

**CDSN**

THE CANADIAN DEFENCE AND  
SECURITY NETWORK



**RCDS**

RÉSEAU CANADIEN SUR LA DÉFENSE ET  
LA SÉCURITÉ

# Annual Report



2023 / 2024

*A year's overview*

# INTRODUCTION



Time flies when one is partnering! We have now completed five years of SSHRC-funded defence and security networking! This was essentially our second “normal” “post” pandemic year, so we were able to build on our previous successes to have a terrific capstone out west, our best Summer Institute ever, a deeper and wider podcast network, much progress on our second wave of research projects, and yet more consultations with government and the public.

Our most normal year included a terrific Year Ahead conference at a new locale. We addressed the threats of our moment—how best to avoid a war with an aggressive China, how to evacuate from conflict zones, the dangers of talking the Balkans for granted, and, yes, how the US election campaign of 2024 may inflame far right terrorism in Canada. This event brought together students, policy officers from DND, and professors to learn from experts on these issues.

Our podcast network added the Blacktalk Podcast and the Resilience Plus podcast. The former, led by Andy Knight, is a conversation about being Black and the challenge of anti-Black racism. The latter, led by Meaghan Wilkin and Lobna Cherif focuses on helping people develop greater resilience to whatever challenges and stresses they face.

As always, we focused on helping foster the next generation of Canadian defence and security experts. This year, our Capstone event was in Vancouver. Our partners out west did an excellent job of hosting the Laureates including visiting the Canadian naval base. Our two Undergraduate Excellence Scholars, Anjana Balachandran and Siddharth Tailor were a terrific addition to our CDSN membership.

Our four SSHRC-funded research themes are producing cutting edge work that is often co-produced with policy-makers and is definitely getting their attention. For instance, the Total Defence Force volume edited by Irina Goldenberg, Stéfanie von Hlatky, and Joakim Berndtsson was the culmination of much effort by the sharpest people working on military personal issues, and the Chief of the Defence Staff General Wayne Eyre spoke at its launch.

While our Annual Report focuses on SSHRC-funded activities, I should note that our MINDS-funded work is also proceeding apace. For instance, our team’s work on NATO centers of excellence, led by Anessa Kimball, greatly informed the launching of the new Climate Security Center of Excellence based in Montreal.

In short, we are most proud of our research and our activities, as we make progress on the objectives we developed at the outset of the partnership grant: creating a world class network, advancing the body of knowledge in Canadian defence and security, providing evidence-based research to inform policy-making, improving the sharing of information in our field, improving the defence and security literacy of Canadians, and fostering a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable next generation of defence and security scholars, scientists, and policy-makers.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Stephen Saideman**

