



Australian  
National  
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Coral Bell  
School of Asia  
Pacific Affairs

## Technology and tactics: The intersection of safety, AI, and the resort to force



### *Discussing AI, Automated Systems, and the Future of War Seminar Series*

Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly being incorporated into military decision-making in the form of decision-support systems (DSS). Such systems may offer data-informed suggestions to those responsible for making decisions regarding the resort to force. While DSS are not new in military contexts, we argue that AI-enabled DSS are sources of additional complexity in an already complex resort-to-force decision-making process that – by its very nature – presents the dual potential for both strategic stability and harm. We present three categories of complexity relevant to AI – interactive and nonlinear complexity, software complexity, and dynamic complexity – and examine how such categories introduce or exacerbate risks in resort-to-force decision-making. We then provide policy recommendations that aim to mitigate some of these risks in practice.

#### Details

12-1pm, Tue 2 Dec 2025, Mills Room, Level 4, ANU Chancelry, 10 East Road, Acton

#### Speaker

Dr Elizabeth Williams, ANU School of Engineering

#### Chair

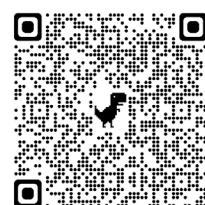
Professor Toni Erskine, ANU Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs

This paper was co-authored with **Dr Zena Assaad**, Senior Lecturer at the ANU School of Engineering.

#### Register here



#### Project website



This seminar series is part of the 2.5-year (2023-2025) research project on *Anticipating the Future of War: AI, Automated Systems, and Resort-to-Force Decision Making*, generously funded by the Australian Department of Defence, and led by Professor Toni Erskine from the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs.