

Security at the Frontier: UK-Japan Perspectives on Cyberspace, Outer Space, the Arctic and Electronic Warfare



Virtual conference agenda

This virtual conference will explore a number of developing security issues, relating to cyber space, outer space, the Arctic, and electronic warfare. Speakers at this conference will consider how best the UK and Japan might respond to the associated challenges, both from an international law and a security perspective. The conference will be held on the record.

Thursday 10 December (09:00am – 12:10pm GMT)

09:00-09:10

Welcome remarks

Champa Patel, Director, Asia-Pacific Programme, Chatham House

09:10-10:25

Session One: Cyberspace: UK-Japan Responses

The prevalence of cyber risks has continued to increase as Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) become ever more entwined with almost every aspect of our lives. These risks are affecting economies, societies and livelihoods and are threatening international peace and security. The deployment of new technologies such as 5G have generated further security concerns and have exacerbated geopolitical tensions.

This session will discuss the bilateral relationship and consultations on cyberspace that the UK and Japan have been holding since 2012. What has been the main success of these consultations and what are the remaining opportunities? How can the two governments work together in international forums, including at the UN, to ensure a free, open, peaceful, fair, and secure cyberspace amidst diverging approaches to internet governance by the major powers? How can the UK and Japan work together to promote responsible state behaviour in cyberspace, including through discussions about the application of existing international law to cyberspace? How do the two countries align on global data governance under the “Osaka Track” launched by former Prime Minister Abe at the 2019 G20 summit with increased national initiatives threatening the free flow of data across borders? What are the cybersecurity implications of COVID-19 and how have the UK and Japan responded?

Speakers

Emily Taylor, Associate Fellow, International Security Programme, Chatham House

Jamie Saunders, Fellow, Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford; Visiting Professor, University College London

Tomohiro Mikanagi, Deputy Director-General of the International Legal Affairs Bureau (Deputy Legal Advisor), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Chair: Masahiro Kurosaki, Associate Professor of International Law; Director of the Study of Law, Security and Military Operations, National Defense Academy of Japan

10:25-10:55

Networking Break

10:55-12:10

Session Two: Outer Space: UK-Japan Responses

The world's critical national and international infrastructure has become increasingly reliant upon space infrastructure in order to function. Humanity uses space for communications, monitoring the environment and receiving weather forecasts, collecting intelligence for security and defence purposes, providing data for global positioning, navigation and time keeping. As a result, almost every country now has a stake in outer space.

This session will discuss some of the key governance and security challenges in outer space. Who are the key actors? How can threats in outer space be reduced through responsible behaviour? How can the international rules governing human activity in space be built upon to reflect the rapid escalation in the use of space, and the worrying increase in space debris as a result? How much focus are the governments of the UK and Japan giving to outer space? What are the latest developments in the UK and Japan's outer space policies, including the development of Japan's Space Operation Squadron? What action is required to prevent an arms race in outer space? How best can the UK, Japan and other actors work together to create a secure and peaceful outer space policy that ensures the long-term sustainability of outer space?

Speakers

Alexandra Stickings, Research Fellow for Space Policy and Security, RUSI

Setsuko Aoki, Professor of Law, Keio University Law School, Keio University

Daniel Porras, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Communications, Secure World Foundation

Chair: Patricia Lewis, Research Director, Conflict, Science & Transformation; Director, International Security Programme, Chatham House

Friday 11 December (09:00am-12:10pm)

09:00-10:15

Session Three: Engaging the Arctic: UK-Japan Responses

The Arctic region brings together the continents of Europe, Asia and North America. Its strategic positioning and promise of natural resources have created a complex geopolitical dynamic, further complicated by the fact that the region lacks a cohesive legal framework, unlike the Antarctic, and that climate change increasingly threatens the Arctic's ecology. As various countries, including Russia and China, seek to expand their presence in the region, this session will discuss the role of international law and governance in regulating states' activities in the Arctic, including the extent to which the existing legal framework is sufficient to protect the region from over-exploitation of its precious resources and to settle disputes between states with competing interests. What are the UK and Japan's ambitions in the region, and what opportunities are there for strengthening and developing the Arctic's rules-based order?

Speakers

Kazuko Shiraishi, Ambassador of Japan in charge of Arctic Affairs (2015-2017)

Aki Tonami, Associate Professor of International Relations and Economics, University of Tsukuba

Nengye Liu, Associate Professor; Director, Centre for Environmental Law, Macquarie Law School, Macquarie University

Chair: Caroline Kennedy Pipe, Professor of International Security & International Relations at Loughborough University

10:15-10:45

Networking Break

10:45-12:00

Session Four: **Military Use of Electromagnetic Spectrum & Electronic Warfare: UK-Japan Responses**

Military forces rely on the electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) for missions and operations that require communications, position, navigation and timing information, intelligence gathering, and missile defence. In essence EMS applications increase military situational awareness. Yet, EMS could also be used to target adversarial forces. EMS provides the baseline capability in electronic warfare. This is particularly important to island nations such as Japan and the UK who rely upon air and sea-denial protective capabilities. As components of electronic warfare become increasingly integrated within military planning and doctrine, both in the West, as well as in Russia and China, what scope is there for joint cooperation between Japan, the UK and allies to ensure freedom of access and operation in potentially contested environments in the electromagnetic realm? How can these allies tackle the issue of counter-electronic warfare? Given its constitutional constraints, what impact might electronic warfare have on Japan's military interdiction?

Speakers

Jun Nagashima, Research Adviser, Nakasone Peace Institute

Lt Col Chris Fogarty, Commanding Officer, 14th Signal Regiment (Electronic Warfare), The British Army

Katarzyna Zysk, Professor, Deputy Director and Head, Security Policy Centre, Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies

Chair: Mathieu Boulègue, Research Fellow, Russia and Europe Programme, Chatham House

12:00-12:10

Closing remarks

Champa Patel, Director, Asia-Pacific Programme, Chatham House