*Director, Canadian Defence and Security Network*

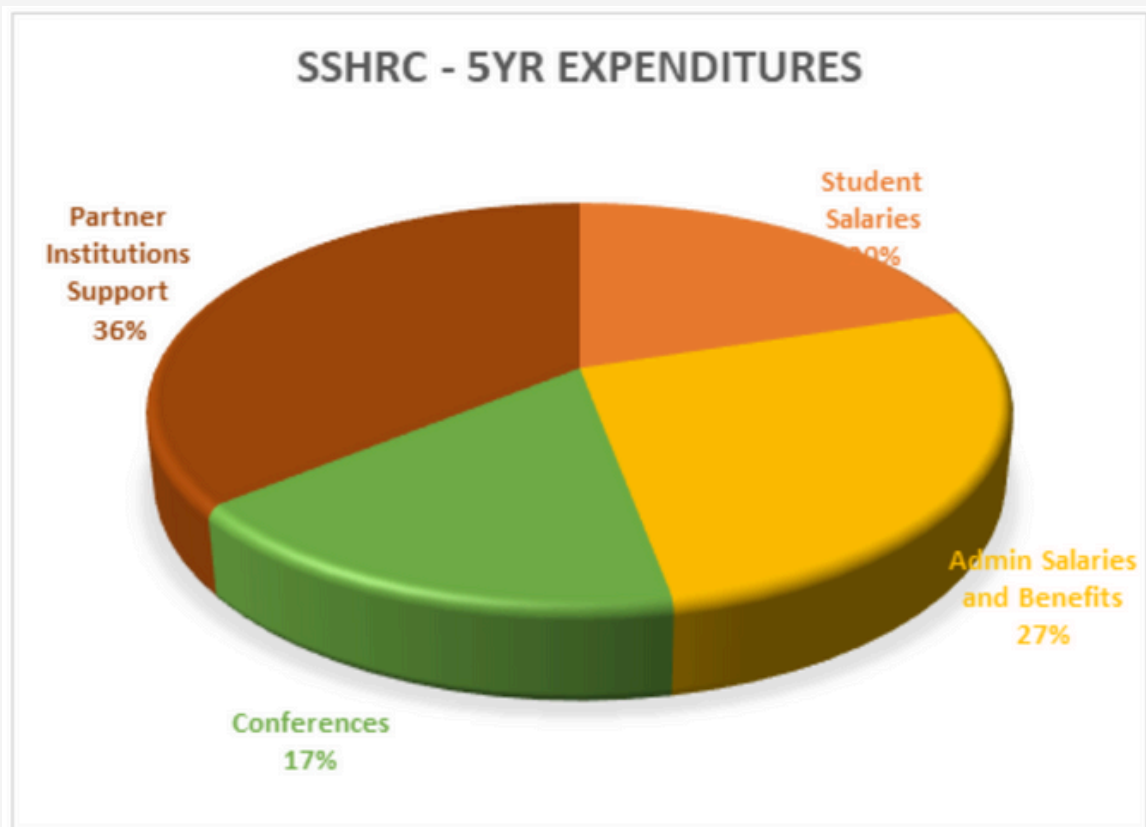
CDSN HQ

# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Year 5 (May 2023 – April 2024) has been an eventful year as CDSN brought activities and events to our partners across the country and the world. We were successfully able to execute and deliver on the following planned events:

- ✓ 2023 Summer Institute
- ✓ Meeting of the MINDS
- ✓ 2024 Year Ahead Conference
- ✓ The Capstone Seminar
- ✓ 2 book launches

In the spirit of transparency, we decided to look back at our spending over the first five years of the grant. As you can see, more of the money went to our partners to support the research than anything else. Given that we are funded by a partnership grant, this makes a great deal of sense. Our second biggest category is student salaries, as training the next generation of defence and security scholars, scientists, and policy folks is one of our highest priorities.



*CDSN HQ*

# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The CDSN's Battle Rhythm podcast has remained successful since its inception. The Battle Rhythm podcast launched its third season with consistent bi-weekly episodes that provides a platform for interesting voices in Canada's defence and security space.

Battle Rhythm launched its third season of the podcast with our host, Stephen Saideman and co-hosts, Anessa Kimball (Professor of Political Science, Université de Laval and CDSN Co-Director of the CDSN), Artur Wilczynski (Retired DG of Foreign Intelligence Operations, Canada) & Linna Tam-Seto (Assistant Professor, Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy). This season welcomes to new co-hosts with new additions of Wendy Wong (Professor of Political Science and Principal Research Chair at the University of British Columbia) and Thomas Hughes (Mount Allison University, McKenna School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics); we said goodbye to Erin Gibbs Van Brunschot, (Director University of Calgary's Center for Military, Security & Strategic Studies and Co-Director of the CDSN) as past co-host as she takes on new challenges with the CDSN and beyond.

The podcast has an average listening audience of about 900 monthly. One of the key reasons for the success of our podcast is the guests we invite, and this year was no different. Our guests were some of the most influential and important individuals in defence and security, such as Robert Clark (Policy Director, Curia UK Fellow at Yorktown Institute Washington DC and director of defence and security at Civitas); Tanisha Fazal (Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota); Janice Stein (Canada's Dean of International Relations); Abe Newman (Professor in the School of Foreign Service and Government Department at Georgetown University); Petr Tichy (NATO Future Forces International Exhibition); Minna Ålander (Non-resident Fellow with the Transatlantic Defense and Security Program at the Center for European Policy Analysis); Stanislava Mladenova (Global Fellow at Brown University's Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies); Ryan Atkinson (Postdoctoral Fellow Carleton University).

# 41

*CDSN Podcast  
Episodes Year  
5*



# BLACKTALK



*CDSN HQ*

# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS, CONT'D

*a year's overview*

## THE SUMMER INSTITUTE 2023

The third annual Summer Institute was organized under the auspices of the Canadian Defense and Security Network. The CDSN aims to amplify, research and connect academics, policy folks and military personnel in Canada's defence and security sector. In addition, the Summer Institute brings together the cohort to learn from each other, share emerging research and knowledge, and tap into the resources the Canadian Defense and Security Network has to offer. Through the Summer Institute, this year's cohort had professional development opportunities from August 13th to 18th, 2023, led by over 30 experts in their field.

Twenty participants were present for the week's activities. This cohort included emerging scholars, policy officers, and military personnel who were active and engaged participants in the week's panel discussion and events including a briefing at DNDHQ and a competitive yet collaborative *Silent Waters* simulation facilitated by our partner Valens.

