

Surveillance & the EU's Trade Controls

1. About the research topic
2. On COCOT questions

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Machiko Kanetake

Governing the Digital Society



1. About the topic

- Surveillance technologies & trade controls?
 - Export controls: applicable both to tangible and intangible transfer of technologies
 - E.g., software, technical data, and knowledge and the provision of technical assistance
- Dual-use export controls: primarily military risks
- Overarching question:
 - How can the protection of security and human rights be integrated in trade restrictions on digital and emerging technologies?
 - The main aim is to understand and evaluate the EU's role, both internally and externally.



2. COCOT questions

- Values (to be) integrated
 - Security
 - Weapons of mass destruction
 - Cold-War narrative (balance of powers)
 - Whose security?
 - Human rights (not mutually exclusive: human security)
 - Rights of those in destination countries
 - Which rights? Potential conflict within human rights norms
 - International regulatory harmonization vs EU's 'unilateral' controls
 - Risk assessment

2. COCOT questions (cont'd)

- Tensions at multiple levels
 - Conceptual tensions (security, military, and human rights)
 - Political tensions – broadly (1) among EU institutions, (2) among EU member states, (3) between the EU and international trade and export control regimes
 - Normative tensions (e.g., within various human rights)
- Effectiveness and legitimacy
 - Effectiveness: regulatory harmonization through multilateral regimes
 - Normative legitimacy for the EU's trade controls