

**22nd National Information Systems Security Conference
October 1999, Washington DC**

Comparative Approaches to Critical Infrastructure Protection

Participants:

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Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) is coming to be recognised as a key national security and economic security issue by governments in advanced nations worldwide. Although the US government has moved furthest in identifying the threat and in formulating defensive responses, work has also begun amongst America's allies and in international organisations. In all cases, however, there has been limited international co-operation in formulating or implementing CIP policies, despite the recognition that the nature of the contemporary Global Information Infrastructure (GII) necessitates international and transnational co-operation.

This panel will contribute to the process of international co-operation by highlighting different approaches taken to CIP by leading European states. The individual presentations are from European countries that have taken the lead in identifying their vulnerabilities and which are now in the process of devising policy, organisational, regulatory and technical responses to the threat.

The panel will demonstrate that each nation is approaching CIP in its own way but that there are significant benefits to be drawn from comparing approaches. An exchange of information on differing national approaches can only strengthen analysis and policy in partner nations. At the same time, this panel will contribute to emerging international co-operative efforts to devise common CIP regimes.

This panel has the following components:

Chair: Dr Andrew Rathmell, International Centre for Security Analysis, King's College London. ICSA is a research centre within the prestigious Department of War Studies at King's College that has worked closely with European governments and corporations to study the threat from Information Warfare and to devise defensive policies and technologies.

UK: Edna Chivers, Cabinet Office. The cabinet office has been tasked with the lead role in co-ordinating UK CIP and has led the development of a national CIP approach, drawing on the UK's traditional approaches to national security and emerging perspectives on electronic commerce.

Sweden: Lars Nicander, Swedish National Defence College. Sweden has moved further than many other European states in identifying IW as a key security threat. The speaker, from the cabinet office working group, will outline Swedish approaches which encompass: Swedish perceptions of IW/IO; national IA management; international regimes and required structures.

Germany: Suzanne Jantsch, IABG. IABG has been involved in the study of CIP policies and technologies on behalf of the German Ministry of Defence and government. Since the privatisation of the telecommunications infrastructure, Germany has taken steps to impose security requirements on the service providers. However, examination of Critical Infrastructure vulnerabilities and interdependencies as a whole has been more recent. A number of studies and other activities have been underway and these will be outlined.

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