[Read the full report here](#)



*CDSN HQ*

# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS, CONT'D

*a year's overview*

## MEETING OF THE MINDS

The Canadian Defence and Security Network(CDSN) organized the Meeting of MINDS conference. Dr. Stephen Saideman and Dr. Jean-Christophe Boucher introduced the Meeting of the MINDS event by discussing the conference's intent. The Meeting of MINDS brought together the MINDS networks and ADM Pol to identify how to improve the transfer of knowledge, tailor the networks' future research and dissemination efforts to reach those in policy-making positions, connect the next generation of scholars, and encourage communication across the networks. The participants included officials from the Department of National Defence, the Canadian Armed Forces [CAF], academics, and staff from the nine MINDS networks. The CDSN organized the presentations and discussions into roundtables throughout the two-day event.

[Read the full report here](#)



### Roundtables and Presentations

- Researching and Engaging Culture Change
  - Margaret McKinnon of MST-NET and Nancy Taber of TMC
- Researching and Engaging Technological Change
  - Jean-Christophe of CANIS, Charlotte Duval Lantoiné of Triple Helix, and the Space Security Network (taped interview with Michael Byers)
- Canadian Focused Research
  - Niru Agrawal of CDSN and NAADSN (Whitney Lackenbauer via Zoom)
- Canada's International Relations
  - Justin Massie of RAS and Yolande Bouka of WPS
- Remarks from the Deputy Minister of DND, Bill Matthews
- ADM(Pol)-Network Collaboration: Strategic Thinking and Forward Planning
- Project Coordinator Roundtable
- Student Presentations:
  - Racheal Wallace, CDSN: "The Curious Case of Ghana: Examining State Responses to Persistent Informality in The Artisanal and Small-scale Mining Sector?"
  - Kathryn Reeves, TMC :""It was sad. It was shitty": How Children in Military Families Experience Military Culture."
  - Emma Fingler, WPS-Net: "Where do we go from here? Anticipating Climate Induced Instability and Next Steps for the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Southeast Asia"
  - Ryan Atkinson: "NATO Cyber Defence and Public-Private Partnerships"
  - Charlotte Hook, Space Security Network: "Space Security: It's time to think big"
  - Émile Lambert-Deslande, RAS: "Nuclear Today, Nuclear Tomorrow: Addressing the Benefits of the Bomb"



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# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS, CONT'D

by year's activities

## THE YEAR AHEAD 2024

The Year Ahead 2024 Conference was held on December 7, 2023, at The Collaboration Centre, 150 Elgin St., Ottawa, Canada. The event opened with Dr. Yiagadeesen (Teddy) Samy, the Director of NPSIA, welcomed the participants and thanked all who helped organize this important event. He expressed his concern for the difficult times we live in, especially due to geopolitical conflicts, such as the Israel-Gaza war, the Russia-Ukraine War, and the conflicts in Sudan. A record number of people need humanitarian assistance worldwide, and an uncertain economic crisis is approaching. Dr. Stephen Saideman, the Director of the CDSN, warmly welcomed all the guests and introduced the panels. The four themes of the conference were: Stopping the March to War; China and the West; Evacuations: Lessons from Afghanistan, Sudan, and Beyond; Dangers to Canada from the 2024 American Election Process; and The Balkans: An Unwanted Pot Boiling Over?

The China and the West panel discussed the key events in 2024: the general election in Taiwan in January and the presidential election in the US in November. The speakers focused on the complicated relationships between China and Taiwan. The speakers focused on the rise of China, its modernization of armed forces, and its redline regarding Taiwan, while the US and its allies, such as Australia, Japan, and South Korea have been strengthening their power in the Indo-Pacific region to maintain the current rules-based international order. In the case of China's military intervention in Taiwan, it may be difficult for Taiwan to defend itself. Western economic sanctions may not be a good choice because all are economically connected and interdependent.

The Evacuations panel discussed various aspects of urgent evacuations, such as the politics behind evacuations, diplomacy, and the responsibilities of embassies. They focused on the difficult situations when recent evacuations were undergoing in Sudan, Afghanistan, India, and Ukraine. Usually, diplomats and their family members are given the highest priority when evacuations happen. However, local staff are often left behind in vulnerable conditions.

The third panel discussed right-wing political extremism and its impact in North America, especially in Canada, based on nationalism and white supremacy. The speakers agreed on how COVID-19 accelerated right-wing activities in Canada. Extremism is not only a local issue but also a transnational problem in this era because ideas have no borders. They focused on consensus, national or international, among all including politicians and academics, to fight racism and extremism for a safer environment for democracy, economic development, and a peaceful society.

The closing panel reviewed various aspects of the historical importance of the Western Balkan, in which six states are located. These states include Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia, and Serbia. Authoritarianism is a threat to the region's stability and development. There is a real fear that like the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Serbia may play a similar role in the region because Russia has tremendous influence in the region including Serbia.

