

# The Geopolitics of Data and Information Training Course

## Professional Development Training Course Outline

|          |                                               |               |                         |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Category | Political Science and International Relations | Duration      | 10 Days                 |
| Base Fee | \$3,000 USD                                   | Delivery Mode | Online / On-site Hybrid |

### Course Introduction

The rapid **digital transformation** of our world has ushered in a new era where data and information have become the central currencies of power. The Geopolitics of Data and Information Training Course delves into the intricate and evolving field of the **geopolitics of data**, exploring how the control, flow, and governance of information are fundamentally reshaping international relations, national security, and global economic competition. We'll examine the strategic importance of **data sovereignty**, the impact of **digital authoritarianism**, and the emergence of a multi-polar **techno-geopolitical** landscape. This course is designed to equip professionals with the critical foresight needed to navigate these complex challenges and leverage data as a strategic asset.

In this dynamic global environment, understanding the intersection of technology, data, and power is no longer optional it's essential. From **cyber warfare** and disinformation campaigns to the control of critical **digital infrastructure** and the race for **AI supremacy**, the battle for influence is being fought in the digital realm. This course provides a comprehensive framework to analyze these trends, offering practical insights and methodologies to help you assess **geopolitical risk** and formulate effective strategies. Join us to unlock the secrets of **digital statecraft** and stay ahead in the new global power game.

### Programme Curriculum

#### The Geopolitics of Data and Information Training Course

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### Course Duration

10 days

### Course Objectives

- Analyze the strategic **geopolitical implications** of data flows and digital technologies.
- Evaluate the concept of **data sovereignty** and its impact on national policies and international law.
- Assess the role of **critical digital infrastructure** in global power dynamics.
- Examine the use of **data as a weapon** in cyber warfare and information operations.
- Understand the **techno-nationalism** and **digital protectionism** trends shaping global trade.
- Identify emerging threats and opportunities in the **AI arms race**.
- Develop strategies for mitigating **geopolitical risk** related to data governance and privacy.
- Analyze the impact of **surveillance capitalism** on international relations.
- Comprehend the role of international organizations in shaping **global data governance**.
- Examine the influence of **Big Tech** and non-state actors in the digital geopolitical landscape.
- Formulate a cohesive strategy for **data security** and resilience in a fractured world.
- Recognize the ethical and human rights implications of the **geopolitics of data**.
- Predict future trends and scenarios in the evolving **data-driven global order**.

### Target Audience

1. **Policy Makers & Government Officials:** Individuals involved in national security, foreign policy, and economic regulation.
2. **Corporate Strategy & Risk Analysts:** Professionals managing business risks and international market strategies.
3. **Legal & Compliance Officers:** Lawyers and compliance experts navigating evolving data regulations.
4. **Journalists & Researchers:** Those reporting on or studying technology, international relations, and security.
5. **Technology Sector Executives:** Leaders in the tech industry, including Big Tech, startups, and telecommunication companies.
6. **Diplomats & International Relations Specialists:** Foreign service officers and diplomats dealing with digital issues.
7. **Cybersecurity Professionals:** Experts focused on national and corporate cybersecurity strategies.
8. **Academics & Think Tank Professionals:** Scholars and analysts researching geopolitics, technology, and governance.

### Course Modules

## Foundations of Digital Geopolitics

- Defining the core concepts: data as a strategic resource, information as power.
- Historical context: from land-based geopolitics to data-driven statecraft.
- The rise of **digital sovereignty** and **techno-nationalism**.
- Key actors: states, multinational corporations, non-state groups, and individuals.
- The digital divide and its geopolitical consequences.
- **Case Study:** The US-China technological rivalry and its impact on global supply chains for semiconductors and 5G technology.

## Data as a Strategic Asset and a Weapon

- Data as a tool for economic power and surveillance capitalism.
- The use of data in intelligence gathering and strategic advantage.
- **Cyber warfare** and its role in modern conflict and competition.
- The weaponization of information: disinformation and propaganda.
- Protecting critical **data infrastructure**.
- **Case Study:** Russia's use of information operations and cyberattacks to influence foreign elections and political discourse.

## The New Borders of Information

- Data localization and its policy implications.
- Cross-border data flows and the challenges of a fragmented internet.
- Regulatory fragmentation: the "splinternet" and competing legal frameworks.
- The role of international organizations in setting digital norms.
- The privacy-security trade-off in a connected world.
- **Case Study:** The EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and its "Brussels Effect" on global data privacy standards.

## Digital Infrastructure as a Geopolitical Battleground

- The strategic importance of undersea cables and satellite networks.
- The race for **5G dominance** and the role of major telecom companies.
- Cloud computing and the concentration of data in a few geographic locations.
- The politics of internet backbones and internet governance.
- Securing critical national digital infrastructure.
- **Case Study:** The Huawei controversy and Western concerns over China's access to and control of critical 5G networks.

## The Geopolitics of Artificial Intelligence

- The **AI arms race** and its implications for military and economic power.
- Dual-use technologies and the challenge of export controls.
- Ethical and governance challenges posed by AI.
- The role of AI in surveillance, social control, and predictive analysis.
- The future of AI and the global power balance.
- **Case Study:** China's Social Credit System and the use of big data and AI for large-scale social control and governance.

