China to protecting the U.S. defense industrial base, tensions in the Middle East, the new space race, and all the areas in between. Since its launch in March 2021, the SCIF:

- has had **25,000 views to date**
- has had nearly **9,000 unique reads**
- has been featured **over 30 different NSI authors**, with new experts contributing each month.

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**Stopping the Steal: Safeguarding NATO’s Secrets in a Hybrid Threat World**
By NSI Visiting Fellow Jim Danoy and Madeline Olden

“**Intelligence sharing is crucial to bolstering NATO’s defense capabilities in the face of the Russian and Chinese challenge.**”

**Protecting What It Means To Be Human Online**
By NSI Visiting Fellow David Etue

“**We need to evolve our focus beyond cybersecurity of systems and the data they process, to the risks at the human layer.**”

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**Foreign Cyber Operations: Ryuk Ransomware Group**
By NSI Visiting Fellow Melissa Vice and Peggy Wright

“The cybersecurity actions we take today will protect critical facilities and services that millions of Americans depend on each day.”

**Russian Cyber Attacks Threaten Credibility of U.S. Aid Agencies**
By NSI Visiting Fellow Morgan Vîna

“**It’s unlikely that Russia will stop its cyber attacks any time soon, therefore, it’s even more important for aid organizations to take preemptive action to protect themselves.**”

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**President Biden’s Missed Foreign Policy Opportunity**
By NSI Visiting Fellow Andrew McClure

**Shiism, Iran, and a New Path Forward**
By NSI Advisory Board member Sada Cumber

**Bringing Domestic Policy Agencies to the National Security Table**
By NSI Visiting Fellow Dan Currell

**Time to Return to the Founders’ Regular Order in Foreign Policy**
By NSI Senior Fellow Lester Munson
NATSEC NIGHTCAP

NatSec Nightcap is NSI’s monthly public webinar series where senior policy leaders share their perspectives on a wide-range of pressing policy challenges ranging from America’s nuclear posture to serving in Congress and responding to the COVID pandemic.

- **Russia’s Most Wanted Man**
  Bill Browder, Founder and CEO of Hermitage Capital Management and author of *Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man’s Fight for Justice*

- **The Warrior Diplomat: From the Battlefield to Congress**
  Congressman Mike Waltz (FL-06)

- **A Portrait of Leadership: 50 Years of Public Service**
  Leon Panetta, NSI Advisory Board member and former U.S. Secretary of Defense and former Director of the CIA

- **Advancing Diplomacy Abroad: A Deep Dive into U.S. Foreign Policy**
  Elliot Abrams, Former U.S. Special Representative for Iran and Venezuela

- **After the Election: The Future of the National Security Landscape**
  Amb. Paul Wolfowitz, NSI Advisory Board Member and former Deputy Secretary of Defense

- **Challenges, Opportunities, and the Need for Diversity in Nuclear Nonproliferation**
  Amb. Bonnie Jenkins, Former Coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs, Department of State

- **US-Africa Relations: The Future of Engagement**
  Amb. Reuben E. Brigety II, Former U.S. Ambassador to the African Union

- **National Security Priorities and Preparedness: Pandemics & Terrorism**
  Lisa Monaco, Former White House Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Advisor
This monthly and private off-the-record briefing series is exclusively for NSI Advisory Board, fellows, faculty, and Scalia Law School students and brings senior decisionmakers to share their insight into important and timely issues ranging from geopolitical competition to the global economy and the future of counterterrorism.

**QUESTIONS FROM QUARANTINE**

**From the State Department to Academia: A Career of Championing Democracy**
Condoleezza Rice, Former Secretary of State

**A Critical Perspective on Global Peace Operations and U.S. Homeland Security**
Jane Lute, Former Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support

**Making Waves in the Defense Space**
Bishop Garrison, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense on Human Capital and DEI

**Tackling Global Challenges Together: From Malign Influence to Supply Chain Security**
Mark Green, Former Administrator, USAID

**Counterterrorism Efforts Today: Challenges, Successes, and Lessons**
Amb. Nathan Sales, Ambassador-at-Large and Coordinator for Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State

**Defending the Homeland: From Information Operations to the Pandemic**
Jeh Johnson, Former Secretary of Homeland Security