## 2024 YEAR AHEAD CONFERENCE

**DECEMBER 7, 2023**  
0900 - 1700 EST  
**THE COLLABORATION CENTRE**  
150 ELGIN ST- FLOOR 8  
OTTAWA







*Stopping the March To War: China and the West*  
Scott Kastner of University of Maryland, Meia Nouwens of the International Institute of Strategic Studies, and Pascale Massot of UOttawa

*Evacuations: Lessons from Afghanistan, Sudan, and Beyond*  
Nisrin Elamin of University of Toronto, Lama Mourad and Stephanie Carvin of Carleton University

*Dangers to Canada from the 2024 American Election Process*  
Ryan Scrivens of Michigan State University, Amy Cooter of Middlebury College, and Amar Amarasingam of Queen's University.

*The Balkans: An Unwatched Pot Boiling Over?*  
Srđan Vučetić of UOttawa, Jasmin Mujanović of the Kulin Initiative, and Sidita Kushi of Bridgewater State University

**I PERSON REGISTRATION IS \$125**  
**STUDENT DISCOUNT IS \$25**



**MINDS**





[HTTPS://PAYMENTS.CARLETON.CA/CSIDS/THE-YEAR-AHEAD/](https://payments.carleton.ca/csids/the-year-ahead/)

CDSN HQ

# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS, CONT'D

## CAPSTONE 2024

The Capstone is an annual event organized by the Canadian Defence and Security Network (CDSN). The Capstone invites the best and brightest students and emerging scholars to present their research projects in front of an audience of professors who provide comments and feedback to improve their work. This year's Capstone was a collaboration between the CDSN's partner institution, the NATO Field School, held at its home university, Simon Fraser, in Vancouver. CDSN partners nominated the Capstone laureates from their events. The eight nominees for this year's Capstone were from diverse backgrounds across Canada. Before the Capstone, the laureates visited the Navy base at Esquimalt for a series of activities. They arrived on March 17 for an overnight stay at CFB Esquimalt Wardroom. The following day, the laureates visited MARPAC HQ for two briefings. The first briefing was presented by Senior Policy Advisor Brett Witthoef on the Indo-Pacific Maritime Security and Geopolitics, followed by a briefing by the Chief of Staff, Capt (N) Peter Sproule, on the state of the Royal Canadian Navy. His presentation touched on the state of the Navy, its operations, and mandates. After the briefings, the Navy transported the cohort to the dockyard from CFB Esquimalt to the ferry terminal. The Navy divided the cohort into two groups and set sail on board two ORCAs. On the ORCAs, the laureates received a tour of the ships, observed emergency drills, a steering demonstration, gear breakdown and were served lunch with the crew. The ORCA sail transported the cohort from Esquimalt to Sidney Bay. The cohort disembarked via zodiac and travelled by ferry to Vancouver. The ORCA sail was one of the highlights of the events, and the laureates were thankful that they were given this opportunity.



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE **CDSN** **RCDS**  
THE CANADIAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY NETWORK **RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA**

## CDSN CAPSTONE

**NATO** **SFU** **SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

WE ARE BRINGING TOGETHER THE BEST PRESENTATIONS ON DEFENCE AND SECURITY FROM THE PAST YEAR TO ONE PLACE

**MARCH 19, 2024 SFU HARBOUR CENTRE CAMPUS**  
**1000 - 1630 PST**

- DR. MADISON SCHRAMM, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
- FAITH EZEAZOLO, ANISHINABEK NATION UNION OF ONTARIO INDIANS
- CLAIRE PARSONS, CONFERENCE OF DEFENCE ASSOCIATIONS INSTITUTE
- SONJA MAUL-WILSON, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
- MARIANNE GRENIER, BELL CANADA
- CLAIRE DICKSON, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
- CHARLOTTE HOOK, UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
- HUSNAIN IQBAL, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

REGISTER HERE:  
[HTTPS://WWW.CDSN-RCDS.COM/NETWORK-EVENTS/CDSN-2024-CAPSTONE-EVENT](https://www.cdsn-rcds.com/network-events/cdsn-2024-capstone-event)

