

## Terms of Reference | Offensive Cyber Working Group

### **Context**

The Offensive Cyber Working Group was launched in September 2020 to offer much-needed academic debate about the role of (offensive) cyber operations in the United Kingdom and internationally. This work continues as a flexible working group of academic researchers, with a website at <https://offensivecyber.org>, including a dedicated blogging space at *The Alert*.

### **Purpose of Group**

To provide a dedicated platform for engagement with academic research and perspectives on (offensive) cyber operations at an unclassified level. The Group consists of an interdisciplinary range of UK-based researchers and others with research interests in UK cyber operations, doctrine, policy and strategy.

### **Objectives**

1. To foster academic debate and research on cyber operations both within the United Kingdom and internationally.
2. To develop an interdisciplinary research community on cyber operations.
3. To co-publish and host commentary on cyber operations, doctrine, policy and strategy.
4. To act as an academic community for engagement with industry, government, and other non-academic stakeholders.

### **Membership**

Membership programmes will be maintained by the Steering Committee. These may be amended by revisions to the Terms of Reference.

#### *College of Experts*

This is comprised of academic experts from a range of disciplines, inside and outside the United Kingdom, who will be invited to attend events, contribute information, and act as an expert body for the Offensive Cyber Working Group. They must be academic researchers and/or doctoral students who have a dedicated public research profile at a research institution. All members must subscribe to the objectives of the Offensive Cyber Working Group as outlined in the Terms of Reference.

Appointment to the College of Experts will be conducted by the Steering Group and will require a short application, or by exception, direct appointment.

### **Steering Committee**

#### *Composition*

- A Lead (or 2 Co-Leads)
- Up to 6 ordinary members, some of whom may be recruited for specified roles

### *Recruitment*

Steering Committee members must be engaged in public academic research within the United Kingdom. Recruitment and decisions will be made solely by the Steering Committee based on academic profile, requirements for committee balance, and opportunities for early career researchers.

### *Meetings*

There will be at least four meetings per year of the Steering Committee. Decisions will be made by consensus.

### *Current Members*

Lead: Andrew Dwyer

Ordinary Members (in alphabetical order): Neil Ashdown, Louise Marie Hurel, Tim Stevens, Leonie Tanczer

### **Version Control**

001	January 2023
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