

Explorations at the Intersection of the Official Record, the Rule of Law, National Security and Democracy

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The intersection between the official record, the rule of law, national security and democracy is inherently contested. A full consideration of it incorporates an interconnected set of hardware that can be deployed far from the borders of a state (drones), policies deployed internally (counter radicalisation schemes such as Prevent), procedures that can lessen the geographical distance between states for individuals (extradition) and actions to interfere in the internal politics of other states that appear to contradict publicly-stated positions (as some of the US diplomatic cables released by Wikileaks appear to show). Intellectually, work that has attempted to develop generalisable insights at this intersection has been written from a variety of perspectives, ranging from relatively sympathetic to the reasoning and rhetoric put forward by states to overtly critical work written with an emancipatory goal in mind. This panel will explore the divisions and debates that define this intellectual terrain, whilst simultaneously engaging with empirical case studies. Material drawn from the official record (broadly conceived) will be privileged.

Track Classification: International Law and Politics Working Group