## Data Governance and Human Rights

- The impact of data collection on human rights and civil liberties.
- The rise of **digital authoritarianism** and its tools.
- **Data privacy** as a human right and its global protection.
- The role of non-governmental organizations and civil society in advocating for digital rights.
- Balancing security imperatives with individual freedom.
- **Case Study:** The use of surveillance technology in Xinjiang, China, and the international response to human rights violations.

### Corporate Power in the Digital Age

- The geopolitical influence of **Big Tech** companies.
- Navigating different regulatory and market environments.
- Corporate responsibility in a world of conflicting jurisdictions.
- The "platform economy" and its effects on national sovereignty.
- Corporate strategies for managing geopolitical risk.
- **Case Study:** The conflict between Apple and the FBI over iPhone data and the legal and geopolitical fallout.

### Economic Geopolitics of Data

- The data economy as a driver of national competitiveness.
- Trade wars and data protectionism.
- Intellectual property rights and technology transfer.
- The role of data in economic sanctions and financial warfare.
- Building national data resilience and competitiveness.
- **Case Study:** The US-China trade war and its expansion to include technological restrictions on data and hardware.

### Geopolitical Risk Analysis and Strategic Foresight

- Analytical frameworks for assessing data-related geopolitical risks.
- Scenario planning for a data-driven future.
- Integrating data geopolitics into corporate and national strategy.
- Building resilient organizations in a volatile digital world.
- The role of intelligence and open-source information in risk analysis.
- **Case Study:** Analyzing the potential impact of a major cyberattack on critical infrastructure, using a scenario-planning framework.

### Global Data Governance and Norms

- The role of multilateral institutions like the UN and ITU.
- Competing models of global governance: US vs. China vs. EU.
- The debate over a global treaty on data and cyberspace.
- The challenge of regulating emerging technologies like quantum computing.
- The future of international cooperation on data.
- **Case Study:** The United Nations Group of Governmental Experts (UNGGE) on cybersecurity and the challenges of reaching a global consensus on digital norms.

### Disinformation and The Digital Public Sphere

- The use of social media and algorithms for political manipulation.

- Identifying and countering disinformation campaigns.
- The role of platforms in content moderation and accountability.
- The impact of deepfakes and generative AI on truth and trust.
- Building a resilient digital public sphere.
- **Case Study:** The impact of social media and disinformation on the 2016 US presidential election and the subsequent public and political response.

## The Geopolitics of Surveillance

- The evolution of state and corporate surveillance.
- Technological tools of surveillance: facial recognition, data mining, and location tracking.
- Exporting surveillance technology and its impact on global human rights.
- The battle for encryption and digital privacy.
- Civil society's response to ubiquitous surveillance.
- **Case Study:** The use of Pegasus spyware by governments to surveil journalists and political opponents, and the international outcry.

## Data and the Future of Warfare

- The concept of **data-centric warfare**.
- The role of AI and big data in military decision-making and autonomous weapons.
- Cyber deterrence and the challenges of attribution.
- The militarization of space and its connection to data.
- Protecting against attacks on satellite and communication systems.
- **Case Study:** The use of data and AI in the conflict in Ukraine, from intelligence gathering to drone operations.

## Geopolitics of Data in Developing Countries

- The challenge of digital colonialism.
- Dependency on foreign digital infrastructure and tech companies.
- The potential for data to drive economic development.
- Balancing foreign investment with digital sovereignty.
- The role of regional blocs in data governance.
- **Case Study:** Africa's position in the global data economy, balancing investment from Western and Chinese companies while trying to develop local digital ecosystems.

## Future Outlook and Strategic Implementation

- Anticipating future trends: quantum computing, brain-computer interfaces, and the metaverse.
- Developing a strategic roadmap for data governance.
- Building a resilient and ethical data ecosystem.
- The need for cross-functional and multi-stakeholder collaboration.
- Actionable steps for professionals and organizations.
- **Case Study:** A comprehensive discussion on how a hypothetical government or corporation could implement the lessons from the course to enhance its digital resilience and strategic position.

## Training Methodology

- **Instructor-Led Sessions:** Expert-led lectures and presentations on core concepts.

- **Case Study Analysis:** In-depth, guided discussions of real-world examples to apply theoretical knowledge.
- **Scenario-Based Workshops:** Collaborative group exercises to develop strategic foresight and problem-solving skills.
- **Interactive Discussions:** Fostering a dynamic learning environment through Q&A sessions and peer-to-peer knowledge sharing.
- **Multimedia Integration:** Use of videos, infographics, and policy briefs to enhance understanding.

**Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount**

Send us an email: [info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org](mailto:info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org) or call +254769199797

### **Certification**

*Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.*

### **Tailor-Made Course**

*We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.*

### **Key Notes**

- The participant must be conversant with English.
- Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate
- Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.
- The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.
- One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.
- Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

## **Upcoming Scheduled Sessions**

| Start Date  | End Date    | Location | Price   |
|-------------|-------------|----------|---------|
| 21 Sep 2026 | 02 Oct 2026 | Online   | \$2,000 |
| 21 Sep 2026 | 02 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$3,000 |
| 21 Sep 2026 | 02 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$0     |
| 21 Sep 2026 | 02 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$0     |

| Start Date  | End Date    | Location | Price |
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Ready to enroll or request a customized program? Book online or contact us:

Register Online Now

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