

YOUNG ALUMNI INSIGHTS

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DEVELOPING A CYBERWARFARE CAPABILITY FOR CANADA

In the past decade cybersecurity issues have progressed from being a niche technical area of public policy to a mainstream matter in public policy discourse. States now pursue their national interests digitally through sophisticated hacking and cyberwarfare programs. Geopolitics has moved into cyberspace.

Canada has been a laggard in reacting to this new reality in strategic affairs. Both its domestic security and defence policies have been reactive to issues such as cybersecurity, critical infrastructure and securing Canada's digital economy. Yet, securing the Internet and other digital information systems are critical to Canada's prosperity.

Canada would be able to enhance its national security by pursuing offensive cyberwarfare capabilities.

Acquiring an offensive cyberwarfare capability would contribute to Canada's national security by enhancing and complementing Canada's conventional military capabilities, and signaling to its allies that Canada is a reliable and modern security partner that takes national defence and international security issues seriously.

Erik is currently working as a Projects Advisor at the University of Calgary.



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“Cyberwarfare is no longer an emerging national security threat, but a geopolitical reality.”