**MINDS**

**Canada**

The next day, on March 19, the Capstone occurred at SFU's Wosk Centre for Dialogue in downtown Vancouver. The first panel presented their research. The Capstone commenced with Madison Schramm's Ph.D. (University of Toronto) presentation on Leader Psychology and Conflict Decision-Making, gender and Leader Selection and Removal Dynamics. Faith Ezeazolo (Anishinabek Nation Union Ontario Indians) presented her work on Exploring the Root Causes of the Lack of Coping Capacity in Ontario First Nations. The next was Claire Parsons (Conference of Defense Associations Institute, who discussed Quality Over Quantity: Reducing the Recruitment and Retention of The Radical Far-Right in the Canadian Armed Forces, and Sonja Maul-Wilson (University of Victoria), who shared her research on Expanding our View of Canadian Military Families. After a health break, the second panel presented their research, starting with Marianne Grenier (Bell Canada) discussing her work on Cyber Threat Intelligence Insight into Ransomware Attacks Against Canadian Healthcare. After another short break, the next panel member to present was Claire Dickson (University of Calgary) on the research Digital Panopticon: Genocide in The Age of Artificial Intelligence. The penultimate presentation was by Charlotte Hook (University of British Columbia), focusing on Canada's Role in Space Security. Finally, Husnain Iqbal (University of Victoria) discussed his research on Systemic Drivers of State Formation: China's Rise and Politics of State Consolidation in Pakistan's Balochistan Province. The professors present were Rosalind Warner (Okanagan College), Will Greaves (University of Victoria, Kenneth Christie (Royal Roads University), Alex Moens (SFU & NATO Field School), Yi Ran (Vivienne) Zhang (UBC) and Paul Meyer (SFU). They provided comments, questions, and suggestions to help each laureate improve and refine their research. The day ended with a group dinner. The following day, the cohort travelled back home. Read more about the laureates, along with video of each presentation: [2024 Capstone Laureates](#)



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# ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS, CONT'D

A YEAR'S OVERVIEW

## UNDERGRADUATE EXCELLENCE SCHOLARS 2023-2024

The Undergraduate Excellence Scholarship aims to encourage younger scholars from historically excluded groups to get more involved in the defence and security community. We want to congratulate our fourth Annual Undergraduate Scholar winners Anjana Balachandran and Siddharth Tailor.



**Anjana Balachandran**, a senior at the University of Ottawa majoring in Political Science, has shown a deep commitment to international security. Her senior year was highlighted by her participation in the 2023 NATO Youth Summit in Washington D.C. and the APEC Youth Summit in Taipei. She presented her thesis on cyber espionage at the University of Toronto's Annual Student Conference on Intelligence and Security. Additionally, Anjana is a board member of Women in International Security - Canada (WIIS-C), having been selected for this role through the FORA Young Girls on Boards program. Her commitment and vision were further recognized by the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) at the University of Ottawa, which awarded her the "Ideas That Matter" award. Her proposal for a "Global Cybersecurity Resilience Corps" seeks to bring together global expertise to address emerging cyber threats while ensuring the protection of individual digital rights.

**Siddharth Tailor** has served as an Infantry Officer with The Loyal Edmonton Regiment (L EDMN REGT) in the Canadian Armed Forces - Army Primary Reserves since 2021, and is currently, transitioning over as an Intelligence Officer in the Naval Reserves. He has also completed his 2nd bachelors, BA in Criminology along with 4 certificate minors: Community Service Learning, Civil-Military Leadership, Interdisciplinary Leadership, and Military Leadership and Management. For his campus involvement and lasting community service, he was awarded the HillTop Award and the Al Maurer Award from the Edmonton Community Foundation, as well as an official recognition from the Military Veteran Friendly Campus program at the University of Alberta.



*CDSN Research*

# THEME ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, OUTPUT

The CDSN has four themes, outlined below. Below, we present the some of the highlights of 2023–2024 for each theme.

## *Security [www.cdsn-rcds.com/security](http://www.cdsn-rcds.com/security)*

The main research priorities for the year were outputs by Kimball: NATO, its COE and public security fieldwork (June-Dec 2023); Kimball and Picard chapter on the Arctic. Vucetic: 'The Five Eyes beyond intelligence,' project with former postdoc Hager Ben Jaffel; 'Testing Measures of Russian Threat Perception,' paper with Barbora Tallová and Justin Massie; 'The Concept of Militarism,' paper with Bryan Mabee; Book launch. The research goals for the security theme were to prioritize the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies (CMSS) strategic plan research, specifically 21st Century Security: Shifting global contexts and emerging security challenges and opportunities, such as the Arctic energy and environments, climate change, cybersecurity, autonomous weapons and enhanced soldiers, health, migration and citizenship.

The big event for the year were the Security Challenges of Emerging Technologies Conference, with Project Ploughshares, an event at the Center for International Policy Studies (CIPS) in Ottawa in October 2023. Subsequent events included the Emerging Technologies and the Next Great Power Competition, with Project Ploughshares, an invitation only event for policymakers in Ottawa. Anessa Kimball and Alexander Lanowska planned to host more CIPS events on Russian revanchism, authoritarian middle powers, CIPS and the International Political Economy Network (IPEN) even on Canada's quantum policy in March 2024 and the UNIDEF XV in March 2024. As planned the UNIDEF XV was held on 28 March 2024 (Changement climatique: une priorité pour la défense) Srdjan Vucetic co-taught L'école d'été sur les méthodes d'analyse computationnelle de textes dans le domaine de la sécurité et de la défense du 4 au 7 juillet 2023, Montréal (with RAS/NSA). In addition, Anessa Kimball co-hosted a talk on Beyond 2% : NATO Partners, Institutions & Burden Management in October 31, 2023. The team also organized a workshop on 'Emerging Technologies and the Next Great Power Competition'-Ottawa Workshop. This theme also organized a conference on 'Technocratic Tendencies Canada's Quantum Policy and Critical International Relations Theory; Srdjan Vucetic was the chair and discussant on March 21, 2024.

