

# Digital Resilience in Modern Elections

*A Symposium on Election Security and Emerging Threats*

**March 27-28, 2025**

Cabot Intercultural Center, 7th floor  
The Fletcher School, Tufts University  
160 Packard Avenue, Medford, MA 02155

We welcome you to an interdisciplinary symposium that seeks to address the complex challenges facing democratic institutions and elections in our rapidly evolving technological landscape. This intimate two-day workshop will be co-hosted by the [Hitachi Center for Technology and International Affairs](#) at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and the [International Foundation for Electoral Systems](#) (IFES).

The event will bring together scholars and practitioners to explore innovative approaches to protecting democratic processes in an era of unprecedented technological uncertainty and geopolitical volatility. The symposium objectives include interdisciplinary collaboration across academic and professional domains, in-depth analysis of emerging digital threats to democratic institutions, exploration of sociotechnical perspectives on technology and democracy, and focus on generating actionable insights beyond traditional research boundaries. Each workshop session will feature presentations by several speakers followed by a moderated conversation.

The symposium will be conducted under the Chatham House Rule. It will be restricted to invited Tufts University and IFES scholars, researchers, graduate students, and invited guests, and it will not be publicized. We also remind participants to be considerate and respectful to one another throughout the symposium and to practice active listening.

We are thankful for the support of our partners, sponsors, and volunteers.

## Hosts

**Dr. Josephine Wolff**, Associate Professor of Cybersecurity Policy; Director, Hitachi Center for Technology and International Affairs, The Fletcher School

**Nicole Leaver**, Digital Democracy Specialist, IFES

**Gabrielle Lim**, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science; Phd Student at the Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto

**Dr. Tarun Chaudhary**, Cybersecurity and Diplomacy Advisor, IFES

## AGENDA

### Wednesday, March 26

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
19:00	Pre-conference dinner	Location: <u>Foundry on Elm</u> , 255 Elm Street, Somerville, MA 02144 Standing dinner reception restricted to conference participants, staff, volunteers, and invited guests

### Thursday, March 27

Cabot Intercultural Center, 7th floor

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
08:30	Breakfast	Arrival and registration
09:00	Opening Remarks	Opening remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Josephine Wolff, Associate Professor of Cybersecurity Policy; Director, Hitachi Center for Technology and International Affairs, The Fletcher School</li> <li>Anthony Banbury, President and CEO, IFES</li> </ul>
09:30	Attack Surfaces and Vulnerabilities Across the Electoral Cycle	Presentations by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximo Zaldivar, Regional Director at IFES (Americas)</li> <li>Vladimir Misev, Independent Consultant (Virtual)</li> <li>Samson Itodo, Executive Director of Yiaga Africa (Nigeria); Member, African Union Advisory Group on AI</li> <li>Moderator: Tarun Chaudhary, Cybersecurity and Diplomacy Advisor, IFES</li> </ul>
10:45	Coffee Break	
11:00	Biometrics and Digital Identity	A panel discussion featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grace Mutung'u, Research Fellow, Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology, Strathmore University (Kenya)</li> <li>Cade Diehm, Co-Founder, The New Design Congress (Germany) (Virtual)</li> <li>Gelila Bayable, Program Officer at National ID Ethiopia</li> <li>Eyob Alemu Buba, Technical Director at National ID Ethiopia</li> <li>Moderator: Moses Karanja, Research Affiliate, Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy; Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto (Canada)</li> </ul>

12:30	Lunch and Keynote Address by Cait Conley, Former Senior Advisor to the CISA Director on Election Security	
14:00	Beyond Elections: Political Participation Under Authoritarianism	<p>A panel discussion featuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Thomas Cao, Assistant Professor of Technology Policy, The Fletcher School</li> <li>• Eva Gil, Country Director of West Bank/Gaza, IFES</li> <li>• Irene Poetranto, Senior Researcher at Citizen Lab and Doctoral Candidate in Political Science at the University of Toronto (Canada)</li> <li>• Marianne Díaz Hernández, Campaign Lead, Digital ID and Digital Public Infrastructure, Access Now (Virtual)</li> <li>• Moderator: Dean Jackson, Principal, Public Circle Research and Consulting</li> </ul>
15:30	Coffee Break	
16:00	Trust and Polarization at the Polls	<p>A panel discussion featuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Eitan Hersh, Professor, Department of Political Science, Tufts University</li> <li>• Brian Friedberg, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University; Senior Researcher, Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School</li> <li>• Natasha Goel, Research Fellow, Policy, Elections, and Representation Lab (PEARL), Department of Political Science, University of Toronto</li> <li>• Isabella Picón, Activist and Research Fellow, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School</li> <li>• Moderator: Costanza Sciubba Caniglia, Anti-Disinformation Strategy Lead, Wikimedia Foundation</li> </ul>
17:30	Closing Remarks	
18:00	Dinner	