**Election 2020: America’s Foreign Policy Future**
Kori Schake, Director of Foreign and Defense Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute

**Money Matters: A Perspective on National Security and the U.S. Economy**
Brent McIntosh, NSI Advisory Board member and former Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs

**Congress’ role in National Security**
Jonathan Burks, Former Chief of Staff to Rep. Paul Ryan (WI-1)

**Navigating 21st Century Security Challenges**
Fiona Hill, Former Deputy Assistant to the President and Senior Director for European and Russian Affairs National Security Council

**Understanding U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East 2021: Goals and Challenges**
Danielle Pletka, Senior Fellow at AEI

March 11, 2021
In today’s global environment, liberal democracies face a crisis of confidence and authoritarian regimes are working to threaten the foundational premise of the rule of law.

NSI was proud to co-host with the Center for Strategic & International Studies—a moderated discussion between Justice Sonia Sotomayor and Justice Neil M. Gorsuch of the U.S. Supreme Court on civics as a national security imperative. Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director, and Suzanne Spaulding, Director of the Defending Democratic Institutions Project, CSIS, moderated the conversation, which was shared with students across the United States.

OTHER EVENTS

Silencing the Radio: Freedom of the Press in Russia
NSI hosted a discussion on the Russian government’s media crackdown that featured Jamie Fly, President and CEO, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and Lester Munson, NSI Senior Fellow and former Staff Director, Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Getting out of Gitmo: Dangerous or Smart?
NSI co-hosted an event with the Federalist Society that focused on the future of the Guantanamo Bay detention camp and featured: Karen Greenberg, Director of the Center on National Security, Fordham University; David Rivkin, BakerHostetler; Stephen Vladeck, Charles Alan Wright Chair in Federal Courts, University of Texas School of Law; and NSI Founder and Executive Director Jamil N. Jaffer moderated.

Success of Conflict in Mozambique and the Path Forward
NSI hosted a discussion focused on insurgent activity from ISIS Mozambique that featured: Lester Munson, NSI Senior Fellow and former Staff Director, Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Morgan Viña, NSI Visiting Fellow and former Chief of Staff, Department of Defense; and Nicole Wilett, Chief of Staff, Open Society Foundations.

CSPS Distinguished Lecture with Amb. David Scheffer
NSI, the Center for Security Policy Studies, and the Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center co-hosted an event centered on the International Criminal Court and featured: David J. Scheffer, former Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues; Dr. Louise Shelley, Founder and Executive Director, Terrorism Transnational Crime and Corruption Center; Ellen Laipson, Director of the Center for Security Policy Studies; and Jamil N. Jaffer, Founder and Executive Director of NSI, moderated.
Hack the Capitol brings together policymakers and industry leaders to discuss defending the industrial base against malicious actors.

In partnership with ICS Village, R Street Institute, and CyberBytes, NSI was excited to co-host Hack the Capitol – an all day, multi-track event focused on Industrial Control System (ICS) security for the third time. The event included simultaneous policy panels and presentations, technical talks, and a virtual exhibition hall.

This year, Congressional speakers included:
- Rep. Robert Wittman (VA-01)
- Rep. Mike Gallagher (WI-08)
- Rep. James Langevin (RI-02)
- Rep. Yvette Clark (NY-09)
- and Rep. Ted Lieu (CA-33)

NSI hosted an event that examined the impact of the Commission and the implementation status of its many recommendations and featured: Matt Hayden, NSI Visiting Fellow and former Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Cyber, Infrastructure, Risk and Resilience Policy; JC Herz, NSI Visiting Fellow and COO Ion Channel; Kiersten Todt, NSI Visiting Fellow and Managing Director, Cyber Readiness Institute; and Megan Brown, NSI Senior Fellow and Partner at Wiley Rein LLP, moderated.