In terms of fostering equity, diversity, and inclusion, the security theme created opportunities for diversity-deserving students. For instance, Anessa Kimball co-authored a CDSN briefing paper with Athena Cluzel on aligning comparative green defence strategies on climate change and defence adaptation. The graduate research contribution grants were awarded to two racialized students and a co-authorship of a Briefing paper on decolonializing security institutions comparing NATO and the African Union (programmed for Spring 2024 as a CDSN Briefing paper). The first contribution is Turkey's reaction to Finland/Sweden's NATO accession. Vucetic is co-supervising a dissertation on race and counter-terrorism policies and supervising a dissertation on militarism in Venezuela and Colombia, both authored by racialized students and hosted a pre-doc from the Faculty of World Studies, University of Tehran, Iran.

The security theme included twenty-seven presentations by Erin Van Brunschot, Anessa Kimball and Srdjan Vucetic, twelve interviews with Anessa Kimball and Srdjan Vucetic, three peer-reviewed journal articles, two book chapters, two articles in popular media three reports, briefs, other forms of grey literature and five government submissions.

## CDSN Research

# THEME ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, OUTPUT CONT'D

## *Military Personnel [www.cdsn-rcds.com/personnel](http://www.cdsn-rcds.com/personnel)*

The research goals for the military personnel node focused on events and publications on military Organizational Culture and Reconstitution. These were insights for improving CAF/DND organizational culture, military professionalism and ethos, professional military conduct, and an understanding of culture and diversity in the CAF, including 'non-traditional' aspects of diversity such as component and age. In addition to these goals was total force integration, including integration among Regular Force members, reservists, DND public servants, and contractors and informing CAF recruitment challenges and reconstitution, mainly through understanding well-being and retention.



The events organized around these goals included the workshop on Culture and the Way Ahead for Military Education, Employing Reserves in the Common Era, Kingston Conference on International Security, Military Sociology Conference – Book Panel on Total Defence Forces, two NATO STO (Science and Technology Organization) HFM (Human Factors and Medicine Panel) Research Task Group (RTG) WG meetings on Retention in the Armed Forces. Partner involvement and roles included ERGOMAS – WG on Total Defence Forces (support in kind for workshop on reserves); DGMPRA – support in kind (personnel resources); KCIS partners for KCIS 2023 and NATO STO and national representatives for NATO STO HFM RTG WG meetings. The military personnel node incorporated an EDI lens into student recruitment, events, and publications, which had an EDI component regarding topics and research/event design. The outputs have policy influence on military culture change, with a GBA+ lens, as well as NATO policy discussion on diversity and Women, Peace, and Security.

Other activities involved the partnership with the European Research Group on Military and Society, and a new Springer book series titled The Military and Society has been initiated.

The aims and scope of the book: This peer-reviewed series focuses on multidisciplinary, international empirical contributions in the broad field of armed forces and society. Drawing on the initiatives of the Working Groups of the European Research Group on Military and Society (ERGOMAS) as well as a broad range of international partners, this series brings forward cutting-edge scientific research on military and society and seeks to contribute to a growing body of inter-organizational and international comparative research in this field. The expert monographs and edited volumes of this series will examine critical issues and advances in the rapidly evolving field of defence and security, particularly concerning the armed forces around the world.

The personnel group generated twenty-three presentations, six interviews, one Peer-reviewed journal article, one book (Berndtsson, J., Goldenberg, I. Von Hlatky, S. eds. 2024. Total Defence Forces in the Twenty-First Century-McGill-Queens University Press), four book chapters, one conference publication, eight articles in popular media, five reports, briefs, and other forms of gray literature and one government submission.

