

Towards a Global Regime for Cyber Defense

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While NATO and other international/national bodies have made considerable technical progress in bolstering global cyber defenses, comparably little progress has been made towards the creation of an acceptable international set of principles and norms to govern modern cyber warfare. As we argue in our paper, the absence of a coherent international regime for cyber defense in an increasingly networked world presents a serious threat to both short-term and long-term global stability. In order to begin addressing this vexing global dilemma, we employ both international relations theory and systems theory as the means to advance an integrated political-technical model in support of global cyber defense regime creation and maintenance. Although constructing a sustainable cyber defense regime would require a significant forthright commitment by leading powers, we argue that NATO, as the world's premiere democratic military alliance, is well positioned to lead the first phase of such an endeavor by drawing upon the diverse resources of its growing global partnership program and multidisciplinary centers of excellence.

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