NSI co-hosted a symposium on election security. The first panel – Trolls & Polls - Dangers and Risks of Misinformation – featured: Susan M. Gordon, NSI Advisory Board member and former Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence; Nikolas Guggenberger, Clinical Lecturer in Law, Yale University; Lisa Kaplan, NSI Visiting Fellow and founder of Alethea Group; and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director moderated. The event’s second panel – Phishing for Truth - Securing the Election from Cyber Attacks – featured: Andy Keiser, NSI Fellow and former Senior Advisory, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; Megan Stifel, NSI Visiting Fellow and Executive Director, Americas, at the Global Cyber Alliance’ Prof. Josephine Wolff, Assistant Professor of cybersecurity policy, Tufts University; and Jamil N. Jaffer, NSI Founder and Executive Director, moderated.
NSI TECHNOLOGIST FELLOWSHIP

NSI’s Technologist Fellowship provides technologists from around the country the core tools needed to effectively engage policymakers in both the legislative and executive branches on cyber issues.

The Fellowship enables fellows to inject direct technology-related expertise into the national security and cyber policy processes.

Due to COVID, NSI shifted its Technology Program from in-person multi-day sessions to shorter and more frequent virtual sessions held throughout the year. Throughout the program, NSI Technologist Fellows had the opportunity to engage with cyber experts and leading technology and national security policymakers - all with the goal of enabling fellows to inject technology-related expertise into the national security and cyber policy processes.

PAST SESSIONS

The Three Branches of Government
In separate sessions, NSI provided an overview of the legislative, executive, and judiciary branches – ensuring that those without a policy background have a well-rounded understanding of how government functions.

Government Funding and Decision-making
NSI experts briefed fellows on the federal budget process – from the President’s budget request through Congressional budget resolutions and the budget reconciliation process. Fellows also learned about specific tech and cyber funding mechanisms.

Political Communications
Fellows gained a deeper understanding of political communications by learning about the various stakeholders involved in advocacy, including interest groups and associations, and how to best engage such groups and different governmental bodies.
ADVANCING THE DEBATE

Policy Writing
Fellows learned how to write policy products and best practices when approaching written communications, and completed written homework assignments, receiving NSI expert feedback to strengthen their written communication abilities.

Oral Advocacy
Fellows will receive expert tutorials on how to advocate orally, including how to engage with the media and how to deliver interviews in a variety of formats, as well as how to brief government policymakers.

Practicum
Fellows will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained throughout the program to identify, develop, write, and present technology-related policy recommendations to a group of policymakers and industry leaders.

NSI TECHNOLOGIST FELLOWS CLASS OF 2021
(Clockwise from Left)

Audrey Adams
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Ayanna Dawkins
Modern Workforce Specialist, Microsoft

Boris Dyatkin
Technical SETA, Science and Technology Associates, Inc.

Terrence Goggin
Specialist Leader, Deloitte

Thomas Hastings
Lead Signal Processing Technical Staff, MITRE

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Abraham Kang
CTO, GEEE

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Technical Program Manager, Facebook

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Head of Open Source, Indeed.com

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Industrial Control Systems Security Engineer, Amazon

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Systems Engineer, In-Q-Tel

*Not Pictured

FUTURE SESSIONS
CYBER TECHNOLOGY & LAW PROGRAM

In January 2021, NSI hosted its Cyber Technology & Law Program for a federal agency aimed at providing participants a focused understanding of the cyber threat landscape and offensive cyber operations.

The program included a detailed examination of the tools and approaches cyber attackers use, as well as comprehensive instruction regarding the technology of offensive cyber activities and the law applicable to such activities.

Jointly developed by technologists and lawyers, this program is unique in its ability to deliver a deep level of technological knowledge combined with legal analysis that provides a true melding of real-world technology and legal issues.

Moving forward, NSI is excited to expand the program to include sessions focused on private sector cybersecurity initiatives, as well as optional advanced sessions exploring emerging threats and effective deterrence in cyberspace.
NNSA-NSI 5G AND NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION: CROSSROADS TO EXPLORE THREATS AND OPPORTUNITIES

In February 2021, NSI and the Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation at the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) co-hosted a virtual half-day workshop that brought experts from the cybersecurity and national security domain together with nuclear non-proliferation experts from the Department of Energy to help identify and discuss key issues in the defense nuclear non-proliferation arena.

The event kicked off with an overview of 5G technology and nuclear non-proliferation policies, followed by concurrent breakout focused on security related to nuclear fuel cycle facilities, nuclear and radiological material transportation, and commercial nuclear and radiological facilities.

COLLECTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE CYBER DEFENSE PROJECT

With the support of a grant from the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative, in May and June 2021, NSI partnered with Virginia Tech University, Connected DMV, and George Mason University to host two virtual half-day workshops.

