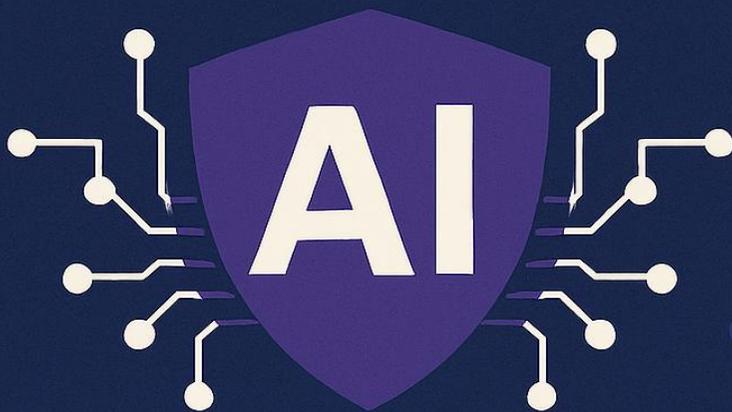


AI IN NATIONAL Security



From Algorithms to Action: AI in National Security

Artificial Intelligence or AI is transforming the way we plan, protect, and respond — helping to strengthen national security and disaster resilience. But if we rely on AI too heavily or use it without understanding its limitations, it can create risks. AI can be a powerful tool — if used wisely with care and sound judgement.

What is AI

AI has become integrated into our lives. AI is everywhere — from asking Siri / Alexa for directions to how businesses and governments make decisions.

AI is not sentient or intelligent, it does not think, have emotions or understand as humans do. AI simply searches and refers to existing datasets on the Internet which have been written or compiled. For example, blogs, social media posts, Youtube captions, online videos, web page content, research papers and word documents. Large language models like ChatGPT, Gemini, META, GROK and others do not verify this information; they simply organise and repeat patterns from it.

Here is a helpful way to think about AI

AI is like a new colleague at work - eager to help, full of suggestions — but not always correct. They are trying their best because they don't think, they just give you the information provided by others – but they are learning, and they will make mistakes.

AI and large language models are only as good as the datasets which they are collecting information from. If that data has a

bias or contains inaccurate and false information, then that will come across in the response AI gives you.

How does AI support National Security?

AI is not just helping us search or write faster. AI uses algorithms, mathematical models, and computational power to simulate cognitive functions like perception, reasoning, and decision-making – it tries to mimic how we think.

AI can analyse huge datasets in seconds — work that might take a human analyst hour or even days.

AI can recognise patterns in data, solve well-defined problems, and helps predict outcomes when all the data is available.

Generative AI, a subset of AI, takes this a step further. It can create entirely new content – draft reports, predict threats, summarise intelligence, even simulate scenarios and model outcomes of global events to support decision-makers.

AI in the Pacific

Enhanced disaster readiness

AI helps communities across the Pacific better prepare for natural disasters — like cyclones, tsunamis, earthquakes or volcanic eruptions — by analysing environmental data and assessing risks in real time. This means governments and agencies can act faster and more effectively when danger is on the horizon.

Decision making:

AI gives Pacific Island nations an edge in making better decisions — from how they respond to disasters, to how they protect the environment and plan future development. With clearer insights drawn from data, leaders can make choices that are timely, targeted, and more effective for their communities.

Building resilience

By helping forecast environmental challenges, AI supports smarter planning and more efficient operations. That means stronger local economies, better use of resources, and communities that are better able to withstand and adapt to change.

How do AI and large language models like ChatGPT, Gemini, and DeepSeek pose a threat to National Security?

Analysis and Assessment

Just like any powerful tool, AI can be misused in ways that undermine national security. AI can be weaponised to:

- Spread fake news and misinformation
- Spread false narratives
- Make things up
- Create bias in the news and on social media
- Undermine public trust in government agencies
- Amplify social tensions
- Generate Deepfakes – AI generated images, video and voice changes created to mislead people

The line between what is real and what is fake is harder to see as it is blurred.

Strategic Decision-making

For decision makers and analysts: AI can lead to an overreliance on AI generated information in lieu of critical thinking, judgment and thorough analysis. This can lead to faulty assessments and poor decisions that cause harm to the public.

- AI does not understand what it is saying – it makes assessments based on patterns, sequences and statistical links.
- It delivers answers to your questions so confidently. The answers may sound correct, but they could be faulty, wrong or made up.
- AI lacks context. It can describe something based on what others have written or posted about a subject. It does not know when it is wrong.
- You cannot assume AI is neutral, ethical and more accurate than a human because it can process and analyse large volumes of data – there is no AI substitute for your local knowledge, understanding, judgment, experience and insight into any given issue or situation.

So, what can we do?

- Use AI as a tool to help you filter through information but do not let AI make assessments for you!
- Verify through other sources what the AI has collated or created for you.
- Check for bias.
- Use AI as a tool — not a replacement for your own judgement.

- Ask yourself – is AI telling you what you need know about the issue or situation.

AI is powerful — but it is not perfect.

- As AI becomes increasingly enmeshed into national security, disaster response, and everyday decision-making, it is important to understand its capabilities, limitations and risks.
- While AI can enhance efficiency, forecast risks, and support strategic planning, it lacks human judgment, context, and accountability — making overreliance on its outputs a potential threat.
- AI is a tool to support, not replace, human reasoning. To make the most of it, we need to think critically, validate its results, and pair it with our own local knowledge, experience, ethical considerations, and analytical judgement.
- Thanks for tuning in to today’s episode. Until next time — stay curious, stay informed, and keep asking questions.

Some free useful AI tools you can use on your Phone, laptop or computer in your daily life activity.



Flightrader24.com - is a website that lets you track real-time flight locations and details anywhere in the world. It can be useful for checking when a plane will arrive, monitoring loved ones' flights, or simply learning more about air traffic.



Windy.com - is a weather visualization tool that shows real-time wind, rain, waves, cyclones and other conditions on an interactive map. It can help you plan daily activities—like travel, outdoor work, or events—by giving clear and accurate weather updates.



<https://vanclimatefutures.gov.vu/dashboard/home>: is a science-based tool that gives you easy access to climate projections (like rainfall, temperature, extreme weather) for different parts of Vanuatu now and into the future. It can help individuals, planners, and communities make smarter decisions — for example about farming, building infrastructure, or preparing for sea-level rise — based on how climate risks are likely to change.

