

# ICCWS 2024

## 19th International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security

26-27 March 2024, Johannesburg, South Africa

### Mini Track on Cyber Operations in the Global Information Environment

Mini Track Chair: **Dr Stilianos Vidalis**, Cyber Operations, University of Hertfordshire, UK



The US DoD has defined the Information Environment (IE) as the aggregate of individuals, organizations and systems that collect, process disseminate or act on information. The Global Information Environment (GIE) defies boundaries. It is by far a non-static environment, making use of change as a catalyst in order to address business needs and mission objectives. It consists of a plethora of devices, using diverse and mobile architectures. It is hyper-charged in that every device is performing several roles. It unifies security and defence IEs with civilian IEs.

As the IE became global, so did the Cyber Operators. Instead of operating in national environments with well-defined boundaries, assessing and protecting cyber and kinetic operations, they (Cyber Operators) are now truly operating across all types of boundaries. They are cutting across jurisdictions, having to manage and protect complex interrelationships between tangible and intangible assets. The GIE characteristics also provide challenges for the Cyber Operators to overcome to achieve information superiority. Information superiority is the advantage derived from the ability to collect, process and disseminate an uninterrupted flow of information, while exploiting or denying adversaries to do the same. Information superiority is a state achieved as the result of successful cyber operations. Cyber operations are continuous acts of force in the GIE that can include intelligence and counterintelligence, psychological operations, deception, computer network operations, situational awareness, operational security, information security, physical security and of course risk and threat assessment.

In this track we will discuss the current practice and the future of cyber operations in the Global Information Environment. We will discuss the modern GIE, the socio-political changes that it is influencing and the complex problem of protecting it. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Cyber Operations in the Global Information Environment:
- intelligence and counterintelligence,
- psychological operations and deception,
- computer network operations and situational awareness,
- operational security, information security and physical security
- risk and threat assessment.



**Dr Stilianos Vidalis**, Head of the Networks, Security and Systems subject group at the Department of Computer Science of the University of Hertfordshire. Leading the development of an innovative technology that automates threat assessments. Experienced in all aspects of Information Operations (IO) with excellent understanding of the Information Security (IS) lifecycle. Acted as an instructor for the British Armed Forces Intelligence Personnel on penetration testing and digital forensics for a number of years. Acted as a cyber-expert for the Welsh Government and for the Wales University Officers' Training Corps (WUOTC).

### Submission Details

In the first instance a 300-350 word abstract is required, to be received by the **4<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. Please read the guidelines at <http://www.academic-conferences.org/policies/abstract-guidelines-for-papers/>

Submissions must be made using the online submission form at <http://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/iccws/iccws-abstract-submission/>

If you have any questions about this track please email: [s.vidalis@herts.ac.uk](mailto:s.vidalis@herts.ac.uk)

See more about ICCWS 2024 at <http://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/iccws>