These two workshops focused on the identification of new regional opportunities in the Blacksburg/New River Valley and D.C., Maryland, and Virginia metropolitan (DMV) regions to create collective and collaborative cyber defense capabilities.

The workshop brought together senior executives from the private sector and government, as well as technology experts from key industries, to discuss current and future threats and challenges in the cybersecurity areas with a goal of better protecting the public and private sector organizations at the heart of our regional economic development.
MEDIA AND PRESS

MEDIA

National Security Institute experts provide comprehensive, timely, and insightful analysis on breaking national security stories across all media platforms - print, TV, radio, podcasts, and other digital news outlets.

MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Afghanistan Withdrawal and Taliban Takeover

NSI experts appeared on major national outlets to discuss the Biden Administration’s decision to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan and the subsequent Taliban takeover.

“Now that the U.S. has withdrawn troops, we must bolster our U.S. diplomatic corps, leverage other partners, and utilize other mechanisms within our government to support Afghanistan.”

– NSI VISITING FELLOW DAN WAGNER, THE SCIF

NSI REMEMBERS

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the September 11th attacks, NSI asked our Advisory Board members and fellows to share their memories of that day and their reflections on how the attacks impacted both themselves and our nation. NSI shared their stories first on The SCIF, and then in a book that was published and shared with the larger NSI team.

FEATURES OF THE BOOK

• When It Happened
• Lessons Learned
• Impact of the Attacks
• For The Next Generation
Don’t Fail America’s Allies: The Plight of Afghans Left Behind
By France Hoang, NSI Visiting Fellow

“President Joe Biden failed America’s allies — and my family — in 1975. He should not repeat his mistake in 2021.”

Biden blames others, but the errors are his in Afghanistan’s crisis
By Andrew McClure, NSI Visiting Fellow

“As Americans choose how to remember the war in Afghanistan, there is plenty of blame to go around. We may have failed to learn many of the lessons of the past two decades, but President Biden’s misapprehension in Afghanistan is perhaps the most grievous among them.”

The ‘Forever War’ Hasn’t Ended
By Paul Wolfowitz, NSI Advisory Board member

“Even as a civilian, I’ve seen enough of those life-shattering injuries, enough of the grief and loss of Gold Star families, to know that I don’t want it to continue for one day more than necessary.”

The CIA Spent 20 Years on the Front Lines of the War on Terror. It’s Time For That to Change.
By Amy Zegart, NSI Advisory Board member

“One of the more enduring legacies of the post-9/11 era is a style of spycraft that does not serve America’s national security interests as it once did.”

Special Emergency Episode
The Fault Lines team reacts in real-time to the fall of Afghanistan and the rise of the Taliban.

The Road Ahead: A Further Discussion on Afghanistan with Ryan Browne
Ryan Browne, former CNN correspondent at the Pentagon, provided his expert analysis on how the Taliban may govern Afghanistan.

Rep. Seth Moulton (MA-06) recounts his impromptu trip to Afghanistan and the growing concerns around refugees.

Lessons from Afghanistan
By Dan Wagner, NSI Visiting Fellow

Failure in Afghanistan, Not Futility
By Jennifer Cafarella, NSI Visiting Fellow

Iran: Whistling Past the Afghan Graveyard
By Cameron Burks, NSI Visiting Fellow
Fault Lines breaks down the political divides between the left and right on the most pressing national security issues of our time. The show also features in-depth interviews with politicians and national security experts.

PODCASTS

**Insurrection Aftermath**
The group picks through the rubble and discuss the implications of January 6th.

**JCPOA Redux and FacePlant in Australia**
The crew discuss how to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons.

**A Post-Trump America**
Bob Corker, Former Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

**Anchorage Summit and the Pandemic Year**
The team discuss Anchorage Summit talks with China.

**Developments on the African continent**
Ambassador Cindy Courville, NSI Advisory Board member first Ambassador to the African Union

**NSI CAST**
Scott Cullinane
NSI Visiting Fellow and Executive Director, US-Europe Alliance

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NSI Visiting Fellow and Former Associate Counsel and Special Assistant to the President, Office of the President

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Jamil N. Jaffer
NSI Founder and Executive Director

Dr. Andrea Little Limbago
NSI Visiting Fellow and Vice President of Research and Analysis, Interos
Iranian Elections, Missile Ejections, and Democracy Around the Globe

The team discuss Iranian presidential election results and impact for U.S. interests.