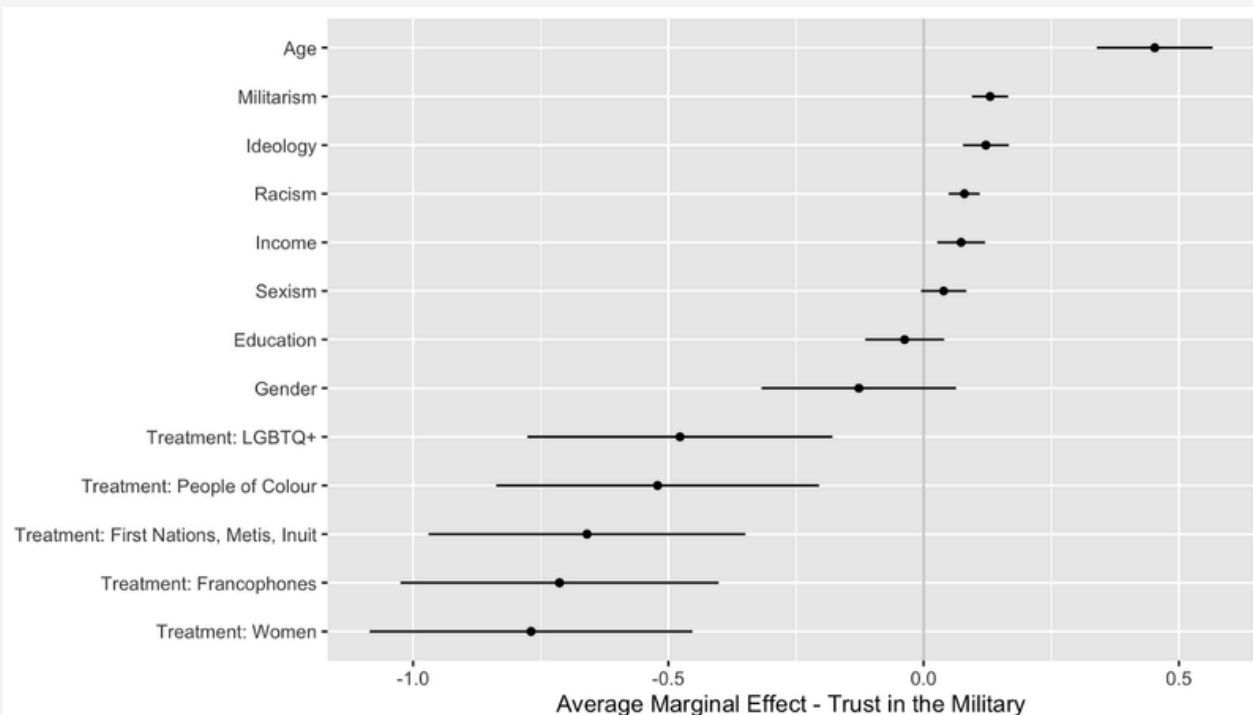
## CDSN Research

# THEME ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, OUTPUT CONT'D

### *Civil-Military Relations* [www.cdsn-rcds.com/civmil](http://www.cdsn-rcds.com/civmil)

The Civil-Military Relations theme focuses primarily on studying how evolving civil-military relations among parties, the government, the media, and the public, shape the development and implementation of defense policy. Dr. Jean-Christophe Boucher, an associate professor at the School of Public Policy and the Department of Political Science at the University of Calgary, directs this work.

Each theme promotes equity and inclusion within their research teams, emphasizing diversity. Likewise, the civil-military relations theme applies the same approach, with an equal representation of all equity-deserving groups. The new student hires and employees represent a diversity of backgrounds, education and professional experience. In addition, the civil relations theme has a research team composed of 70% women, 35% BIPOC and 30% Francophone. The planned event for the year included the Summer School Hackathon, Conference, Workshop and Webinar. Thus, the main research priorities were events focused on Disinformation, hosting a weeklong Summer School, a Hackathon, a Conference on Foreign Interference in Elections, a Summer School on Computational Text Analysis, a Workshop on Data Analysis and a Webinar on Inclusivity in the CAF. Our survey experiment on public attitudes and discrimination in the CAF was of great interest to the CAF/DND team, as we were asked to give separate presentations to Public Affairs, the Director General Military Personnel Research and Analysis, and the Chief Professional Conduct and Culture.



*CDSN Research*

# THEME ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, OUTPUT CONT'D

## *Operations [www.cdsn-rcds.com/operations](http://www.cdsn-rcds.com/operations)*

The Operations Theme deals with Canadian Defence and Security issues associated with the Arctic, NORAD and with NATO. Currently, Dr. Andrea Charron, the Director of Centre for Defence and Security Studies at University of Manitoba, Dr. Stéphane Roussel, Full Professor at Interuniversity Research Center on International Relations of Canada and Quebec ENAP in Montreal and Dr. Alexander Moens, Director of Canada NATO Field School and Simulation Program, and Professor at Simon Fraser University are responsible for research of our Operations theme.

