PASCC Research in Progress

FY19

NEW TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS FOR COUNTERING WMD: CONCEPTS, LESSONS, AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT:

The development and use of emerging technologies by state and non-state actors poses both challenges and opportunities for counter WMD efforts. On the one hand, emerging technologies can complicate efforts to stop the spread of WMD by potentially making it easier for states and non-state actors to design systems and/or fabricate parts, helping them along the way towards building new capabilities. Alternatively, emerging technologies can aid in efforts to detect and differentiate the capabilities of other countries, improving the practices of arms control and counter proliferation. This project will investigate how emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), additive manufacturing, nanotechnology, and others, will influence contemporary counter WMD efforts, including but not limited to arms control agreements. Through the construction of a new dataset related to the content of arms control agreements, a series of interviews and qualitative research, and the creation of briefings and white papers, this project will significantly advance knowledge relevant for the Department of Defense concerning the intersection of emerging technologies and weapons of mass destruction.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information please contact INSS@usafa.edu.