Biden’s First Trip and Kleptocracy

The group examine Biden’s stance on Russian aggression.

Cuban Unrest, Chinese Hacks, and the Biden Response

The crew discuss Cuba’s protests, China’s hacks, and Biden’s response.

Future Challenges

For our 100th episode, the team looks forward to what the future of national security may hold.

NSI PAPER

Dr. Christopher Ford, NSI Advisory Board member and former Asst. Sec. for International Security and Nonproliferation, on his NSI paper, “Principled Conservatism in America’s Foreign Affairs and National Security Policy.”

NSI Live serves as NSI’s podcast hub for breaking news and special edition episodes, as well as another format for listening to our many programming options.
Iron Butterfly, launched in 2020 by NSI and the Amazing Women of the Intelligence Community (AWIC), brings listeners stories from the lives and careers of women from all corners of the Intelligence Community. Megan Jaffer, Founding Member of AWIC, interviews these inspirational women – who, in addition to their stories, share what their code name was, or would be, and why.

AVAILABLE AT: shows.acast.com/the-iron-butterfly
The podcast gets its namesake from Eloise Page, the first female Chief of Station at the Central Intelligence Agency, whose code name was the Iron Butterfly.

GUEST INTERVIEWS

DR. STACEY DIXON – SERENE
Former Deputy Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Notes: She is calm, peaceful, tranquil, and not easily ruffled.

ALICE FISHER - RADAR
NSI Advisory Board member and former Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, Department of Justice
Notes: She hears the helicopters before they arrive.

SUE GORDON – SIMPLE PATRIOT
NSI Advisory Board member and former Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence
Notes: She is propelled by a commitment to government service.

TISH LONG – VELVET HAMMER
NSI Advisory Board member and former Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Notes: She has the ability to communicate tough decisions without upsetting others.

CARMEN MEDINA – REBEL AT WORK
NSI Advisory Board member and former Deputy Director for Intelligence, CIA
Notes: She is most effective when at her authentic self.

CORIN STONE – TEMPERED GLASS
Former Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Strategy and Engagement at the Office of the National Director of Intelligence
Notes: She is strong, versatile, and transparent.

LAURA THOMAS – FIREFLY
Former Case Officer at the CIA and Chief of Base, Afghanistan
Notes: She provides light and eliminates the darkness.
NSI draws on the combined experiences of our advisory Board, leadership, staff, faculty, and fellows to serve as a platform for research, teaching, scholarship, and policy development.

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Founder and Executive Director

JESSICA JONES
Deputy Executive Director

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JOHN LIPSEY
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Former Staff Director, Senate Foreign Relations Committee
Our Advisory Board members bring decades of experience from public service, including from a wide range of counterterrorism, defense, and intelligence agencies, as well as represent multiple industries and Silicon Valley’s venture capital community. NSI draws on our Advisory Board members’ expertise to produce research and policy materials that are highly relevant to current questions of national security law and policy.

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MIKE MCCONNELL
Former Director of National Intelligence, Office of the Director of National Intelligence
### ADVISORY BOARD (CONTINUED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRENT MCINTOSH</td>
<td>General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Citi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARMEN MEDINA</td>
<td>Former Deputy Director for Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>REAR ADMIRAL ALEX MILLER (RET.)</td>
<td>Former Chief of Staff, National Security Agency, and NSI Distinguished Fellow</td>
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<td>HEATHER MOLINO</td>
<td>Staff Director, U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence</td>
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<td>ALAN CHARLES RAUL</td>
<td>Founder and Leader, Sidley Austin LLP</td>
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<td>PHILIP R. REITINGER</td>
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<td>HARVEY RISHIKOF</td>
<td>Chair of the Advisory Committee, ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security</td>
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<td>KRISTI ROGERS</td>
<td>Managing Partner and Co-Founder, Principal to Principal</td>
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These experts make outstanding contributions to NSI and advance critical national security debates through law and policy papers, public events, Congressional testimony, media appearances, and other scholarship.
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