Security in the Internet Environment: Issues for Canadian Foreign Policy
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Ronald Deibert
University of Toronto

The paper examines the linkages between security, the internet, and Canadian foreign policy. It argues that the linkages can be assessed against four frameworks: national, state, privacy, and network.   Each framework emphasises its own referent or object to be secured and the policy responses to achieve security. Although the paper recognises the difficulty in determining which framework predominates and, therefore, how Canada's information and security policy should be consequently formulated, it concludes that network security will become increasingly relevant in the long-term and that policy responses which include firewalls, virus-protection software, prevention of illegal penetration of computer systems, development and distribution of highly sophisticated encryption technologies, systems of secure access, will be increasingly necessary. Thus, while internet security is a valid concept within the framework of network security, it is important to recognise that there is no single set of threats or policy prescriptions, and, therefore, no single or simple solution to threats to internet security.