The research goals for the operations theme included the publication of 9/11: Views from North America, a Book launch of NORAD: In Perpetuity and Beyond and a Book launch of Multilateral Sanctions. The events organized in conjunction with these research goals were the yearly NATO Field School, the Iceland-Canada conference in Reykjavik in May 2023, the Norfolk-DC NATO excursion in February 2024 and the CDSN Capstone – to be hosted in Vancouver in March 2024.

The operation node prioritizes student participation. The student involvement in the activities of the operations theme included 26 undergraduate students, four PhD students, six MAs and two postdoctoral fellows. The Field Report Podcast has been an excellent vehicle to foster student involvement (most of the undergraduate student involvement included above are students who wanted to work further on the podcast) and bring forward diverse opinions.

The operations team, produced 33 presentations, 35 interviews, six peer-reviewed journal articles, three published books, 18 book chapters, four conference publications, 11 Articles in popular media, two reports and briefs, two other forms of gray literature and seven government submissions. Knowledge mobilization events included four conferences and five testimonies to parliament.

*CDSN HQ*

# CDSN POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Dr. Ryan Atkinson was CDSN's postdoctoral fellow from 2023 to 2024 at Carleton University, where his research focused on the impact of emerging technologies on defence and security policy.



Dr. Ryan Atkinson was CDSN's postdoctoral fellow from 2023 to 2024 at Carleton University, where his research focused on the impact of emerging technologies on defence and security policy. CDSN provided numerous opportunities to support several ongoing and forthcoming publications on the security implications of artificial intelligence, cyber security, disinformation, climate challenges, and dual-use defence innovation. The role followed a PhD in Political Science at Western University focused on international security and NATO's cyber defence policy over twenty-two years. The research explored the evolving landscape of cyber threats and policy responses and aimed to contribute to a deeper understanding of comparative security policy. The CDSN Postdoctoral Fellowship provided access to various crucial resources for his multidisciplinary study and collaboration with other academics and researchers in the network. CDSN hosted numerous opportunities to network and engage with practitioners, politicians, and specialists. Numerous opportunities and events provided the means to share research results with a broader audience, highlighting the critical role of CDSN in promoting and facilitating the means to improve Canadian defence and security research. CDSN provides the tools, networking opportunities, and professional development assistance to contribute to Canadian defence security concerns effectively.

CDSN Networking

# PARTNERS

## Research Generators



## Capacity Builders



## Research Dissementors



## Research Consumers



*Overview*

# STATISTICAL SUMMARY YEAR 5

Research Products	
Products	Number
Presentations	103
Interviews (broadcast/text, TV, radio, print media, podcast, blogs)	129
Peer reviewed journal articles (open access)	15
Peer reviewed journal articles (subscription based)	0
Edited journal articles	1
Books (including edited books)	4
Books Chapters	28
Entries (dictionary and encyclopedia)	0
Conference publication	5
Articles in popular media	23
Reports, briefs and other forms of grey literature	10
Artistic Performances	2
Government Submissions	15
Other Tweets/Blogs	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>337</b>

Grants and Contracts		
Grant Agency/ Contractor and Program	Events	Amount
DND: Minds Targeted Engagement Grant	Meeting of the MINDS	\$47,500
DND: Minds Collaborative Network Contribution	Research on Global Emergencies and Canadian Resilience, Summer Institute 2023, Year Ahead 2024	\$250,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$297,500</b>

Knowledge Mobilization	
Events	Number
Conference	28
Workshop	10
Summer Institute	1
Media Events (television radio presentations) podcast	57
Public Debates	0
Other (specify: Brownbag meeting, organisational meetings)	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>

Students	
Level	Number
Undergraduate	29
Masters	22
Doctoral	13
Post-Doctoral	2
College	0
Other (e.g., technicians, professional research associate)	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>



*Year 6:*

# THE PROGRESS THUS FAR AND THE ROAD AHEAD

Our annual report always comes out a few months into the next year, so we have already made some great progress, and we have plans for yet more in the near future. It has already been a year full of partnership as:

- we have been helping CIDP plan the annual Kingston Consortium on International Security,
- we supported our partner, the Réseau d'analyse stratégique, who held a great event at the end of May on the Strategic Implications of the 2024 election.
- we held an edited volume workshop on Canadian civil-military relations in partnership with the Conference of Defence Associations Institute.
- We are assisting the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Security-Canada as they plan their big bi-annual conference that will take place in Ottawa in October.

We have a new Post-Doctoral Fellow that starts roughly as this annual report comes out: Manaswini Ramkumar. Her work will focus on civil-military relations, and she will be based at Carleton University.

Our summer will be busy as the big 75th anniversary summit of NATO in Washington, DC will give several of co-directors much media time, as we hope the conversation is more than just about hitting spending targets. We are also well into our planning for our Summer Institute, as we have just mailed out acceptances to another terrific cohort. We face the difficult but good problem of having too many applications.