**Friday, March 28**

Cabot Intercultural Center, 7th floor

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
09:00	Breakfast	Arrival and registration
09:30	Transparent Technology: Building Trust in Election Systems	<p>A guided, critical Q&amp;A period with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ben Adida, Founder, Voting Works</li> <li>• Matt Heuman, CEO, VoteNote/NeuVote</li> <li>• Ryan Macias, Founder, RSM Election Solutions; Former Acting Director of Testing and Certification, U.S. Election Assistance Commission</li> <li>• Moderator: Nicole Leaver, Digital Democracy Specialist, IFES</li> </ul>
10:30	Coffee Break	
11:00	Emerging Technologies and Threats to Democratic Processes	<p>A panel discussion featuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Samantha Bradshaw, Director, Center for Security, Innovation, and New Technology; Assistant Professor of Foreign Policy and Global Security, American University</li> <li>• Gabrielle Lim, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science; Citizen Lab PhD Student, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto</li> <li>• Dr. Bruce Schneier, Security Technologist and Lecturer, Harvard Kennedy School</li> <li>• Matt Bailey, Senior Global Advisor on Cyber and Digital Democracy, IFES</li> <li>• Moderator: Dr. Ian Johnstone, Professor of International Law, The Fletcher School</li> </ul>
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	Closing Remarks Group Photo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Josephine Wolff, Associate Professor of Cybersecurity Policy; Director, Hitachi Center for Technology and International Affairs, The Fletcher School</li> <li>• Anthony Banbury, President and CEO, IFES</li> </ul>
14:00	End	

## Participants

**Josephine Wolff**, Associate Professor of Cybersecurity Policy; Director, Hitachi Center for Technology and International Affairs, The Fletcher School

**Anthony Banbury**, President and CEO, IFES

**Ben Adida**, Executive Director, VotingWorks

**Bruce Schneier**, Security Technologist and Lecturer, Harvard Kennedy School

**Brian Friedberg**, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University; Senior Researcher, Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School

**Cade Diehm**, Co-Founder, The New Design Congress

**Cait Conley**, Former Senior Advisor to the CISA Director on Election Security

**Costanza Sciubba Caniglia**, Anti-Disinformation Strategy Lead, Wikimedia Foundation

**Daniel Votipka**, Lin Family Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Tufts University

**Dean Jackson**, Principal, Public Circle Research and Consulting

**Eitan Hersh**, Professor, Department of Political Science, Tufts University

**Eva Gil**, Country Director of West Bank/Gaza, IFES

**Eyob Alemu**, Technical Director at National ID Ethiopia

**Gabrielle Lim**, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science; Phd Student at the Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto

**Gelila Bayable**, Program Officer, National ID Ethiopia

**Grace Mutung'u**, Research Fellow, Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology, Strathmore University (Kenya)

**Ian Johnstone**, Professor of International Law, The Fletcher School

**Isabella Picón**, Activist and Research Fellow at Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School

**Irene Pasquetto**, Assistant Professor, College of Information, University of Maryland and Senior Editor of *Misinformation Review* at The Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School

**Irene Poetranto**, Senior Researcher at Citizen Lab and Doctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto

**Judith Kelley**, Professor, Department of Political Science, Duke University

**Liliya Khasanova**, Postdoctoral Scholar, The Fletcher School

**Lilly Lee**, Doctoral Fellow, The Fletcher School

**Lisa Poggiali**, Global Digital Democracy Advisor, IFES

**Mailyn Fidler**, Assistant Professor of Law, University of New Hampshire

**Marianne Diaz Hernandez**, Campaign Lead, Digital ID and Digital Public Infrastructure, Access Now

**Matt Bailey**, Senior Global Advisor on Cyber and Digital Democracy, IFES

**Matt Heuman**, Founder of Neuvote Systems Inc.

**Maximo Zaldivar**, Regional Director of Americas, IFES

**Moses Karanja**, Research Affiliate, Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy; Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto

**Natasha Goel**, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto

**Nicole Leaver**, Digital Democracy Specialist, IFES

**Nicola Lawford**, MSc Candidate in Technology and Policy, MIT

**Nyamal Tuor**, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University

**Patrick Gage Kelley**, Trust & Safety, Google

**Pavel Nabutovsky**, Director, Salus CM

**Rachel Ann Hulvey**, Incoming Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Indiana University

**Ryan Macias**, Founder of RSM Election Solutions and Former Acting Director of Testing and Certification, U.S. Election Assistance Commission

**Samantha Bradshaw**, Director of the Center for Security, Innovation, and New Technology and Assistant Professor of Foreign Policy and Global Security at American University

**Samson Itodo**, Executive Director of Yiaga Africa and Member, African Union Advisory Group on AI

**Tarun Chaudhary**, Cybersecurity and Diplomacy Advisor, IFES

**Thomas Cao**, Assistant Professor of Technology Policy, The Fletcher School

**Vladimir Misev**, Independent Consultant, Former Senior Advisor on New Voting Technologies, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights