

War 2.0: Political Violence & New Media

Symposium

Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 October 2009
Lecture Theatre 1.29
Hedley Bull Centre (Building #130)

Today, war is conducted not only by the dispatch of Tomahawks in the air or Kalashnikovs and suicide attacks on the ground but also by means of bytes, tweets, digital images, and social networking forums. (New) media technology, in other words, has become a medium of war and diplomacy.

This multidisciplinary two day symposium hosted by the Department of International Relations at The Australian National University will map the shifting arena of war, conflict, terrorism, and violence in an intensely mediated age. The symposium will bring together international relations academics, media scholars and media practitioners, policymakers and defence staff. It will explore cultural, political, strategic, and technological transformations in media platforms and media participation and assess their impact on policy, publics, and outcomes of political conflict.

The symposium addresses questions such as: What is 'new' about new media? How have the transformations in media technology influenced media-military relations? How have these transformations impacted upon traditional media actors? How are war, conflict, terrorism and violence represented; what are the consequences of these representations? In what ways has new media technology empowered marginalised voices in war, conflict, and terrorism? And how has the transformation of the media landscape impacted on the way states conduct their foreign policy?

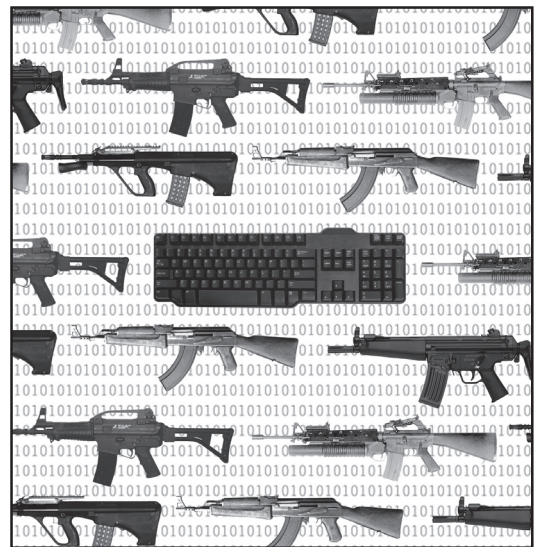
This event is hosted by the ANU with the support of the School of Political Science and International Studies, University of Queensland.

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Wednesday 7 October: Day 1

Keynote: **From the Image of War to the War of Images**
James Der Derian

Panel 1: **Traditional voices responding to new toys, new challenges**
This panel discusses how traditional actors are responding to the challenges and opportunities generated by new media.

Keynote: **The changing media landscape**
Eric Beecher

Panel 2: **New Voices**
This session discusses the way new media is facilitating or empowering new actors.

Thursday 8 October: Day 2

Keynote: **A correspondent's journey**
Paul McGeough

Panel 3: **How does this all shape conflict?**
This panel focuses on how changes in media are influencing the course of conflicts in world politics.

Concluding plenary: **Politics by other means?**

The views expressed in this lecture series are those of the presenters and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.