

Sean S. Costigan, PhD

Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States

Summary

I am the Director of Cyber Policy for Red Sift, the market leader in artificial intelligence and continuous threat exposure management, overseeing and advising on the company's cybersecurity policies and strategies. An expert in emerging security challenges with deep knowledge of AI, cybersecurity, and governance, I lead the PfPC/NATO cybersecurity and hybrid threats capacity-building efforts. As an author, consultant and speaker I focus most of my energy on technology risk and international security and am widely published on matters relating to cybersecurity and hybrid threats. As a Professor at the George C. Marshall Center, I teach on global cybersecurity, hybrid warfare, crime, and national security, topics I also teach as University Lecturer at The New School University's Graduate Program in International Affairs. This year, I have the pleasure of serving as the co-chair of the Cyber Security Summit and received the Serge Lazareff Prize from NATO SHAPE for contributions on emerging security challenges.

Experience



Director of Cyber Policy

Red Sift

Jan 2023 - Present

Overseeing and advising on the company's cybersecurity policies and strategies, with particular focus on developments in research and governance in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.



Professor

George C. Marshall Center

Oct 2016 - Present

Educating on global cybersecurity, hybrid warfare, crime and international security.



Senior Advisor, Emerging Security Challenges Working Group and Executive Editor

Partnership for Peace Consortium

1999 - Present

Senior Advisor, Emerging Security Challenges Working Group (NATO/PfPC) - Directing international team of experts in security practitioners to create timely products for policy and educational leaders

Chairman, PfPC Editorial Board and Executive Editor of Connections, a quarterly journal of international affairs



University Lecturer

The New School

Aug 2011 - Present

Teaching security studies and technology policy, Graduate School of International Affairs and lecturing at Eugene Lang College, Department of Global Studies



Chief Technology Officer

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press

Jul 2010 - Oct 2012

CTO pro tem and Project Leader for MIT CogNet, the cognitive science community's scientific research and interchange on such fields as artificial intelligence, linguistics, neuroscience, psychology, philosophy and education.



Visiting Fellow

University of Calcutta

Feb 2010 - Feb 2011

Teaching at the Institute for Foreign Policy Studies and conducting research on the web of literacies needed to make sound policy choices in today's information technology driven world.



Consultant

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

2008 - 2010

Team leader on emerging security challenges and nexus of environmental concerns. Led the development of global resource on the energy and environmental security ecosystem (EESE).



Director of Strategic Initiatives, North America

Center for Security Studies (CSS) at ETH Zurich

2005 - 2008

Conceptualized novel online research services, created partnerships with centers of excellence, grew communities, raised funds and developed studies



Executive Editor

Columbia University Press

1998 - 2005

Editor of Columbia International Affairs Online, an award-winning and self-sustaining international affairs research service.



Research Associate, Science and Technology Policy

Council on Foreign Relations

1995 - 1998

With members and diverse collaborators, researched issues including information technology, energy, emerging disease, globalization of R&D, industrial policy and defense mergers.



Program Assistant for Conflict Analysis

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University Jun 1994

- Jun 1995 (1 year 1 month)

Education



Harvard University

AM, History of Science



University of Portsmouth

Doctor of Philosophy

Shifting the Boundaries: Conceptual and Practical Challenges of Cybersecurity Education, Definitions, and Expectations

Licenses & Certifications

bsi. ISO 27001:2013 Lead Auditor (TPECS) Information Security Management - BSI

8247552-133055



Cyber Defence Awareness - NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence



FastTrac NewVenture - Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation



Certificate in Professional Program Development and Grant Communication -

The Grant Institute

Skills

Risk Management • Emerging Security Challenges • Governance • International Relations • Research • Policy • Foreign Policy • Qualitative Research • Policy Analysis • Editing

Honors & Awards

NATO Serge Lazareff Prize - NATO SHAPE

Jun 2023

The Serge Lazareff Prize is an international decoration given to civilians and military personnel within the framework of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The Serge Lazareff Prize was created in 2017 to recognize all those people who, both engaged with NATO and from outside the organisation, for their outstanding contribution to NATO ACO Office of Legal Affairs, as well as all those who have contributed to supporting or develop knowledge of their legal position.

Cyber Visionary Leader - Cyber Security Summit

Oct 2020

The Morries™ Visionary Leadership Awards honors innovative practitioners from across the cybersecurity ecosystem including security awareness leaders, audit leaders, academic leaders, governance champions and more.

Selected Publications

Thuama, R. N. and Costigan, S. S. (2023) 'DORA - Understanding the New Regulatory Framework on Digital Operational Resilience', *SSRN Electronic Journal*. Elsevier BV. doi: 10.2139/ssrn.4549564.

Costigan, S. (2023) 'As Artificial Intelligence Accelerates, Cybercrime Innovates', *Dark Reading*. Available at: <https://www.darkreading.com/risk/as-artificial-intelligence-accelerates-cybercrime-innovates>.

Costigan, S. and Gleason, G. (2022) 'The Rise of Crypto and How it Disrupts Currency Systems', *The Diplomatic Courier*.

Costigan, S. and Tagarev, T. (2021) 'Countering Crime, Hate Speech, and Disinformation in Cyberspace', *Connections*, 20, pp. 5–8.

Costigan, S. (2021) 'Charting a New Path for Cybersecurity After SolarWinds', *The Diplomatic Courier*.

Costigan, S. and Gleason, G. (2019) 'What If Blockchain Cannot Be Blocked? Cryptocurrency and International Security', *Information & Security: An International Journal*, 43, pp. 13–20. doi: 10.11610/isij.4301.

Costigan, S. (2016) 'Cybersecurity, Global Governance and New Risk', in Goswami, N. (ed.). Pentagon Press, pp. 343–359. Available at: <https://www.idsa.in/book/indias-approach-to-asia-strategy-geopolitics-and-responsibility>.

Costigan, S. and Perry, J. (2016) 'Cyberspaces and global affairs', *Cyberspaces and Global Affairs*. London: Taylor and Francis.

Costigan, S. and Tagarev, T. (2015) 'Good Practices and Challenges in Organizing for Cybersecurity', *Information & Security: An International Journal*, 32, pp. 5–8. doi: 10.11610/isij.3200.

Costigan S. *et al.* (2014) '3D Printing: Perceptions, Risks, and Opportunities', *SSRN Electronic Journal*. Elsevier BV. doi: 10.2139/ssrn.2533681.

Bray, D. A. *et al.* (2009) 'Perspective: Cultivating strategic foresight for energy and environmental security', *Environmental Practice*, 11. doi: 10.1017/S1466046609990081.

Costigan, S. and Markusen, A. (1999) *Arming the Future*. New York: Council on Foreign Relations.